

BRAKE LINING DECOMPOSITION PRODUCTS

In recent years, some individuals have pointed at brake lining wear as a probable source of asbestos contamination of the ambient air. In this paper, Jeremiah R. Lynch of the National Center for Urban and Industrial Health, HEW, refutes this theory by showing that in all but a few extremely severe automobile braking tests, less than one percent asbestos fiber could be found in the collected dust. He concludes that brake lining wear is "an inconsequential health factor in urban air pollution."