

FOSECO, INC.

P. O. BOX 8728 • CLEVELAND, OHIO 44135



April 21, 1972



Mr. R. W. Young,
Purchasing Agent
Bethlehem Steel Corporation
Bethlehem, Pa. 18016

Subject: Health Hazards from Profax® Premix*

Gentlemen:

Thank you for your letter relative to the possible problems associated with Asbestos in the Premix.

Asbestos levels are at 3.5% in the mixture as currently supplied. We believe that this will be acceptable to the O.H.S.A. providing that the pulper man wears the correct form of dust mask while charging. No problems are likely to exist once the product has been wet with water as there will be no dust during the forming operation.

The finished (dried pieces) do not, we believe, constitute a hazard as once the top has been heated, to about 2000°F, by the steel the fibrous nature of the Asbestos is destroyed and no special health problem is likely to exist.

Even though, as stated, we do not expect the Asbestos contained in Premix to cause difficulties in your plant, we obviously are continuing our efforts to improve all our products and are actively seeking alternative materials to Asbestos. At this point, we have not located any materials which will provide the combination heat resistance, insulation low cost and forming characteristics that is possible from the existing formulation. However, indications are that at a 50% increase in raw material cost, a satisfactory product containing less than 1-1/2% Asbestos may be possible in both Premix and prefabricated Profax products. If you are interested, we will be glad to arrange production tests.

Sincerely,

E. J. Jago
Commercial Development Manager

EJJ/bth

000-00-0000000155

*Trademark

bcc: W. C. Sutherland
R. C. Phoenix
Nat Wilcox (2)
Health Hazard File
Bethlehem, Johnstown file
Bethlehem, Central file

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