



# Department of Justice

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A federal grand jury today indicted five of the nation's largest manufacturers of aluminum roll jacketing and their trade association for conspiring to fix prices in violation of Section 1 of the Sherman Act.

Attorney General Edward H. Levi said the indictment and a companion civil suit were filed in U.S. District Court in Houston, Texas.

Aluminum roll jacketing is a sheet of aluminum to which a moisture barrier has been applied. It is commonly wrapped around the pipes in petrochemical and power generating facilities to provide protection from the weather. Total sales of aluminum roll jacketing exceeded \$18 million in 1974.

Named as defendants in the indictment and civil suit are:

- Metal Insulation Jacketing Manufacturers Association, Cleveland, Ohio;
- Childers Products Company, Inc., Cleveland, Ohio;
- Herren Metals, Inc., Shreveport, Louisiana;
- Preformed Metal Products Company, Inc., Shreveport, Louisiana;
- Quality Service Metals Company, Houston, Texas;  
and
- Insul-Coustic/Birma Corp., Sayreville, New Jersey.



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Donald I. Baker, Assistant Attorney General in charge of the Antitrust Division, said that beginning in February 1973 and continuing to the latter part of November 1974, the defendants agreed to fix, raise, and maintain prices of aluminum roll jacketing and to eliminate discounts from list prices.

According to the indictment and civil complaint, the effects of the conspiracy have been to raise the prices of aluminum roll jacketing, to restrain competition in the sale of aluminum roll jacketing, and to deprive purchasers of the benefits of free and open competition in the sale of aluminum roll jacketing.

The maximum penalty upon conviction would be a \$50,000 fine for each firm.

The civil suit asks that the companies be permanently enjoined from renewing the alleged price-fixing scheme and from engaging in any practices having a similar purpose or effect.

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