fibre counts and the electron microscopic asbestos mass calculations indicates that a positive correlation exists between the two sets of data. These results show that the standard (OSHA) optical fibre counts may be only indicative of the total asbestos exposure.

Asbestos Exposure of Workmen

After the identification of chrysotile in the brake drum dusts, asbestos fibre exposure during maintenance and repair was determined by personal air sampling carried out at automobile repair shops, taxi fleet repair shops and a municipal truck repair shop in New York City. Air sampling and analytical methods for the determination of fibre concentrations were in accordance with the OSHA techniques (Bayer *et al.* 1975). Present regulations of OSHA prohibit asbestos concentrations of 5 fibres per millilitre (f/ml) or greater, longer than 5 μm as a time-weighted average, and concentrations above 2 f/ml will be illegal after July 1976. Peak concentrations or maximum excursions of 10 f/ml are permitted by the regulations.

In brake lining inspection and repair, the wheel

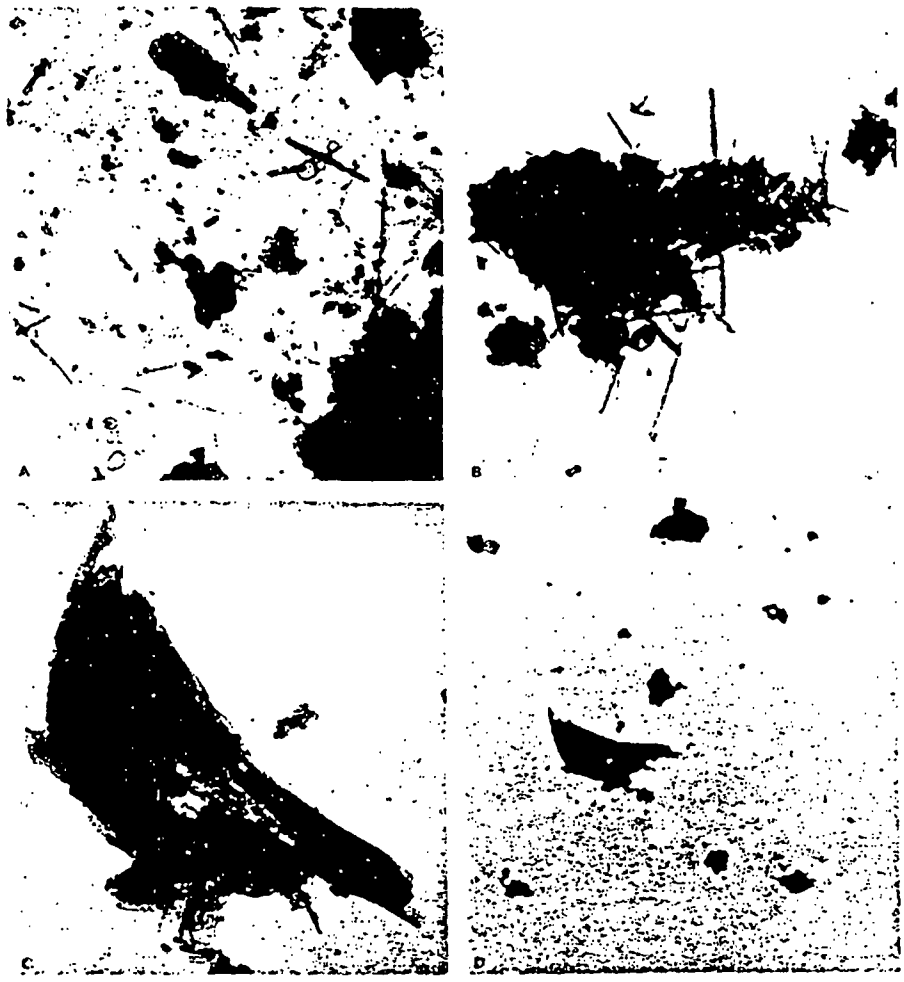

Fig 1 *Electron photomicrographs of brake drum dusts, taken at various magnifications.* A, *the numerous chrysotile fibrils have average lengths of 0.4 μm or less (× 30 000).* B, *large numbers of chrysotile fibres imbedded in, and protruding from, opaque particle, probably pyrolized phenolic resin binder (× 30 000).* C, *large chrysotile fibre bundle (× 45 000).* D, *large particle in left centre of photograph is the same as in* C, *but cannot be identified at low magnification (× 5400).*

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