

ASBESTOS FACT SHEET

<u>Product</u>	<u>Discussion</u>	<u>Asbestos Concentration</u>	<u>Method of Incorporation</u>	<u>Scenario for Fiber Release</u>	<u>Consumer Contact</u>
Automotive Mufflers	Asbestos sheet is used between the inner and outer shell of standard mufflers because of its heat resistance and sound deadening properties. The sheet varies between .030 and .090 inches thick. Suitable asbestos substitutes have not been identified. However, through design changes asbestos can be eliminated from the product. An industry respondent indicated that the two largest domestic auto makers will purchase no asbestos containing mufflers after 1978. ✓	To 90%	Paper	Puncture or deterioration of inner or outer shell.	In presence of damaged muffler during engine use or muffler repair.
Automotive Undercoating	Undercoating on automobiles, trucks, and other vehicles are applied to retard rust and to help prevent stone damage to the body. These undercoatings are asphalt or wax based and designed to remain semi-viscous. The coatings are applied by the manufacturer or by specialty undercoating garages.	5 to 80%	Fibers thoroughly mixed in semi-viscous matrix.	Industry sources report that fiber release is highly unlikely.	Product widely used in consumer environment.
Custom Auto Body Filler	Published sources report that it is not uncommon for these body fillers to contain asbestos. Of those contacted only one indicated any current use of asbestos fibers.	5%	Thoroughly mixed in viscous matrix which becomes hard after application.	Sanding of hardened filler material.	Product available for purchase by consumers.
Friction Materials	Clutch plates and brake linings contain asbestos bound in resins. Respondents indicated that fibers are mechanically and thermally altered to a non-fibrous form during product use. However, some sources indicate that unaltered fibers can be emitted during use of the product.	30-70%	Fibers generally in felt or cloth form impregnated with resin.	During use fibers may be emitted to the atmosphere or emitted and retained by related mechanical parts and released to atmosphere during repair or replacement operations.	Consumers occasionally repair product incorporating asbestos friction materials; consumers may be present during commercial repair activity.

✓ Ford is currently using mufflers where the asbestos has been replaced with fiberglass.

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