In re: All Asbestos Litigation Filed by The Simmons Firm, Circuit Court, Third Judicial District, Madison Cty., IL; 8/28/03

After watching the automobile industry cope with the fleet fuel mileage problem (CAFE) by increasing the price premiums for large engines and large cars, we need to know if Abex is contemplating artificial incentive pricing as a means of eliminating or reducing the production of brake linings containing asbestos.

We appreciate that some of this planning information may require confidential disclosure. However, we must have this information to successfully complete the final design of these new products.

Very truly yours,

John A. Urban
Chief Engineer
Advanced Products

JAU/dt

cc: D. P. Conlon (Abex)
G. L. Hopkins
M. H. Lawrence
J. C. Pruneski

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