

cc: ~~MB~~ Mr. Johnston
~~PB~~ Mr. Wright

MEMORANDUM

In Reply to _____ Date 8/30/60 From PBL To BB Mr. Wood
 Subject CLASS "A" SHINGLE

If we are going to have this item for 1961 we are going to have to move and move fast. Every indication from our work to date has been that we can make a shingle which passes at least the burning brand portion of the Class A requirement by incorporating a sheet of glass fabric and about 5% of a very fine asbestos fiber in the coating of the shingle. We cannot test the shingle for other Underwriters' Class "A" requirements as we do not have the equipment but we believe that if it passes the burning brand test it will pass the other tests.

We will be able to add the asbestos to the coating in present equipment.

We feel quite confident that we can use a glass mat weighing about one pound per 100 sq. ft., but we have not been able to find a supplier of this mat in the States. There are only three or four basic glass fiber producers in the country and only two of them - Fiberglas and Johns-Manville - big enough to be very dependable and we can't seem to get anywhere with either of them. Reichold Chemical is setting up to make fiber by the so-called Peace River system but it will be some time before they will be in production.

That leaves the only source of supply of a suitable mat that seems to want to sell some to be Peace River itself which is in Fort Saskatchewan, Alberta, Canada. Their basic price is the same as the basic price in the States but there is a \$6.48 per cwt freight rate and a 25% duty on invoice value from there. This is not as bad as it sounds as it adds only about 50¢ per square of shingles over the cost with U. S. fiber if we can get it. It may not cost that as it is a much cleaner, tighter sheet than its U. S. competition and may cause less waste.

When we get a source of glass settled, we will have to make several trials on the machines and after testing them to our limit, submit them to Underwriters' for testing and approval. This is going to require some pretty big changes to the machine base coating section of the machine on which we will manufacture this item. This is especially true if we wish to make this a Wind Seal shingle which, in turn, will have to be a thick butt shingle.

PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT

BIR-504

MEMORANDUM

In Reply to _____ Date _____ From _____ To _____
 Subject _____ - 2 -

Therefore, I recommend that we start immediately on the following items:

1. A decision on exact style and weight of this shingle.
 I feel that it should be a 15" x 36" shingle, should weigh about 300# and should be Wind Seal.
2. Get machine changes started so we can make our trials and get our testing completed.
3. Accept the possibility that we may have to use Peace River mat and estimate costs thereon.

We should here, however, look very carefully at the possibility of manufacturing the glass fiber and mat ourselves as we are going to want this item for several other roofing products in the not too distant future. I understand that it might also be of real value to our Flooring division.

Comments will be appreciated.

SHS/rp