

*Flexitallic Gasket Company Inc.*

"ORIGINATORS OF THE SPIRAL-WOUND GASKET"

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May 24, 1982

INGERSOLL-RAND COMPANY
Cameron Pump Division
P.O. Box 486
Phillipsburg, New Jersey 08865

ATTENTION: Mr. E. Rash

REFERENCE: Available non-asbestos materials for Flexitallic
Spiral Wound Gaskets

Dear Elmer:

There are several non-asbestos materials which Flexitallic can use in place of asbestos, in the manufacture of their spiral wound gaskets. However, like asbestos, they have limitations which are determined by pressure, temperature, and joint design consideration.

We can offer PTFE, which has a temperature limitation of 500°F and which is almost chemically inert. Another non-asbestos material would be Flexicarb (flexible graphite), which has a temperature limit of approximately 940°F in an oxidizing atmosphere and 5600°F in a reducing atmosphere. It like PTFE, has good resistance to many chemicals and acids.

A third possible non-asbestos material we use is a ceramic manufactured by Carborundum. This material has a temperature limitation of 2000°F, and has some chemical resistance. However, we have had limited and different field usage. That is to say some customers have had good success while others have had poor performance.

It is important to note that all of the above materials have basically fixed gasket seating stresses.

Flexitallic has developed a non-asbestos mica based material which we believe closely assimilates asbestos. It has been successfully tested by the U.S. Navy in a high pressure, high temperature boiler (1150 psi, 1000°F), and in the near future will be specified as a replacement for the present asbestos used by the Navy on gaskets manufactured to MIL-G-21032.

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Mr. E. Resh
Ingersoll-Rand Company
Page 2

Because this material is available and can be used in varying thicknesses, we can in fact vary gasket seating stress. This is an important point, since Ingersoll-Rand specifies several different gasket seating stresses for most of their gasket requirements.

Our estimation is that it will cost out at about 1.5 times the present asbestos filled gaskets. We have not yet determined a Flexitallic tradename for this material, therefore, we simply refer to it as Flexitallic MA.

We trust this information will be of some value. If we can be of further assistance, please advise.

Sincerely,

F. J. Kurdziel

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