

PLAINTIFF'S
EXHIBIT

AL-587

M. J. CAPRIO.

TO:

Bob Carter - AB-7

For your information !

Rep.

8/3/76



1501 Alcoa Building
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15219



NICOLET INDUSTRIES, INC.
Manufacturers of Quality-Controlled Asbestos Products

July 26, 1976

TO: OUR CUSTOMERS
SUBJECT: ASBESTOS AND HEALTH

The attached reprint from the London Financial Times appeared in all of the London dailies and major newspapers throughout England.

This submission by the Asbestos Information Committee (of England) underscores the international character of the asbestos and health problem and the effort which is being made by credible sources to disseminate reliable information to the public at large.

You may be interested to learn that the attached insertion is part of a summer program which will cost upwards of 250,000 pounds and that plans are to conduct a parallel program on television at equal cost.

The Asbestos Association of North America, of course, will continue to strive to render a similar service to the American public. Your assistance in the form of contributions and membership in the Asbestos Information Association of North America is invited.

Thanks.

Very truly yours,

NICOLET, INC.

C. Fred Workman

C. FRED WORKMAN
VICE PRESIDENT-MARKETING

CFW/emc

Enc: Financial Times Reprint

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20 sensible questions you asked about Asbestos and health. And the answers.

1 What are the risks of my getting an Asbestos disease?

The risks are almost always confined to those who worked extensively with asbestos some years ago before present safety regulations were introduced. Asbestos only becomes dangerous when the dust is breathed in excessive amounts generally over a long period.

It can damage the lungs and interfere with breathing; this is a disease called asbestosis which can lead to a greater risk of developing lung cancer particularly when associated with heavy smoking.

Some people may develop a rare cancer called mesothelioma. Of all the cancer deaths in the country only 0.14% are due to this disease, which can develop without any link with asbestos.

Where there is a link it is mainly associated with blue asbestos fibre, which is no longer imported.

Most asbestos related diseases are the result of high exposure to asbestos dust in working conditions which are no longer allowed by law.

2 How long do Asbestos diseases take to develop?

Most asbestos cases are diagnosed 15-20 years after first exposure. Mesothelioma has developed between 15 and 50 years after exposure to dangerous amounts of asbestos dust.

People suffering from asbestos diseases today were thus almost always exposed many years ago to working conditions which are no longer allowed.

3 Is it just the dust that's dangerous?

Yes. Asbestos-containing products in themselves are perfectly harmless.

The only risk is when fibres are released in quantity, for instance by intensive cutting or abrasion.

4 What are the advantages, if any, of asbestos?

Asbestos combines several vital properties in one economic substance.

It resists fire, heat and corrosion. It's strong and long lasting, even though it is extremely light and flexible.

As a reinforcement it gives these properties to other materials e.g. in brake linings it withstands the heat generated by braking.

5 How can I recognise Asbestos products in my home?

It isn't always easy. Asbestos fibres are usually mixed with other materials - such as cement and various resins - which seal them in, but can make them hard to recognise.

Because asbestos resists fire and heat it's used in insulation board, ironing board stands and oven door seals.

Asbestos cement sheeting is weatherproof, too, so it's often used to roof garden sheds and garages. And asbestos is used in your car brake and clutch linings. In the past it was sometimes used to lag tanks and pipes.

6 What is the Blue Asbestos I've heard about?

Blue asbestos fibre (crocidolite) is a rare form of asbestos that's exceptionally strong and acid resistant.

It is, in some instances, considered more dangerous than white asbestos, and has not been imported since 1970. Before that it was used for sprayed insulation and pipe lagging.

7 Are there any tests that detect Asbestos dust in the air we breathe?

Yes. Tests for detecting dust in the atmosphere are carried out regularly by the asbestos industry, through the Asbestos Research Council, other research organisations and public authorities.

The results indicate no health hazard to the general public.

8 Is there Asbestos dust in the air from car brakes?

Asbestos, combined with various additives is used in car brakes for efficient stopping power, strength and heat resistance.

