FILE NAME: Raybestos-Manhattan (RBM)

DATE: 1978 Mar 31

DOC#: RBM035

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: RBM Memo Stating Asbestos Fibers can Cause Disabling and Fatal Diseases

INTER ORGANIZATION COMMUNICATION

Raybestos Manhattan

Corporate Trumbull

DIVISION and LOCATION

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TO: Mr. R. B. Sims March 31, 1978

Because inhalation of asbestos fibers can cause disabling and fatal diseases, R/M has compelling reasons to provide caution labels and work practice instructions with asbestos containing materials.

The company has a moral obligation to warn its customers that improper handling of its products may generate hazardous airborne concentrations of asbestos fibers and it has a duty to comply with government regulations. Failure to provide such information in the past, because of ignorance of the hazard, has resulted in enormous potential financial liability.

Caution labels are placed on packages of Automatic Transmission Plates because abrasion in shipment can cause asbestos-containing dust to accumulate in the packages.

Lined brake shoes are rarely ground in the field but when they are, excessive airborne dust concentrations can be created if proper precautions are not taken. In addition, brake service mechanics are exposed to asbestos-containing dust when removing used brake shoes and must take precautions to avoid inhaling it.

By providing caution labels and work practice instructions we are doing our best to protect our customers from asbestos-related disease and the company from future product liability claims.

John H. Marsh

/as

CC: Dr. H. C. Lewinsohn
Mr. J. O. Pearson
Mr. I. H. Weaver