

Date: January 24, 1986

To: R. J. McCloskey

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From: Jim Fisher

Subject: EPA RULING ON ASBESTOS

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The EPA is issuing a proposed rule today to eliminate the use of asbestos in all products. This proposal will go through the normal reviews and public hearings, and is estimated to take a year before the rule is promulgated. The proposal, per Nancy Sullivan of the Chicago Public Affairs Office of the EPA, has three alternatives that affect friction products - These are as follows:

Alternative 1:

Eliminate the use of all asbestos friction products five years after promulgation of the rule.

Alternative 2:

The same as Alternative 1 as it affects friction products.

Alternative 3:

Phase down the use of asbestos friction products over a ten year period after promulgation of the rule.

We agreed this week to replace all NF-285 asbestos material with NF-410 non-asbestos material. This will be the standard coefficient material for the VC, E, VE, DBA, and caliper products. We are currently evaluating a standard coefficient non-asbestos woven material for the CS/CT products. The CB/EB friction materials tested to date are lacking in coefficient at the higher surface speeds. A reformulation of this material should be received early next week to extend the operating speed range to match our products. Nafco is confident their reformulation will perform as expected. We will have preliminary evaluation of the CS/CT material and the CB/EB material by mid-February. If these results are favorable, CB/EB complete testing would be done in March, and CS/CT in April.

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The asbestos products that still need replacement are the NF-127 and NF-276 low coefficient linings for VC, caliper, and centrifugal clutches, the NF-316 high coefficient CT material for Standun, the Abex 438x23 standard coefficient for centrifugal clutches, the Abex 693-551 standard coefficient for one large size E application, and the NF-251 standard coefficient CB application for Washex. The replacement for the NF-127 and NF-276 may come as a result of Navy development testing, which will leave mainly special application materials that need replacement.

If the next month of testing is successful, we can eliminate most of our asbestos products this year.

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Jim
Jim Fisher

JF/pl