



## HUSCH BLACKWELL

# Asbestos Litigation

Asbestos-related liability can lead to complex and costly litigation for companies and their insurers. We partner with our clients nationally to develop customized and sophisticated legal defenses, enhanced by the advanced use of medical and scientific evidence, while protecting claim portfolios, monitoring insurance assets and minimizing risk.

### Business Solutions

Our multidisciplinary Portfolio Counsel team brings together attorneys with experience in insurance, corporate formation, capital markets, security and corporate governance, tax and bankruptcy to serve companies and their insurers by:

- Reviewing and preparing risk analyses of books of claims
- Preserving and managing asset pools to properly meet future projections
- Acquiring insurance or reinsurance for books of claims
- Negotiating coverage buybacks
- Packaging risk portfolios for sale on the open market
- Designing beneficial corporate restructuring and tax strategies
- Preparing for and entering into bankruptcy proceedings
- Identifying and implementing loss mitigation strategies

### National & Local Strategies

Our National Coordinating Counsel service model provides companies and their insurers cost certainty, efficiencies of enhanced technology, and greater control over their nationwide claim portfolios. We:

- Offer strategic direction across entire books of claims
- Secure dismissals and negotiate favorable agreements to reduce new filings
- Ensure client controls choice of trial counsel
- Lower clients' threat profiles
- Provide cost certainty and reduced spend with fixed fees

Husch Blackwell defends clients in some of the most challenging jurisdictions across the United States, where claims continue to rise, including Madison County, Illinois (consistently has the highest number of annual asbestos filings); St. Louis; Chicago; and the Texas MDL.

50+

Husch Blackwell attorneys dedicated to defending asbestos claims

37

States where we've defended asbestos claims

1,800+

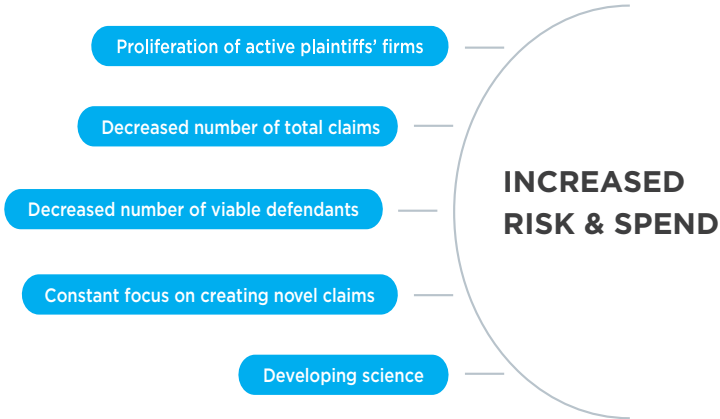
Active toxic tort cases involving more than 9,900 plaintiffs

30

Different chemicals involved in our toxic tort cases

## National Asbestos Litigation

Financial exposure is projected to persist through 2057.



## Innovative Strategy for Long-Term Success



### REDUCED SPEND

- » Decreased defense spend
- » Decreased indemnity



### DECREASED THREAT PROFILE

- » Fewer meso claims
- » Targeted allocation of resources
- » Consistency in approach and response
- » Efforts to fight proliferation

## Experience and Knowledge

Husch Blackwell attorneys have authored and presented on topics drawn from their experience, such as:

- Why studies by plaintiffs fail to prove that anything but high-dose exposure to asbestos causes lung cancer
- How genetic factors play a role in the causation of mesothelioma
- Why studies claiming that low doses of asbestos exposure cause mesothelioma are not reliable science
- How the historical context and development of the knowledge of the hazards of asbestos can assist in the defense of asbestos cases

## Client Success

Husch Blackwell partnered with Monsanto to design and implement an innovative National Coordinating Counsel model for asbestos litigation. This novel approach includes use of a proprietary algorithm that assesses risk and probable outcomes in order to channel resources appropriately based on the threat and complexity presented in each case. Customized reporting and communication is embedded in the model to ensure Monsanto has constant visibility to all litigation activity, receives alerts for significant events and has the information required for strategic decision-making. After employing the new model, Monsanto's active case load declined by 53 percent, helping Monsanto's internal team to focus on other litigation priorities.

## Aligned by industry.

We help clients and their insurers navigate the intricate webs of plaintiffs' firms, changing laws, evolving science and jurisdictional peculiarities, all the while achieving their business goals, minimizing their risk and controlling their spend.

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Arizona | California | Colorado | Illinois | Missouri | Nebraska | Tennessee | Texas | Utah | Washington, DC | Wisconsin