PLAINTIFF'S
EXHIBIT
BIR-50

MEMORANDUM

cc: Mr. Kinsey -BR
Mr. Jagocki -BBH
Mr. Clark -BBQ

To Mr. Wood -BBP

From Mr. Jackson -BBH

Date September 2, 1982

Subject SUBSTITUTE FOR ASBESTOS FIBER IN BIRD CEMENTS AND ROOF COATINGS

Hercules, Inc., recently sent literature in to Bob Jagocki in regards to a polyethylene and polypropylene pulp short length fiber that can be used as a substitute for asbestos in adhesives in coating. In light of the recent poor publicity that asbestos fiber has received, Bob suggested that Bird might want to consider substituting Pulpex P or E for the asbestos used in our roof coatings and cements.

As you know the only place we manufacture cements and coa s is Shreveport. All the other mills purchase these items outside for resale. Shreveport uses between .5% and 12% by weight short fibered (7R) asbestos in the cements and coatings they manufacture. While I am sure that our manufacturing operation meets all OSHA requirements for employee safety, I am wondering if some smart customer might pick up the fact that as our roof coatings weather they can possibly release some asbestos to the atmosphere. For example, in our normal recommended coverage of one gallon per square, there would be approximately 1 lb. of asbestos available per square for atmospheric pollution over the life of the coating.

I don't believe we have a problem here because of the very small quantities of asbestos involved. However, I suggest that we check with legal counsel for their opinion on this matter before we go to the expense of converting over our formulas to the Hercules Polyolefin substitutes.

JWJ/ac

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