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PRELIMINARY

AIR POLLUTION SURVEY

OF

ASBESTOS

A LITERATURE REVIEW

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applied as mortar or plaster, or sprayed on walls; insulating materials for the covering of pipes, ducts, boilers, cables, and conduits; siding shingles, roofing shingles, tiles, flat and corrugated sheets, wallboard, clapboard, and automobile undercoating; threads, yarns, wicks, cords, tapes, cloths, sheets, and blankets; friction materials, brake linings, clutch facings, gaskets, and lagging cloths; and asphalt tiles, plastics, and similar materials.[108]

Abrasion of brake linings and clutch facings has been suggested as a primary source of asbestos air pollution. Ayer[13] and Lynch[145] have examined the emissions from brakes on automobiles and found that the fiber is destroyed by the heat of friction. Asbestos crystalline structures are also destroyed and are recognizable only by the chemical composition. Newhouse and Thompson[175] have reported one case of mesothelioma in a mechanic.

The existence of a wide potential for direct or indirect occupational exposure has been cited[32,34,108,120] as a possible explanation for the frequent occurrence of "asbestos bodies" in the general public. Asbestos is now used in more than 3,000 products. Most people working in the construction and demolition of buildings come into contact with asbestos. Electricians and homeowners strip asbestos insulation off wires; the carpenter saws asbestos boards and often pounds the asbestos-insulated furnace ducts to make them fit. As a result, the air around a construction site is contaminated with asbestos fibers,