Company seeks regional corporations' in providing training to Alaska Natives

Toliver, Inc., is a minority company specializing in asbestos abatement. The Anchorage-based company has over two years' experience in this field, and is committed to maintaining a minimum of 75 percent Native hire.

In order to achieve that goal, Toliver, Inc., is seeking the cooperation of Native corporations to assist in the training of Native shareholders in the field of asbestos abatement.

According to Elaine Lott, a representative of Toliver, the young company has already received confirmation that at least three regional corporations — Bristol Bay, Sealaska, and Cook Inlet Region, Inc., — will assist their shareholders with the cost of certification in the asbestos abatement field. Although Toliver does not itself provide the training, the company can recommend reputable schools for interested individuals. The cost of such training runs between $500 and $800 dollars. At the present time, Lott says there are about 150 Natives signed up for the necessary classes.

Groups of students will be trained in Fairbanks 26 at a time. The classes take four or five days, and the cost of the classes includes room and board.

When a shareholder successfully completes the training, they will be eligible to take a job with Toliver, Inc., which expects to be employing 200-300 persons to do perhaps as much as $8 million in asbestos abatement, says Lott. The jobs will typically pay about $34 per hour, and workers will be expected to work as many as six 12-hour days a week.

The state of Alaska is in need of state-certified abatement personnel. there are 30 million tons of asbestos in the United States.

The administrative staff of Toliver, Inc., consistes of the following people: William Toliver, President; Louie Adams, Estimator; John Hong, Accountant; Tony Pushruk, Expediter; Elaine Lott, Representative; and Franklin Powers, General Foreman. For more information, interested individuals should contact Elaine Lott of Toliver, Inc., at 563-8351.