

RPM

INTER-ORGANIZATION

MEMORANDUM

PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT

BOND-276

S-51

FROM JIM KARMAN

Always provide address to which reply is to be sent

TO JULIUS NEMETH

DATE APRIL 13, 1977

SUBJECT _____

Please use a separate sheet for each subject treated

Julius:

Attached is the draft of your letter concerning the Bondex Joint Cement Customer.

I think that the entire matter is pretty well treated in your letter, leaving out paragraphs 4 and 5 -- skipping from paragraph 3 down to the final paragraph. I think possibly including paragraphs 4 and 5 might create a little more concern than is warranted -- and I think your third paragraph mentioning the exposure would appear to be minimal and following up with the length of time it takes to create serious problems would pretty much answer the question as necessary.

It is also interesting in talking with Myrle and their products containing asbestos in which they make reference to not "sanding" -- but as leveling is required, it is suggested that a wet sponge be used to level the product. He mentioned there have been advances which did not require a great deal of sanding and that a wet sponge does do a very good job of leveling, and in so doing does not create a dust problem.

...JIM

BON - 01149

April 8, 1977

Mrs. Mark S. Cole
263 Lowell Blvd.
Denver, CO 80219

Dear Mrs. Cole:

In response to your recent letter, a great deal of research on the effects of asbestos has been done by the Environmental Science Laboratory of Mt. Sinai School of Medicine in New York City. The precautionary labeling on our packaging is basically a requirement of OSHA for the occupational protection of in-plant workers so we extended the warnings to others of our products from which asbestos could conceivably be released, as in the case of sanding joint cement.

The product which you used contains 3.4% asbestos by weight and while we cannot give you a comparison of the type you requested, I want to advise that our plant employees are given annual physical examinations and in this group are a number of employees who have been employed near 20 years with no ill effect. They do, of course, work in a dust controlled environment which meets government regulations.

Without knowing the exact conditions of your exposure, amount of sanding, etc., it would be difficult to evaluate, however, on a one time basis it would appear your exposure would have been minimal, although you may wish to consult your doctor for verification.

As a matter of interest to eliminate the possibility of any such exposure in the future, our entire line is being reformulated to be asbestos free and Pre-mixed Joint Cement for one is already being produced on a non-asbestos basis.

It is interesting to note, however, that asbestos is used in well over 3,000 different products including building goods and consumer products. Some of these include asbestos cement blocks, asbestos asphalt tile, gaskets, fireproof clothing, brake linings, furnace and boiler insulation, building fireproofing compounds, and even electrical insulation.

We have been advised that while severe diseases can be caused by asbestos through the inhalation of excess quantities of the fiber, it takes approximately 15-20 years of exposure to airborne asbestos to develop disease of the lung or the gastro-intestinal tract.

Sincerely yours, *lung*

BONDEX INTERNATIONAL, INC.

JKN/jlj

Julius K. Nemeth

BON - 01150

Handwritten:
Asbestos

April 14, 1977

Mrs. Mark S. Cole
263 Lowell Blvd.
Denver, CO 80219

Dear Mrs. Cole:

In response to your recent letter, a great deal of research on the effects of asbestos has been done by the Environmental Science Laboratory of Mt. Sinai School of Medicine in New York City. The precautionary labeling on our packaging is basically a requirement of OSHA for the occupational protection of in-plant workers so we extended the warnings to others of our products from which asbestos could conceivably be released, as in the case of sanding joint cement.

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Sincerely yours,

BONDEX INTERNATIONAL, INC.

Julius K. Nemeth

JKN/jlj

BON - 01151