

We have labelled our product bags as an asbestos hazard since 1969, three years before the first Federal OSHA standards were promulgated to require this, air monitoring, medical surveillance and other safety precautions. We have provided free air monitoring for customers for several years and counsel them on the asbestos hazard, compliance requirements and related information.

Asbestos is an important raw material in many products and applications which give us a safer and healthier living and working environment. It cannot and should not be regulated out of existence based on unfounded or misconstrued medical and scientific evidence. A hazard does exist, but it has been blown out of proportion by some individuals and groups. This has resulted in some regulatory action across the country that is unnecessary and an unfair burden to industry.

We, and the asbestos industry in general, support the California Asbestos Standard, Section 5208 of the General Industry Safety Orders; and, except for a few minor problems, we feel that compliance can be readily effected. Its enforcement should prevent asbestos-related disease. We hope that the Federal government and other states will follow California's lead in adopting effective legislation which is also practical and enforceable.

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