

FILE NAME: Ford (FD)

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Inter Office

Car Engineering

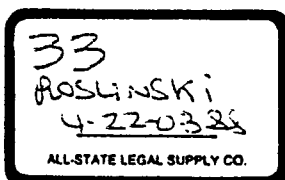
August 22, 1979

MEMO TO FILE

Subject: Asbestos

The attached pages have been selected to represent the increased activity in newsletters, "newspapers", and Washington related sources in the tox/haz area, especially concerning asbestos. There are many more, but the important pressures are clear:

1. The slant is toward asbestos elimination.
2. There is an increased mood supporting "no safe level of exposure".
3. Imprisonment and fines for corporate managers are being stressed.
4. Some members of Congress are becoming vocal. An example is a quote using "a legacy of four decades of cover-up....."
5. It is being emphasized that OSHA may issue standards without substantiating the health benefits.
6. There is draft regulation in the works.
7. There is an advanced notice for proposed rulemaking to TSCA.
8. There is an umbrella being considered as an "overall approach to cancer"...which supports those factions favoring total elimination of asbestos.
9. Gaskets and brakes are sometimes covered specifically but, even more dangerously, would be subject to broad general rulings where specifications would be more difficult.



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