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CSR BUILDING MATERIALS
DIVISION OF CSR LIMITED
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12th March, 1975

Mr. M.L.Johnson,
Vice President, General Manager,
The Flintkote Company,
Building Products Group,
Flooring & Industrial Products Division,
480 Central Avenue,
EAST RUTHERFORD
New Jersey 07073 U.S.A.

Dear Red,

Fairly recently we became aware of a new fibre developed from Gypsum which has potential to replace asbestos fibre and/or talc in vinyl tile manufacture. The Gypsum or calcium sulphate fibre we have received was produced by Franklin Key Inc. I understand Johns-Manville have developed a similar fibre.

We do not have a great deal of information on this subject but understand that Franklin Key are investigating the use of the fibre as reinforcing in P.V.C. pipe. From the small sample we have received we have made a laboratory scale vinyl tile with reasonably interesting results. We intend to continue with the development.

I am writing to ask whether you have any knowledge of this fibre and if you do, whether you consider it has potential for use in vinyl tiles as a substitute for other fillers.

We have been keen to eliminate asbestos in our factory if only to improve the environment and reduce the health hazzard to employees. At this time we estimate that there are reasonable savings to be made through reduced usage of Titanium if asbestos fibre can be eliminated. Another benefit should come through the consistant colour of a factory made fibre such as calcium sulphate. We have had a good deal of trouble recently in obtaining consistancy of colour from our suppliers of talc.

Any information you have on the subject would be helpful.

Yours sincerely,

P.J.Mathlin,
General Manager,