Only 1% of the tiny amount of brake dust released is asbestos, and asbestos levels in traffic are usually a million times lower than the level allowed in factories.

9 Is the asbestos on my ironing board dangerous?

No. The only asbestos in your ironing board is in the stand for the iron at the end.

Hard iron stands (the sort found on most modern ironing boards) present no hazard as they do not wear out. Some older ones were made of a softer material, however, and may fray.

The amount of dust released should not be dangerous, but obviously it is sensible to replace a worn stand.

10 My husband is a do-it-yourself fan. What should he know about Asbestos?

The asbestos industry has published a leaflet - the home handyman which gives simple do and don't rules about working with asbestos products.

By the end of the year most asbestos products in the shops will carry a special symbol.

At the bottom of this page, you'll find the Asbestos Safety Code. Why not cut it out and keep it handy?

11 What should I tell my children about Asbestos?

There's no need to alarm them: simply tell them that like petrol, gas and electricity, asbestos does a great deal of good - (for example in fire protection).

But, like petrol, gas and electricity, it can be dangerous if not used properly.

12 Are older people more likely to get Asbestos diseases?

No. Age itself does not appear to affect anyone's susceptibility to asbestos-related diseases.

Some older people may have been exposed to asbestos dust at work, before the present safety legislation came into force.

13 What should I do if I think I have an Asbestos disease?

There are many causes for breathing difficulties. However, if you think you have been heavily exposed to asbestos dust more than fifteen years ago, and you have trouble with your breathing, you should consult your doctor.

14 Can Asbestos cause skin cancer?

No.

15 What if I swallow Asbestos?

There is no evidence that swallowing a small amount of asbestos fibre has ever done anyone any harm.

16 Can I catch Asbestos diseases from someone else?

No. They are neither contagious nor infectious.

17 How should I dispose of Asbestos?

For industry, there are special regulations for asbestos waste disposal.

If you work on asbestos products at home, damp any dust you may make immediately, and seal it in a plastic bag for disposal.

18 What can I use in place of Asbestos?

Glass fibre, rock fibre and mineral wool may be used for some insulation products.

However, asbestos is indispensable for many applications. And for many others, it is still the cheapest and most efficient material.

19 Why has there been no Government statement about the dangers of Asbestos?

There have in fact been several Government statements on asbestos and health over the last 50 years. Legislation controlling asbestos factories was introduced in 1931. More comprehensive asbestos regulations came into force in 1970.

This year an Asbestos Advisory Committee was set up by the Secretary of State for Employment. This committee is reviewing the health risks for workers with asbestos products, and for the general public, to see if any further protection is needed.

20 Can Asbestos be used safely?

Yes. Any risk comes from careless working on asbestos products which can cause you to breathe too much asbestos dust.

So read the Safety Code below. And if you have any further queries, please send us the coupon. Our address:

The Asbestos Information Committee, P.O. Box 400, London W1A 40G.

The Asbestos Safety Code

Avoid creating asbestos dust.
Avoid breathing asbestos dust.

AT HOME

1. Damp the work if you think you are likely to make a lot of dust. Wet dust does not become airborne and is not inhaled.
2. Damp any dust that falls to the floor and pick it up as soon as possible. Place it in a plastic bag and seal the bag.
3. Work in a well ventilated space, if possible outdoors, when sawing, drilling, filing or sanding.
4. Use hand saws and drills where possible. These produce less dust than power tools.
5. Renew worn or frayed asbestos insulators like oven door seals, hot plate cover seals, ironing stands and summering pads.

AT WORK: If your day-to-day job involves asbestos, you should already have been issued with instructions and, if necessary, appropriate safety equipment.

ALWAYS FOLLOW THE SAFETY PROCEDURES.

To: The Asbestos Information Committee, P.O. Box 400, London W1A 40G.

Please send me further information on asbestos and health.
(If you have a particular query, please print it in the space below.)

My name: _____ 411084 1546

Date: _____ Address: _____

**The Asbestos
Information Committee**