

Friction Products



Shipments of friction products in 1965 amounted to \$39,900,000, a 12 per cent gain over 1964. Sales increases were achieved in all types of friction products and by all divisions in the group.

In the automotive field, brake lining for passenger cars, trucks and buses provides the major market. Heavy-duty materials are used in clutches and transmissions in trucks and military vehicles.

1965 was a banner year for the automotive industry. Passenger car output in the United States exceeded nine million vehicles and truck production increased to 1,800,000 units. Production levels were high also in Canada and European countries. The replacement market continued to grow as the number of registered vehicles in the United States alone reached almost 90 million. Consequently, the demand for automotive friction products was strong from both vehicle manufacturers and the replacement field.

A sizeable volume of new business was obtained from truck manufacturers in the United States. In Europe, a significant volume of new business, particularly in disc brake friction materials, was obtained from passenger car manufacturers.

The trend toward disc brakes on passenger cars in Europe was particularly strong and our pads for these brakes were in heavy demand. In the United States, disc brakes are standard or optional equipment on only a few models.

Industrial friction products are used in clutches, transmissions and brakes for earthmoving and construction equipment, farm machinery and other mobile vehicles. Production of all types of mobile equipment was high in 1965 and, consequently, the sales of our products increased to the

A-B-K steel mill bearings are made with resin-impregnated fabric which is molded to shape under heat and pressure.

