

J-M Manufacturing Company, Inc.

Internal Correspondence

To: E.E. WANG

Date: August 11, 1983

From: J.T. ARMSTRONG *ytd*

Copies: W.G. BURNETT

Subject: ASBESTOS RELATED DISEASE



Attached is an article from the Dallas Times Herald, August 11, 1983.

This the first time we have heard of a relationship between asbestos exposure and intestinal cancer.

We would appreciate your comments.

Asbestos exposure tied to cancer of colon

By NEIL SOLOMON, M.D.

DEAR DR. SOLOMON: I worked in a shipyard for quite a few years and I know I was handling asbestos for at least part of that time. Fortunately, so far it has not bothered me. I go for regular checkups each year, but my doctor has never said that I should be screened for lung cancer. Don't you think this would be a good idea?

— Nelson, Baltimore



DEAR NELSON: Most reports in the medical literature seem to agree that screening for lung cancer does not significantly change the mortality from the disease. However, screening for colon cancer may be of value in patients who have been exposed to asbestos in their employment.

Investigators from Harvard Medical School and Stanford University have reported that cancer of the colon accounts for about 6 percent of all cancer deaths among people who have had an occupational exposure to asbestos. Furthermore, screening for cancer of the colon can be effective in detecting the disease at an early stage. A person who has been exposed to asbestos has about three times the chance of developing colonic cancer as does a person who has not been exposed.

AUG. 12 1983

D 003354