

FILE NAME: Rogers Corporation (ROG)

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DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: J-M Letter to Westmoreland Plastics RE Supporting Use of Asbestos as a Reinforcing Filler in Phenolic Resins



**Johns-Manville
Sales Corporation**

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Denver, Colorado 80217
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April 24, 1978

Mr. E. R. Hatfield
Westmoreland Plastics Co.
Division of Vulcan, Inc.
Latrobe, Pa. 15650

Dear Mr. Hatfield:

Your letter to John McKinney has been forwarded to me.

We have always considered the use of asbestos as a reinforcing filler in phenolic resins to be a valuable and environmentally sound use for asbestos. During the period of time when major manufacturers of filled phenolics were reviewing the facts governing the continued use of asbestos, we met with them and discussed the health considerations, as well as the technology necessary to comply with the regulations. Although major manufacturers such as G. E. and Durez have chosen to discontinue the use of asbestos, others such as Rogers Corporation, Rostone, and Plenco, have continued to manufacture asbestos filled phenolics and to comply with the current OSHA regulations.

One of the strongest concerns expressed by the manufacturers of asbestos filled phenolics, has been the pressure being generated by fabricators who are demanding that asbestos be removed from their phenolic molding compounds. If this is not the case, then you and your industry could be of great assistance to us by actively expressing your dissatisfaction with the non-asbestos containing products and actively advertising and promoting the superiority of asbestos filled materials.

Johns-Manville and the asbestos industry, through the Asbestos Information Association/North America, are working with government agencies to develop reasonable regulations governing the use of asbestos containing materials. If we can be of any assistance to you in complying with these regulations, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Very truly yours,

James F. Reis

James F. Reis
Market Manager
Asbestos Fiber

cc:M. Harris
D. Poutiatine

cc:J.E. McKinney

JFR:mh