

reflect any such payment. To the best of current knowledge and belief, Abex has found no such documents or any record of having received such documents. Abex has made a reasonable and good faith effort to obtain the requested information, to the extent that it is not equally available to plaintiffs, by making a good faith search of locations where documents containing this information, if it exists, should be found, where appropriate, by inquiry to other natural persons or organizations.

Abex's lack of personal knowledge is due to the following: Abex discontinued the manufacture and sale of asbestos-containing railroad friction products in 1977 and asbestos-containing automotive friction products in 1987 and no longer operates any friction product manufacturing facilities. There are no current Abex employees, officers who worked for Abex, or directors who sat on its Board during the period Abex manufactured and sold friction products with personal knowledge of the information contained in all the records and documents that might be responsive to this interrogatory.

Abex's corporate existence spans a period of more than one hundred (100) years, during which time it underwent numerous changes in its corporate structure, management, headquarters and name. The volume of records generated, and documents accumulated, during that time was enormous. Therefore, no reasonable possibility can exist that Abex has in its possession all such records and documents, or that it otherwise has knowledge of the information contained in all such records and documents.

The existing business records and documents of Abex, which number in excess of seven (7) million (excluding an estimated three (3) million non-railroad sales invoices), are preserved in the order in which they were found. No summary, abstract, or compilation of the contents of