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EXHIBIT
675

STATEMENT OF THE COMPANY'S POSITION CONCERNING
THE PREVENTION OF ASBESTOS RELATED DISEASE

(For communication to employees or members of the news media if deemed advisable)

Recent press and TV reports, based upon a statement issued by Secretary for Health, Education & Welfare, Joseph A. Califano, Jr. suggest that millions of former shipyard workers, exposed to asbestos dust during World War II, may be at risk of developing asbestos related diseases.

Asbestos related diseases are known to be caused by exposure to high concentrations of asbestos fiber in the air. In ship construction during World War II many workers were exposed to high fiber concentrations in confined spaces without dust controls or respiratory protection. This kind of exposure is totally unlike exposure in manufacturing operations where extensive dust control systems have been installed and respiratory protection provided.

Raybestos-Manhattan has a long history of concern for the safety and health of its employees. In the 1930's the company pioneered in the development of dust control systems and has continued to devote substantial resources toward the improvement of such systems. We have also developed completely new manufacturing processes to reduce or eliminate asbestos dust entirely.

The company has been an industry leader in providing funds for long range research programs on the biological effects of asbestos and in establishing comprehensive medical surveillance programs for the benefit of its employees. In addition, we have cooperated and are continuing to cooperate with government agencies, including the Occupational Safety and Health Administration and the National Institute of Occupational Health, in the development of regulations and work practices to eliminate potential health hazards in the workplace.

To assure that standards are maintained to foster the health and safety of employees, federal and state inspectors have periodically visited and will continue to visit our plants and because of their training and objectivity will apprise us of actions in addition to those already being taken, which are necessary or advisable to insure employee safety and health.

EXHIBIT
P-675

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