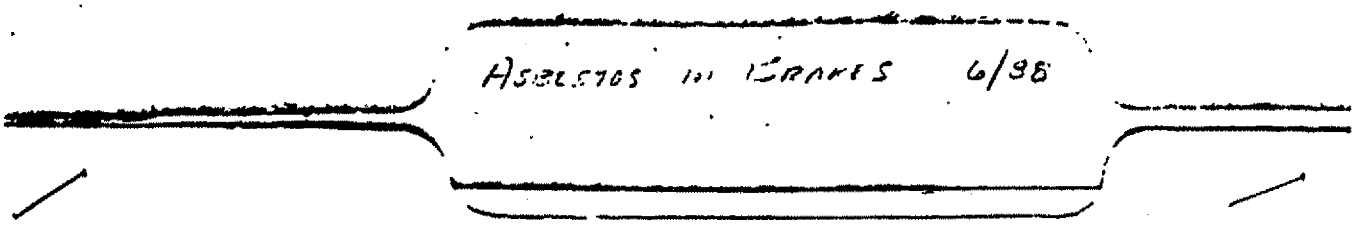
FILE NAME: Chrysler (CHR)

DATE: 1988 June 23

DOC#: CHR091

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: Letter to Alamo Containing List of Vehicles with Asbestos Brake Linings


ASBESTOS IN BRAKES 6/98

CHRYSLER MOTORS

Chrysler Motors Corporation

DATE: 7/6/89

FAXNET MESSAGE

TO: BEN DUNN

FAX PHONE: 6-1462

NOTIFIED: _____ TIME: _____

FROM: BOB ARNOLD

PHONE: 6-2061

SUBJECT: ALAMO LETTER CONTAINING LIST OF VEHICLES W/ ASBESTOS BRAKE LININGS

PAGES TO FOLLOW: 3



Our FAXNET MESSAGE CENTER PHONE - (313) 252-7858
(Tie Line - 822-7858)

(Chrysler Information Resources Center - 137-3)

DC 5627

Chrysler Motors Corporation

June 23, 1988

Alamo Rent A Car
P.O. Box 22776
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33335

Attention: G. Brian Cox
Warranty Operations Manager

Dear Mr. Cox:

I am responding to your letter to Mr. Dave Trainor inquiring about vehicles manufactured since 1986 which contain asbestos in the brake linings. Although you asked about American Motors vehicles, I am expanding our response to cover all Chrysler Motors vehicles, including those manufactured by the former American Motors Corporation (AMC).

We have been working to reduce or eliminate the use of asbestos friction materials in our product line for a number of years. Our experience shows that the development of substitute materials is a very difficult and time consuming task. Some of the problems that we have encountered with asbestos substitute materials include inconsistent front-to-rear brake balance during repeated brake applications and during the life of the vehicle, unsatisfactory disc brake rotor scoring, cracking of the linings, unacceptable noise generation and an inability to meet our Corporate minimum brake lining life goal.

Over the years, consumers have developed the expectation that vehicle brake systems will provide safe, reliable, noise-free performance during many miles of operation under all types of driving conditions with minimal maintenance. Because brake performance is so important to vehicle safety, new asbestos-free brake lining compounds and formulations must be developed to meet these same objectives. There can be no compromise by a premature switch to substitute materials. While some substitute materials that meet the above criteria have been developed and we are constantly pressuring our suppliers to produce more candidate materials, there is still much more work to be done before asbestos pads and linings can be totally eliminated.

In answer to your specific question, since 1986 we have produced the following vehicle applications with asbestos-free brake linings:

Model Year	Vehicle Line	
1987,1988	Dodge Daytona Pacifica	
1987,1988	Dodge Daytona Shelby Z	
1987,1988	Dodge Grand Caravan SE	(front disc with 6 or 8 passenger seating package or heavy duty suspension)
1987,1988	Dodge Grand Caravan LE	" " "

Model Year	Vehicle Line	
1987,1988	Plymouth Grand Voyager SE	(front disc with 6 or 8 passenger seating package or heavy duty suspension)
1987,1988	Plymouth Grand Voyager LE	" " "
1987,1988	Dodge Mini Ram Van	(front disc with 2000# pay load and heavy duty suspension)
1987	Renault GTA	(front disc)
1988	Eagle Premier	
1988	Chrysler New Yorker	(optional rear disc)
1988	Dodge Dakota	(10" rear drum)
1988	Dodge Dakota Sport	" " "
1987,1988	Dodge Power Ram 250 Pickup with Sno-Commander package	(front disc)
1987,1988	Dodge Ram 350 Pickup with dual rear wheels	" "
1987,1988	Dodge Power Ram 350 Pickup	" "
1987,1988	Jeep Grand Wagoneer	" "

Since 1986 we have produced the following vehicle front disc brake applications with asbestos-free friction materials mounted on underlayer material which contained asbestos:

Model Year	Vehicle Line	Model Year	Vehicle Line
1987,1988	Plymouth Horizon	1987	Renault Alliance
1987	Plymouth Turismo	1987	Renault Encore
1987,1988	Plymouth Sundance	1987,1988	Dodge Caravan
1987,1988	Plymouth Reliant	1987,1988	Plymouth Voyager
1987,1988	Plymouth Caravelle	1987,1988	Dodge Grand Caravan(2)
1987,1988	Dodge Omni	1987,1988	Plymouth Grand Voyager(2)
1987	Dodge Charger	1987,1988	Dodge Mini-Ram Van
1987,1988	Dodge Shadow	1987,1988	Dodge Dakota
1987,1988	Dodge Aries	1987,1988	Dodge Ramcharger
1987,1988	Dodge Lancer	1987,1988	Dodge Ram Wagon
1987,1988	Dodge Daytona(1)	1987,1988	Dodge Ram Van
1987,1988	Dodge 600	1987,1988	Dodge Ram Pickups(3)
1988	Dodge Dynasty	1987,1988	Jeep Comanche
1987,1988	Chrysler LeBaron	1987,1988	Jeep Cherokee
1987,1988	Chrysler Town & Country	1987,1988	Jeep Wagoneer
1987,1988	Chrysler LeBaron GTS	1987,1988	Jeep Wrangler
1987,1988	Chrysler New Yorker		

Notes: (1) Except the Pacifica and Shelby Z lines listed in asbestos-free group above.
(2) Except the SE and LE applications listed in asbestos-free group above.
(3) Except the three pickup front disc applications listed in asbestos-free group above.

All other applications in vehicles built by AMC and Chrysler have brake linings containing asbestos.

We believe that the concerns for handling brake lining materials containing asbestos in service applications have been reduced with the elimination of requirements for grinding replacement linings. Nevertheless, we are continuing to search for and develop acceptable asbestos-free materials for other brake lining applications. We plan to put asbestos-free brake lining materials into every vehicle we manufacture if and when we are convinced that the asbestos-free material provides acceptable braking performance.

We urge you to follow the procedures outlined in our most recent service manuals when replacing brake linings on your vehicles.

Sincerely,

B R Smith

B. R. Smith
Manager, Fleet Engineering

RSA/ma
CC: B. Dunn
D. Trainor