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Introduction: Product Liability Aspects of the Risks of Technological Change

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INTRODUCTION

PRODUCT LIABILITY ASPECTS OF THE RISKS OF TECHNOLOGICAL CHANGE

Henry T. King, Jr.

We are going to talk now about the product liability aspects of technological change. I have asked our Canadian speakers, Glenn Zakaib and Phillip Spencer, to speak first.

Mr. Zakaib is a partner in the law firm of Cassels Brock & Blackwell in Toronto. He specializes in the defense of complex claims, including class proceedings. He has served as Chair of the firm's Insurance Law Department and he has also served as Managing Partner. He received a B.A. degree from York University in 1978, and an LL.B. from McGill University.

Phillip Spencer is also a partner of Cassels Brock & Blackwell. He is a senior partner there and has extensive interests in product liability claims, including various types of vehicle equipment, medical devices, and technologically advanced equipment. He has a significant practice in regulatory affairs. He has a B.A. degree from York University, and a law degree from Osgoode Hall Law School.

Malcolm Wheeler is probably the top product liability lawyer in the United States. He is director of the law firm of Wheeler Trigg & Kennedy in Denver and specializes in civil litigation, especially complex litigation. He has argued cases before both state and federal trial and appellate courts in more than forty states. He has taught law school courses and written several articles in various journals. He received an S.B. from M.I.T. and his J.D. from Stanford Law School, where he was a member of the Stanford Law Review.