FILE NAME: Ford (FD)

DATE: 1977-1978

DOC#: FD217

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: Letter and Reply RE Asbestos in Brakes and Carcinogenic Effects

WRITERS
JT

Larry Wartels
2550 Green Valley Road
Los Angeles, CA 90046

November 8, 1977

Ford Motor Company
Dearborn, Michigan

Dear Sirs:

Can you please send any information concerning the substitution of other materials for asbestos in the use of brake pads and clutches; considering the carcinogenic possibility and asbestosis possibility due to the ambient spread of the material from automobiles? If you do not have such data, can you give me the name and address of your supplier of asbestos containing material?

Thankyou for your assistance,

Larry Wartels

Larry Wartels

003313

PQ

PRODUCED BY FORD

Safety Standards and Regulations 1-18-78

Mr. J. H. Hagman

My sources for information were the author of one of the SAE papers who works at the Scientific Laboratory, Mr. A. E. Anderson, Extension 75059 and Mr. D. F. Fiscus of Advanced Chassis, Extension 78766.

003314

PRODUCED BY FORD

FORD PARTS AND SERVICE DIVISION TWO-WAY MEMO

REFERENCE NUMBER

TO: DEPT. Cust. Service ATTN. R.E. Kimball SUBJECT: CUSTOMER INQUIRY

DIVISION PSD LOCATION 275 WHQ

L WARTELS 11/4/77 Los Angeles

The attached customer letter has been received by the Owner Relations Operations Department. We are forwarding the letter to your activity for assistance in providing an appropriate response.

MESSAGE

- ☐ Please provide information indicated which is essential for our response.
- ☐ Please reply directly to the customer and send a carbon copy to this office.
- ☐ For your reply. Carbon copy to this office not required.
- ☒ Other: Please provide information for our response

Signed S.J. Troy At Owner Relations Operations Dept. Room 816 - Parklane Towers West Ext. 322-4337

YOUR INPUT REQUIRED TO ASSIST A FORD PRODUCT OWNER
PLEASE PRINT REPLY BELOW

REPLY

The possibility of carciogenic effects and asbestosis due to the ambient spread of asbestos from automobiles is minute. The reason for this finding is that the asbestos in brake and clutch linings is converted to a non-fiberous material by the high temperature involved in normal vehicle usage. Therefore, the automobile is not significant as a source of free asbestos.

Ford has examined the total process of providing asbestos lining materials on its vehicles. From a medical standpoint, problems from exposure to asbestos may have to be overcome in the mine, in the making of the linings and in our supplier plants. Free asbestos from vehicle usage and brake service is not considered a problem.

Mr. E. J. Selikoff is an internationally recognized authority on this subject and has agreed with these findings. His works are referenced in an SAE paper on the subject. (SAE 730549 - Asbestos Emissions from

Signed C.J. Coughlin REK/1704L Dept. Safety Activities Date 1-13-78

Division Env. & Safety Engrg. Staff Location WHQ Room 275

366-123 JUL 77 2. - RECIPIENT - RETURN TO SENDER WITH COPY

PQ

003315 MICROFILM REFERENCE

PRODUCED BY FORD

FAFD0003277

Brake Dynamometer Tests by A. E. Anderson, R. L. Gealer, R. C. McCune and J. W. Sprys). The EPA conducted research that resulted in similar findings (Report No. 68-04-0020 Brake Emissions). The EPA report is summarized in another SAE Paper (SAE 730548 - Brake and Clutch Emissions Generated During Vehicle Operation by M. G. Jacko, R. T. DuCharme and J. H. Somers).

PRODUCED BY FORD

BIBLIOGRAPHY

	Article	Author	
1.	Brake Lining Decomposition Products	Jeremiah Lynch National Center for Urban and Industrial Health	12/68
2.	Exposure to Asbestos During Brake Maintenance	D.E. Hickish and Kili Knight Medical Services, Ford of Britain	1970
3.	Asbestos Emissions from Brake Dynamometer Tests	R.L. Gealer, R.C. McCune and J.W. Sprys Ford Motor Company	May 14-1 1973
4.	How Much Asbestos do Vehicles Emit?		6/73
5.	The Hazards of Asbestos for Brake Mechanics	Barry Castleman, Lucille Camarota, Albert Fritsch, Susan Mazzocchi, and Robert Crawley - Public Health Reports	5/6/75
6.	Asbestos Exposure During Brake Lining Maintenance and Repair	Arthur Rohl, Arthur Langer, Mary Wolff, Irving Weisman - Mt. Sinai School of Medicine	1976
7.	Asbestos Exposure of Brake Repair Workers in the U. S.	William Lorimer, Arthur Rohl, Albert Miller, William Nicholson, Irving Selikoff - Mt. Sinai Journal of Medicine	1976
8.	Airborne Asbestos in the Vicinity of a Freeway	J. Alste, D. Watson and J. Bagg University of Melbourne	1976
9.	Asbestos Content of Dust Encountered In Brake Maintenance and Repair	Rohl, Langer, Klimentidis Wolff, and Selikoff - Mt Sinai School of Medicine	January 1977
10.	On the Utility of Dark Field Electron Microscopy in Determination of the Degree of Deformation in Chrysotile Asbestos	K. Seshan U. S. Dept of Energy	October 1977

PRODUCED BY FORD

11.	A characterization of Chrysotile Asbestos	K. Seshan, Glenn Smith	1977
12.	Automobile Brake Linings May be a Health Hazard	American Industrial Hygiene Association	April 1978
13.	A Study of Airborne Asbestos Fibers in Connecticut	Leonard Bruckman Connecticut Dept of Environmental Protection	November 1978
14.	Description of Brake Materials, Work Practices and Exposure Levels During Brake Maintenance	William Nicholson Environmental Sciences Laboratory	January 1979
15.	Asbestos and Health: Present Situation in the Friction Material Industry	Heinz Doussier Asbestos International Association	July 1979
16.	Asbestos Cancer, Past and Future Hazard	J. C. Gilson	February 1972
17.	State-of-the Art, Asbestos Related Diseases of the Lungs and Other Organs	Mirgot, Becklake	1975
18.	Mortality in Canadian Miners and Millers Exposed to Chrysotile	J. C. McDonald	1979
19.	Occupational Lung Disease - Agents of Inorganic Origin	J. C. Wagner	1977
20.	The Complexities in the Evaluation of Epidemiological Data of Fiber Exposed Populations	J. C. Wagner	1979
21.	Diseases Associated with Exposure to Asbestos Dust	J. C. Wagner	1979

PRODUCED BY FORD