

Eaton Corporation

Inter-Office
Correspondence

Date October 18, 1976

To Rod Baltz

Division & Plant R. L. Baltz Co./Boston

From R. W. Rosenow

Division & Plant IDD/Airflex

Copy to R. L. Burks, T. Luginbuhl

Subject J. W. Fenney & Sons Co. & Great Northern Paper Co.

*R. Rosenow Suggest you send a
general memo to the field on this
subject. The question continues to come
up and we have been handling each
separately. A general memo should eliminate*

*most of customer questions re - fiber
content.*

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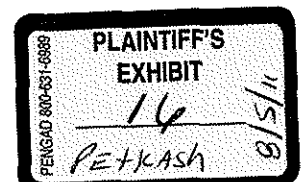
The recent request from the subject Companies for information regarding the asbestos content in Airflex friction material, was forwarded to National Friction Products Corporation. Mr. Ed Sydor, the General Manager, has responded to this request, and I will pass the information on to you for transmittal to your customer.

The friction material may contain about 50% asbestos by weight. During clutching and braking actions, the surface temperature is generally quite high, and this tends to convert asbestos into other minerals. The subsequent very small amounts of asbestos free fiber are then considered to be an inconsequential health hazard. Mr. Sydor's report states that less than 0.3% of asbestos fiber originally present may be emitted to atmosphere during clutch or brake life, and this is considered insignificant.

Keep in mind that a certain amount of dusting or smoking may be observed during a severe clutch or brake engagement, but the bulk of this is carbonized material from the binder or nonasbestos mineral material from the fillers.

In summary, Mr. Sydor states "that for all practical purposes, there is no measurable amount of airborne asbestos liberated during a clutch or brake engagement, and this should not be a cause for concern among people using your brakes and clutches".

Continued



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It would seem that if OSHA was really concerned, they would take air samples and monitor the area.

For additional information, please review the attachments marked Exhibit 1, 2, and 3.

R. W. Rosenow
RWR/pl
Attachments:

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