

HB- info, Pls return



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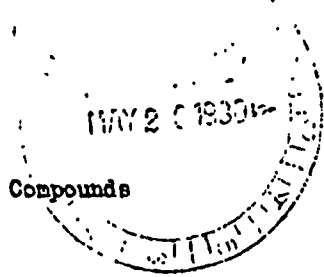
PLAINTIFF'S
EXHIBIT
FD-523

Inter Office

May 15, 1980

Chassis Engineering

To: J. W. Durstine ✓
cc: G. E. Adams
E. P. Francis
Subject: Identification of Production Materials and Compounds
Containing Chromium and Benzene



Your letter indicates that you require the following to develop programs for systematic elimination or accommodation of chromium and benzene substances:

- 1) A complete list of Chassis parts and bulk materials containing benzene and hexavalent chromium.
- 2) A complete list of Chassis parts and bulk materials suspected of containing benzene or hexavalent chromium.
- 3) A review of the list of Ford specifications supplied by your office to determine if all hexavalent chromium and benzene materials are included in the list.
- 4) The assignment of substitution/elimination status to each part or material listed in Items 1 and 2 above.

The following sources of information, which are not available, are clearly necessary to prepare responses to Items 1 and 2 above:

- 1) A list of hexavalent chromium compounds affected by this request.
- 2) A list of all materials currently supplied in Chassis components.
- 3) A list of all suppliers to Chassis Engineering.
- 4) The chemical formula of all suppliers' materials used in Chassis components.

In addition to the list of Ford ES-M number materials which you provided, Industry Standard and unspecified materials would also have to be screened to make the search complete (as I suspect Federal Regulations would require). It has been stated that only 60% of materials specified on drawings utilize Ford ES-M number material callouts.

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It is Chassis Engineering's position that the responsibility for preparing lists of suppliers and the chemistries of the materials they supply to Chassis components belongs to other Company activities. For Chassis to compile such information, substantial manpower, secretarial and computer services would be required as additions to our budget. There are no plans to take this action.

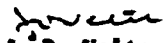
Your letter reveals a presumed familiarity on the part of a materials engineer with knowledge of the chemical formulation of all materials he specifies for components. This is not the case. With the exception of isolated instances, at best, only the major components of paints, rubber compounds, or plastics, for example, are known. Industrial Hygiene and Toxicology has the authority and capacity to solicit and retain complete chemical formulas from suppliers. This information is highly confidential and access is limited. In the past, requests made by materials engineers to suppliers for chemistries of non-metallic materials have not been successful. Consequently, we cannot provide the information you requested, and we suggest that Purchasing and IH&T be contacted to prepare the lists mentioned above.

A search of the 1981 Chassis Materials Cross Reference for materials containing chromium or benzene that are specified by ES-M numbers showed only 2 components are affected. These are power steering pump pulleys (ESA-MLJ53-A) and wheel ornaments (ESB-M99J248-A).

The assignment of elimination/substitution feasibility requires a knowledge of compounds that can be substituted for others without jeopardizing engineering intent or violating government regulations that apply to the "substitute". This information is currently not available in Chassis for hexavalent chromium and benzene. Therefore, the substitution/elimination status is "C" for the components mentioned above. It is suggested that the task force direct its efforts at locating and evaluating substitutes for those rare instances where substitutes might be required in Chassis components. Your list of ES-M number specifications for benzene and chromium materials appears to be complete.

Mr. E. P. Francis, Supervisor of Materials Engineering Section, will be happy to work with your area on any future studies.

GTG:ah


J. D. Velte

JDV #80-184

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