

FRICION MATERIALS STANDARDS INSTITUTE, INC.

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January 31, 1977

Mr. Howard Franklin
U. S. Department of Labor
Bureau of International Labor Affairs
Room C-4511
Washington, D. C. 20210

Dear Mr. Franklin:

This is in response to your phone call of this date concerning production statistics for asbestos containing friction materials (brake linings and clutch facings). You indicated that Mr. R. H. Mereness of the Asbestos Information Association referred you to me.

As I understand your question, you have data based on Census Department Figures for the years to 1974 but you need information for 1975. I indicated that while the Institute gathers information on total unit sales of four types of friction material (drum brake linings, disc brake linings, brake blocks and clutch facings) we do not make this information available to outsiders--the total summary figures are only available to those reporting unit sales to a firm of Certified Public Accountants. I cannot make these figures available to you without authorization by our Board of Directors.

However, I question whether these figures, if available, would give you the information you wanted. First, they are for sales to the U. S. replacement market (they do not include sales to original equipment manufacturers). They also do not include export sales. They also are for automotive sales only--do not include industrial, farm or construction equipment. Further, they include all types of friction materials--sintered metallic and semi-metallic as well as asbestos bearing friction materials. Also, the figures are in units (pieces) and not in pounds (or other weight) or dollar measures. Also, pieces are reported by non U.S. members who produce their materials in other countries and sell in the U.S. market.

I would suggest if you have Census Bureau figures for 1971-74, that you project about a 3% increase in volume per year, so that 1975 would be 3% more than 1974. I'd base this on the figures attached put out by the Motor Vehicle Manufacturers Association (MVMA) where each year there appears to be about 3% more vehicles on the road than the year before. The only really good analysis I've seen in print is in SAE Paper 730548 entitled "Brake and Clutch Emissions Generated During Vehicle Operation" by Dr. Michael Jacko of the Bendix Corporation. Dr. Jacko's figures were based on 1972 data and some of the background appears on Pages 13, 14 of his paper. I have enclosed a copy of Dr. Jacko's paper.

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I am sorry that I cannot give you the Institute's summary figures but the members reporting may withdraw from the reporting program if the figures are distributed to parties other than those reporting. But as I indicated, I think they would be of little help in projecting 1975 volumes of domestic production of asbestos bearing friction materials.

Sincerely,

FRICTION MATERIALS STANDARDS INSTITUTE

EWD/erc
Enc:
cc- R. H. Mereness, AIA
Board of Directors

E. W. Drislane
Executive Director

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