October 9, 1972



TO: #170-1 W. W. Holloway

FROM: #151 Research A. L. Hampton

SUBJECT: Elimination of Asbestos from Plaster Products.

All U.S. Plants, with the exception of Ft. Dodge, according to my in tion, have eliminated asbestos from plaster products, pursuant to th company directive.

In response to my memo of September 1st, or to earlier memos, confir memos to this effect have been received from all plants except New Brighton and Ft. Dodge (9/9 bulletin revision request from Sweetwate approved by Research 10/9).

By telephone today, Mr. Scozzare advised me that bulletin requests ar circulating to delete all plaster products containing asbestos from New Brighton production.

Also by telephone today, Mr. Bartlett advised me that Ft. Dodge is awaiting reports from trial shipments of asbestos-free ORIENTAL Exter Finish Stucco. We feel certain that these reports will confirm Mr. Rollins' earlier laboratory appraisal, which he reported showed no detectable difference between the product with and without asbesto

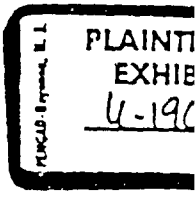
With Ft. Dodge's bulletin request to delete asbestos from ORIENTAL Exterior Finish Stucco, the US phase of this changeover to asbestos-free plaster products will be completed.

Except through copies of our early memos in this subject, we have tak no positive steps to delete asbestos from CGC plaster products. At this point, we feel that we are not in a position to judge the critic of this problem in Canada, since we do not know the Canadian governme position or the degree to which its position may be influenced by the large asbestos industry.

I have noted in reports from CGC, however, references to increasing consumer group activity on pollution and safety, and feel that we may face this same problem on asbestos in Canada in the not-too-distant future.

I suggest the Operating and the Marketing Departments give some thoug now to how we may best handle this matter in Canada when, or if, it requires handling.

ALH:aae



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