PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT
tabbies
CON-5

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TO. CONGOLEUM RETAILERS

SUBJECT: SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION TO "HOW TO INSTALL CONGOLEUM CUSHIONED VINYLS" #R124

For your knowledge and more specifically as a guide to your installers, following is important information.

PREPARATION OF EXISTING RESILIENT FLOORS FOR RECOVERING

WARNING

Some resilient floor covering and most felt backings contain asbestos fibers. When removing or covering over such floor covering UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES should it be sanded. Such sanding of asbestos containing material can place fine particles of asbestos in the air which could cause serious bodily harm.

Where the practice has been to sand the surface of the existing floor covering, one of the following procedures should be followed:

Procedure A Apply a strong solution of Spic and Span or Automatic Dishwasher detergent with a sponge mop to all areas where adhesive is to be applied. Let stand until all wax, dressing, grease or any other foreign substance has been soaked loose. Take up the solution with a sponge mop, rinse with clear water and allow to dry. Caution - keep hands out of the solutions unless you wear rubber gloves.

Procedure B Wet scrub the areas where adhesive is to be applied with detergent and coarse steel wool pad or coarse scrubbing pad on a floor scrubbing or polishing machine. Rinse the floor with clear, clean water and allow to dry.

PREPARATION OF ASBESTOS BACKED FLOORING PRODUCTS

It is necessary in some instances to remove the existing resilient floor covering as in the case of cushioned products or deeply embossed hard products before a new resilient floor is installed. This is easily done by scoring the wearlayer at intervals of about 4" to 12" depending on the product. In most cases, the strips can be easily pulled loose from the subfloor. A wide, sharp, stiff blade putty knife will assist cleavage of wearlayer from felt if delamination should be difficult. If the felt is well adhered to the subfloor, a smooth delamination will occur. No further preparation is necessary. The new floor covering can be installed over the remaining felt as is.

> Asbestos felt must not be sanded under any circumstances. Inhalation of asbestos dust may cause serious bodily harm.

If there are any loose spots in the felt, they can be cut open and recemented. If small areas of asbestos felt come loose from the floor, they can be filled and brought level with a good quality rubber latex underlayment compound.

Under certain conditions, it may be necessary to remove asbestos felt from the subfloor, such as when a perimeter installation is being removed. In rare instances, it may be desirable to clear an entire subfloor of the asbestos felt. If this is necessary, the following procedure is to be used:

Procedure C Asbestos felt can be removed by soaking it with a 50-50 solution (equal volumes) of water and denatured alcohol. Isopropyl alcohol or methanol (wood alcohol) can be used in place of denatured alcohol.

> Caution: This solution is flammable and all precautions necessary to prevent fire must be taken. Extinguish all flames and pilot lights. Do not smoke. Adequate ventilation must be provided.

Soak small areas (about 3 sq. yards) of the floor at a time with the water - alcohol solution. Enough solution must be used to saturate the felt and leave it wet on the top surface. Let the felt soak for several minutes until it can be removed from the subfloor with a broad, stiff blade putty knife. If the adhesive used is water soluble, such as SU23, the felt will easily lift off in large pieces. If the adhesive used was a latex adhesive, such as SU360, SU500 or SU600, the felt is easiest removed by scoring it about every 3 inches with a sharp utility knife and then pushing the putty knife between the felt and subfloor and with a slight pulling motion with the other hand on the felt, it will pull clear in a strip.

Caution - Felt that has been removed should immediately be placed in a closed plastic bag or covered metal container to minimize the danger of fire.

Once the felt has been removed, it is not necessary to remove the adhesive residue from the subfloor before installing the new floor covering, if the same adhesive is to be used.

This solution will work on a great many adhesives and should be tried on a small section of the floor if the adhesive is other than those named above. If it does not allow removal of the felt from the adhesive, then the floor can be smoothed with a rubber latex underlayment applied as a skim coat to bring the floor and felt residue level.

W A R N I N G

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