



MINERAL INDUSTRY SURVEYS

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF MINES
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20241



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Annual, Preliminary

ASBESTOS IN 1987

The attached 2 pages reprinted from the Bureau of Mines Mineral Commodity Summaries--1988, provide the earliest estimates of 1987 data and activity highlights on Asbestos. Most of the estimates are based on 9 months data and are compared with final data from previous years.

Footnotes 2 refers to reserve base definitions published in Mineral Commodity Summaries--1988 and U.S.G.S. Circular 831, 1980.

Prepared in the Branch of Industrial Minerals, January 4, 1987.

CTD007081

PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT

CT-773

ASBESTOS

(Data in thousand metric tons, unless noted)

1. Domestic Production and Use: The total estimated value of 1987 domestic production (sales) was \$18 million. Three firms in California and Vermont accounted for 100% of domestic production. Asbestos was consumed in friction products, 22%; roofing products, 17%; asbestos-cement pipe, 17%; coatings and compounds, 15%; paper, 11%; and other, 18%.

2. <u>Salient Statistics—United States:</u>	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987 e/
Production (sales), mine	70	57	57	51	52
Imports for consumption	196	210	142	108	98
Exports	55	40	46	47	58
Shipments from Govt. stockpile excesses			N o n e		
Consumption, apparent	217	226	162	120	107
Price: Average value, dollars per ton, f.o.b. mine	399	422	357	338	342
Stocks, producer, yearend	79	80	71	63	48
Employment, mine and mill e/	190	190	200	250	260
Net import reliance 1/ as a percent of apparent consumption	68	75	65	58	51

3. Recycling: Insignificant.

4. Import Sources (1983-86): Canada, 94%; Republic of South Africa, 6%.

5. <u>Tariff:</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Most Favored Nation (MFN)</u>	<u>Non-MFN</u>
	Asbestos	518.11	1/1/87 Free	1/1/87 Free

6. Depletion Allowance: 22% (Domestic), 10% (Foreign).

7. Government Stockpile: In addition to the quantity shown below, the stockpile contained 831 tons of nonstockpile grade chrysotile and less than 1 ton of nonstockpile grade amosite.

Stockpile Status—9-30-87
(metric tons)

Material	Goal	Total Inventory	Excess to Goal Authorized For Disposal	Sales, 9 Months
Chrysotile				
stockpile grade	2,722	8,879	4,250	-
Amosite				
stockpile grade	15,422	30,849	-	-
Crocidolite	-	33	-	-

e/ Estimated.

1/ Defined as imports - exports + adjustments for Government and industry stock changes.

2/ See page 184 for definitions.

8. **Events:** The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) continued its ban/phase-out of asbestos and asbestos-containing products. The agency also reviewed the national emission standards for hazardous air pollutants and began surveying the producers of nine mineral commodities to determine the asbestos content and the total mineral fiber content of mine emissions.

Asbestos imports decreased 9% from those of 1986. Canada continued to be the major source of imported asbestos. Crocidolite was imported from the Republic of South Africa.

EPA continued a regulatory impact analysis of its proposed ban/phase-out of asbestos and asbestos-containing products. The agency also reviewed the national emission standards for hazardous air pollutants and began surveying the producers of nine mineral commodities to determine the asbestos content and the total mineral fiber content of mine emissions.

On January 7, 1987, pursuant to Section 931(a) of the Comprehensive Anti-Apartheid Act of 1986, chrysotile asbestos was certified by the U.S. Department of State as a strategic mineral essential for the economy or defense of the United States that is unavailable in adequate quantities from reliable and secure supplies.

Other issues affecting the asbestos industry were the pending International Labor Organization provision supporting the controlled use of asbestos, the increased amount of Federal and State legislation regarding asbestos-containing insulation material in commercial and public buildings, and concern over the availability and health risk posed by asbestos substitutes.

9. World Mine Production, Reserves, and Resources

	Production 1/	Reserve Data 2/
United States	1,000	1,000
Canada (chrysotile)	45,000	45,000
South Africa (crocidolite)	2,000	2,000
Other Market Economy Countries	15,000	15,000
Centrally Planned Economies	25,000	25,000
World Total	143,000	143,000

10. **World Resources:** The world has substantial resources and an additional 45 million tons of asbestos reserves are large but are mostly chrysotile.

11. **Substitutes:** Glass fiber, carbon fiber, and synthetic organic fiber, carbon fiber, and synthetic organic fiber were being investigated as substitutes for asbestos. The properties of these materials were considered and the reinforcement properties of these materials were considered. The reinforcement properties of these materials were considered. The reinforcement properties of these materials were considered.

January 1988

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