



Ford Motor Company
Environmental and Safety
Engineering Staff

330 Town Center Drive
Dearborn, Michigan 48126

November 9, 1992

Mr. John Melone, Director
Chemical Control Division
Environmental Protection Agency
401 M Street SW
Washington, D.C. 20460

Dear Mr. Malone:

The following is Ford's response to the questions EPA raised in its September 1, 1992 letter to Mr. DeWain Belote.

- "1. Are asbestos-containing parts still included in new vehicles?
2. What parts still contain asbestos?
3. How extensively are asbestos-containing parts used? For example, what percent of the market?"

Ford has limited the use of asbestos to less than 1% of Ford's 1993 cars and trucks. The only asbestos application remaining are rear drum brake linings where the technical challenge continues to be the development of a non-asbestos material that provides customers with acceptable performance.

- "4. Are asbestos-containing parts being phased out?
5. What is the schedule for phasing out of asbestos containing products?
6. What are your company's views on continuing the phase out of asbestos?"

Ford's policy and supporting product plans include replacement of all asbestos in its products with non-asbestos substitutes that will provide customers with acceptable levels of performance, reliability and quality. It is anticipated, barring any unforeseen technical issues, that asbestos will be totally phased out of Ford products over the next several model years.