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MA 01 CLRTN, TX. 4-29-77

GCS 1GCT8PA

TO: BRANCH MANAGERS

FM: W. D. BROOKS 4-29-77

CC: L. B. TRAMMEL

D. C. CORKILL

O. E. BURCH

K. W. BROWN

RE: ASBESTOS TYPE JOINT SYSTEM

REACTIVE IMMEDIATELY TO THE POWER PRODUCTS SAFETY COMMISSION
VOTED TO BAN THE USE OF ASBESTOS IN JOINT COMPOUNDS. THE ONLY
PRODUCTS WE CURRENTLY PRODUCE WHICH CONTAINS ASBESTOS IS 4 AND 5
GALLON READY MIX. FORTUNATELY, HOWEVER, WE ALREADY HAVE ASBESTOS
FREE FORMULAS AND DO PRODUCE ASBESTOS FREE R/M.

STARTING AT ONCE, WE WILL IMMEDIATELY BEGIN FILLING ALL ORDERS WITH
THE ASBESTOS FREE FORMULA. UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTIFIED BY YOU, PLANTS
WILL AUTOMATICALLY SUBSTITUTE A C READY MIX ORDERS WITH ASBESTOS
FREE TYPE.

THERE MAY BE SOME TRANSITION DELAYS AS THE PLANTS MUST CLEAN OUT THE
SYSTEM TO CHANGE OVER. SUPPLIES OF SUFFICIENT RAW MATERIALS MAY CAUSE
SOME MINOR DELAYS. THEREFORE, ON THE FORTHCOMING PRICE INCREASE,
JOINT SYSTEM ORDERS ENTERED AT THE PLANT BY 5/9/77 FOR SHIPMENT AT
PLANT CONVENIENCE BY 5/30/77 WILL TAKE THE OLD PRICE.

BRANCHES ARE INSTRUCTED TO HOLD ALL ASBESTOS JOINT COMPOUNDS IN BRANCH
STOCK UNTIL NEXT WEEK WHEN THE CPSC CLARIFIES THEIR STAND ON ASBESTOS
PRODUCTS NOW IN THE FIELD. WE DON'T KNOW YET WHAT THAT DISPOSITION
MIGHT BE. IT MAY BE THAT INVENTORIES CAN BE EXHAUSTED OR WE
HAVE TO RECALL. WE'LL ADVISE AS SOON AS WE KNOW.

END

GP REG CLRTN

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