

FILE NAME: Fruehauf (FRU)

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March 31, 1980

Mr. L. Earle Bretz, Jr.
Abex Corporation
Friction Products Division
Suite 710
3001 West Big Beaver Rd.
Troy, MI 48084

Dear Mr. Bretz:

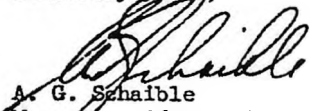
During our recent visit to your Winchester, Virginia production facility the use of backing material in the production of brake block was discussed. We are interested in learning what structural or other advantage this material might provide if it were specified. It is for instance, understood the shear strength of the block is improved by its use. Does Abex consider brake block, of the type used by Fruehauf, manufactured with a backing material to be superior or inferior to one which is not?

Mr. A. Indelicato indicated that the use of backing stock provides a cost savings in the more costly types of materials. What economic impact would it have on the present costs of brake block purchased from Abex?

We acknowledge the production of non-asbestos material will influence the continued use of backing material, however, since we undoubtedly will continue to utilize asbestos brake block within the foreseeable future our interest must relate to the contemporary product.

Your promptness in responding on this matter will be appreciated.

Sincerely yours,


A. G. Schaible
Manager - Aftermarket and
Accessories Purchasing

/amr

cc: A. Przepiora

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