

SUMMARY AND EVALUATION

Subject: Discussion of the possible use of materials other than asbestos for auto brakes. Of interest and importance.

Evaluation: The conclusion of the author is that asbestos is practically indispensable for auto brakes at the present time. If asbestos were not available, we could "eventually find a substitute, but it could well be at the expense of a considerable loss in performance, and also at a considerable increase in cost." The author also emphasizes that there is no valid health reason why asbestos should be abandoned at the present time. He cites the tests demonstrating the very small percentage of asbestos fiber in brake lining dust and concludes that "the wear products from friction materials are probably no more dangerous to health than many other dusts and can be treated as 'merely dirty.'" He also mentions that technical developments have reduced the quantities of asbestos needed in the production of efficient brakes and clutches.

Author: Hatch, D. (Ferodo Company).

Journal: Annals of Occupational Hygiene (British), January 1970.

Title: "Possible Alternatives to Asbestos as a Friction Material."

Summary: As given above.

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