

FILE NAME: Flooring (FLR)

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

(OFTS-62005; FRL-3687-9)

Asbestos; Publication of Identifying Information

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice provides summaries of the information submitted to EPA by manufacturers and processors of certain asbestos products in accordance with the Asbestos Information Act of 1989 (the Act). It also explains how individuals may obtain more or all of the information submitted to EPA.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Michael M. Stahl, Director, Environmental Assistance Division (TS-790), Office of Toxic Substances, Environmental Protection Agency, Rm. E-545, 401 M St., SW, Washington, DC 20460. (202) 634-1404, TDD: (202) 634-6631.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

On October 31, 1989, the President signed into law the Asbestos Information Act of 1989, Pub. L. 100-877 (the Act), which requires former and current manufacturers and processors of certain asbestos products to submit information identifying their products to EPA and requires EPA to organize and publish the submitted information. EPA issued a notice in the Federal Register of April 18, 1989 (54 FR 15822), which explained how and where these manufacturers and processors were to submit the information required by the Act. On August 7, 1989, EPA issued a notice in the Federal Register (54 FR 32430) which established a deadline of October 6, 1989, for these manufacturers and processors to submit to EPA the information required by the Act. On September 20, 1989, EPA issued a notice in the Federal Register (54 FR 38736) which informed submitters of information under the Act that EPA will not accept claims of business confidentiality.

II. Summaries of Information Submitted to EPA

Most of the manufacturers which submitted information to EPA provided a summary of the required information in the order that the Agency requested in Unit II of the April 18, 1989 Federal Register notice. EPA requested summaries from the manufacturers, because the Agency anticipated that the

total amount of information submitted would be too voluminous to publish easily. That has proven to be the case. Therefore, EPA has decided to publish in this Federal Register notice only summaries of the information submitted. Instructions on how to obtain any or all additional information submitted to EPA are available in Unit III of this notice.

In some cases, EPA has reorganized the submitted information into a uniform summary format for inclusion in this Federal Register notice. However, the substance of the information submitted to EPA has not been altered.

Summaries of the information submitted to EPA before November 17, 1989 are included below in alphabetical order by name of manufacturer:

1. The Amitec Division of American Biltrite Inc.

(a) *Name and address of manufacturer.* The Amitec Division of American Biltrite Inc., 3131 Princeton Pike, Lawrenceville, NJ 08848. Prior to American Biltrite's purchase of the assets for producing vinyl asbestos tile and asphalt tile in Hamilton Township, NJ from Bonafide Mills Inc. on January 1, 1981, Bonafide Mills manufactured vinyl asbestos tile, asphalt tile (containing asbestos), and sheet vinyl flooring utilizing an "asbestos felt backing" at this same location. American Biltrite Inc. has no records regarding dates or patterns of vinyl asbestos tile manufactured by Bonafide Mills prior to American Biltrite's purchase on January 1, 1981. Prior to American Biltrite's purchase of the assets for producing sheet vinyl flooring in Norwood, MA from New London Mills in 1974, New London Mills manufactured sheet vinyl flooring utilizing an "asbestos felt backing" at this same location. American Biltrite has no records regarding dates or patterns of sheet vinyl flooring produced by New London Mills prior to American Biltrite's purchase in 1974.

(b) *Years of manufacture.* 1961 through 1980.

(c) *Types or classes of products.* Vinyl asbestos floor tile, asphalt tile (containing asbestos), and sheet vinyl flooring (utilizing an asbestos felt backing).

(d) *Other identifying characteristics.* Vinyl asbestos floor tile (produced January 1, 1961 through early December 1983) was available in a variety of colors, patterns, and surface textures. Many of the same colors, patterns, and surface textures produced prior to December 1985, which contained asbestos, have subsequently been produced in the non-asbestos tile construction after December 1987 and

have the same visual appearance as the former asbestos-containing tile.

Asphalt tile containing asbestos (produced January 1, 1961 through 1970) was also marketed as plastic asphalt floor tile. It was available in a variety of colors, patterns, and surface textures, including: travertine, dot, cork, and marbled.

Sheet vinyl flooring (produced January 1, 1963 to 1988, and 1974 through 1980) utilized an "asbestos felt backing" (flooring felt containing asbestos) bonded to the under side of the vinyl sheet flooring. It was available in a variety of colors, patterns, and surface textures; among the styles were: Casa Royale, Sun Court, Sunfire, Serenata, Natural Stone, Forum, Chatham Square, Royal Glen, Sundae, Contessa, and Kings Inn.

(e) *Additional information.* Additional information is available.

2. Armstrong World Industries, Inc.

(a) *Name and address of manufacturer.* Armstrong World Industries, Inc., formerly known as Armstrong Cork Company, P.O. Box 3801, Liberty and Charlotte Streets, Lancaster, PA 17604. Predecessors: Forms + Surfaces, Inc., Box 8213, Santa Barbara, CA 93190; and The W. W. Henry Company, 5985 Soledad Street, Huntington Park, CA 90255.

(b) *Years of manufacture.* 1909 through April 1987.

(c) *Types or classes of products.* Thermal system insulation material, fire-resistant vapor barrier and adhesive for cork, resilient floor tile, lining felt and backing for sheet vinyl, asphalt "outback" floor tile adhesive, acoustic cement, and decorative wall treatment.

(d) *Other identifying characteristics.* Nonparallel High Pressure Covering, Block, and Cement (produced 1909 to 1932 by Armstrong) were high temperature thermal system insulations for pipe covering and block and cement. These products were last offered more than 30 years ago. The only formula information available to Armstrong is that which is taken from the United States Patent Office documents.

LT Cork Covering (produced with asbestos 1950 to 1999 by Armstrong) was a low temperature thermal system cork insulation. It was a wrap-around insulation consisting of wedge-shaped cork segments cemented to a laminate consisting of aluminum foil and asbestos paper. It is unique in its appearance and can be easily distinguished visually by its physical structure.

Armaspray (produced 1966 to 1988 by Armstrong) was a spray-on thermal system insulation.