FILE NAME: DuPont (DUP)

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Report of BC -- DuPont

1. Dupont's had access to substantial medical and scientific literature which discussed the health risks associated with asbestos as far back as the 1930's, due to its participation in the National Safety Council. DuPont was one of the first chemical corporations to establish its own toxicological laboratories. DuPont's Dr. John Foulger was acknowledged as a contributor to major texts, such as Hamilton and Hardy's Industrial Toxicology, which discussed case reports of lung cancer in asbestos workers (2d Ed., 1949, pp 447-448).

2. Dr. Wilhelm Hueper, who would become the world's most published author on occupational and environmental cancer, worked at DuPont's Haskell Laboratory for Toxicology from 1934-1938. DuPont was well aware that Dr. Hueper went on to work at the National Cancer Institute (1948-1964), where he wrote many review articles listing asbestos and various chemicals as cancer-causing substances used in industry.

3. Upon starting work at NCI in 1948, Dr. Hueper came under official investigation for disloyalty to the United States. "GH Gehrmann, DuPont's Medical Director, had denounced him as a Nazi, a trumped-up charge that was dismissed when Hueper was able to show that it came from a former colleague jealous of the acclaim Hueper had won for his work. Gehrmann later wrote to the director of the NCI accusing his foreign-born colleague of harboring communistic tendencies, though this was shown to have no more substance than the Nazi charge." (R Proctor, Cancer Wars, 1995, p. 43)

4. The text Modern Occupational Medicine published in 1954, second edition 1960, was authored by Dupont scientists and doctors. It included a chapter (1960) on occupational chest diseases by GWH Schepers that discussed lung cancer and pleural mesothelioma as asbestos diseases and noted that people who worked during the war as pipecovers were

developing asbestosis.

5. In 1964, Dr. Gordon Stopps, of Dupont's Haskell Laboratory, sent a report to all Dupont Plant physicians which was summation of the conference, Biological Effects of Asbestos, which was held in October of 1964 by the New York Academy of Sciences. Stopps advised Dupont's plant physicians "that asbestosis and complications of asbestosis have now been found in persons who have not in the ordinary way come to mind as being exposed to asbestos; that is to say, they do not work in asbestos mines, asbestos mills, or asbestos textile factories." The proceedings of this conference include striking evidence of environmental cases of mesothelioma in the households of asbestos-exposed workers and the neighborhoods of asbestos plants and mines.

6. DuPont used asbestos in chemical products including paint films, radiator stop-leak products, cement block primers, and elastomers.

7. Asbestos was a contaminant in talc used by DuPont in other products. Sanding of DuPont paint primer containing added talc created asbestos exposures of 1.6-3.2 f/cc (April, 1973).