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Borg & Beck Division
Borg-Warner Corporation
6700 18½ Mile Road, Sterling Heights Michigan 48078
Telephone 313/739-6000 Telex 230375

July 12, 1978

FINAL

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BORG WARNER transportation Equipment

TO ALL EMPLOYEES:

As we all know most Borg & Beck Driven Member Assemblies use a friction material that includes asbestos. Currently that friction material contains about 40% asbestos which is locked into the facing by resins and other compounds. In addition the majority of facings are coated to encapsulate asbestos in the product.

We've all heard about the hazards of heavy concentrations (600 to 1,000 parts per cubic centimeter) and prolonged exposure to asbestos. Concentrations of this magnitude have never been experienced by our employees because of the nature of the product.

We at Borg & Beck have been aware of the potential hazards of heavy concentrations of asbestos for some years. We have worked hard and invested in additional equipment to insure that asbestos levels meet or are below all federal requirements. The current federal OSHA standard for asbestos is 2.0 parts per cubic centimeter and our level is consistently well under that limit.

Over the next several weeks Americans will be exposed to asbestos as a product and as a hazard through the following means:

* ABC-TV Jules Bergman special on the hazards of asbestos. July 14, 1978 - 10:00 p.m. - Channel 7

* ABC-TV Good Morning America. Previews of the above special. July 14, 1978 - 7:00 a.m. - Channel 7

* Radio & TV spot announcements sponsored by U.S. Department of Health, Education & Welfare to increase awareness of asbestos.

* Mailings by HEW to

  1. 400,000 doctors requesting information on respiratory problems identified with asbestos.

  2. All social security recipients advising those with heavy asbestos exposure with respiratory problems to see their physician.

What about the future? For the past two years Borg & Beck has co-sponsored a multi-million dollar research program to develop a family of non-asbestos friction materials. This program shows promise of eliminating the need for asbestos in our products. Until that time we will continue our diligence to keep our asbestos levels below the tolerable limit to protect the health of employees and we will also keep you informed of future developments. If you are interested in more information, a copy of Secretary Califano's recent announcement on asbestos is available in the Personnel office.

[redacted]



BWC 1328