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Report of Results: MVA6160

Analysis of
Blow Dryers for Asbestos

Prepared for:

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11 October 2005

MVA SCIENTIFIC CONSULTANTS

Report of Results -- MVA Project No. 6160

Analysis of Blow Dryers for Asbestos

INTRODUCTION

This report includes the results of analyses of two (2) blow dryers delivered to MVA Scientific Consultants on 21 March 2005 from the Law Offices of Bernie Bernheim. At MVA Scientific Consultants, the samples were assigned identifying codes: Q0379 (SuperMax Blow Dryer) and Q0380 (GE Power Turbo Blow Dryer). It was requested that the materials be tested for asbestos content. Analyses were conducted during the period 22 March through 25 March 2005.

METHODS AND EQUIPMENT

The samples were first examined by stereomicroscopy utilizing an Olympus SZ-40 stereomicroscope having a magnification range from 7X to 40X. Portions of each sample were mounted on a microscope slide in the appropriate Cargille liquid and analyzed by polarized light microscopy (PLM) using an Olympus BH-2 polarized light microscope having a magnification range from 40X to 1000X. The PLM analysis followed the analytical procedures recommended by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (1).

RESULTS

The insulation for the electrical coils is a chrysotile asbestos twine in the Supermax blow dryer by Gillette. The tubular insulator surrounding the heating element in the GE Power Turbo 1200 blow dryer contains chrysotile and glass fibers. Analytical results are presented in Table 1 below. Figures 1 through 4 show the hairdryers and representative chrysotile fibers found inside each.

Table 1. Analytical Results

MVA Number	Description	Analytical Results	Estimated Volume Percent of Insulator
Q0379	SuperMax Blow Dryer	Chrysotile detected in insulator	100%
Q0380	GE Power Turbo Blow Dryer	Chrysotile detected in insulator	65%

REFERENCES

1. U. S. Environmental Protection Agency, "Test Method EPA/600/R-93/116 -- Method for the Determination of Asbestos in Bulk Building Materials."

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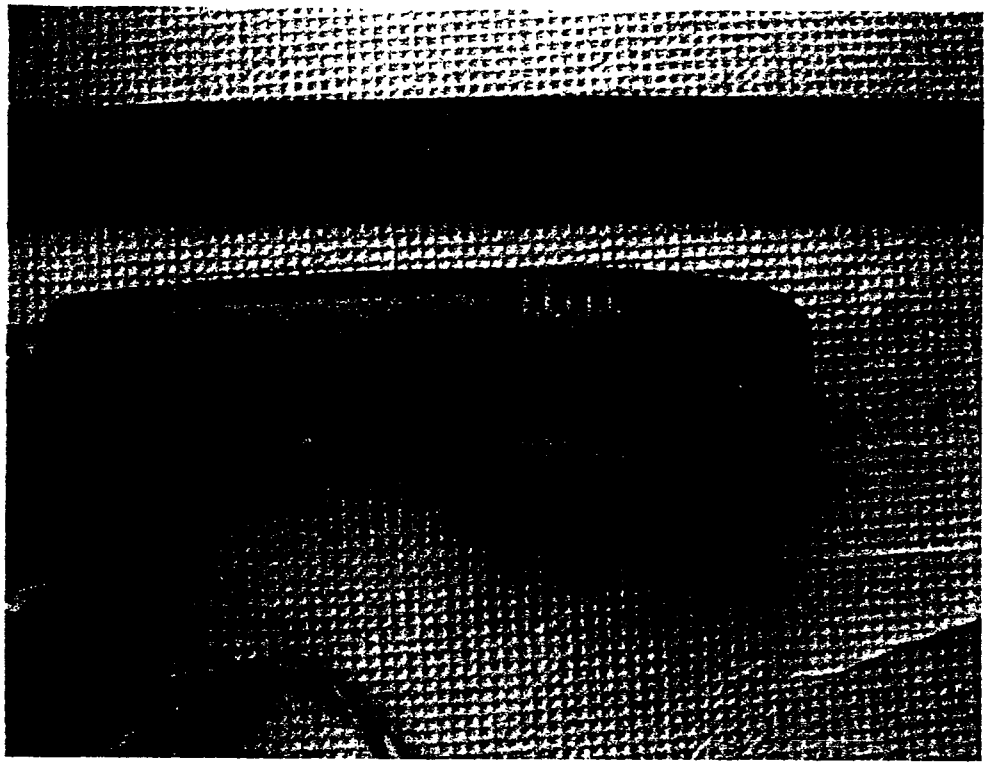


Figure 1. Sample Q0379 - SuperMax Blow Dryer.

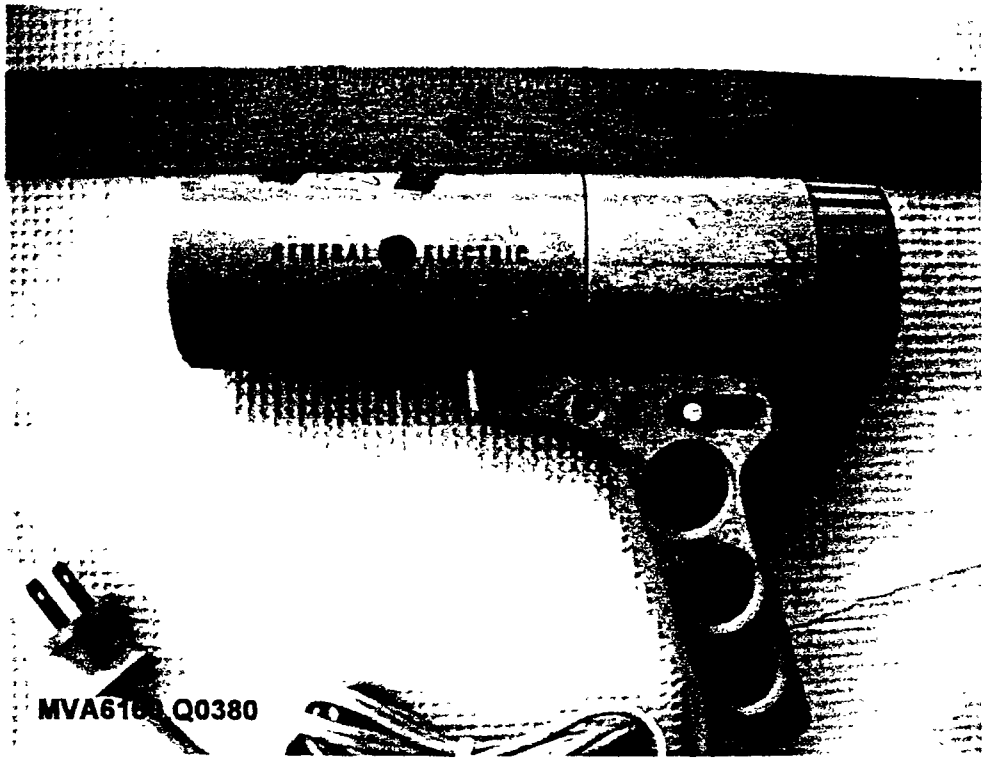


Figure 2. Sample Q0380 - GE Power Turbo Blow Dryer.

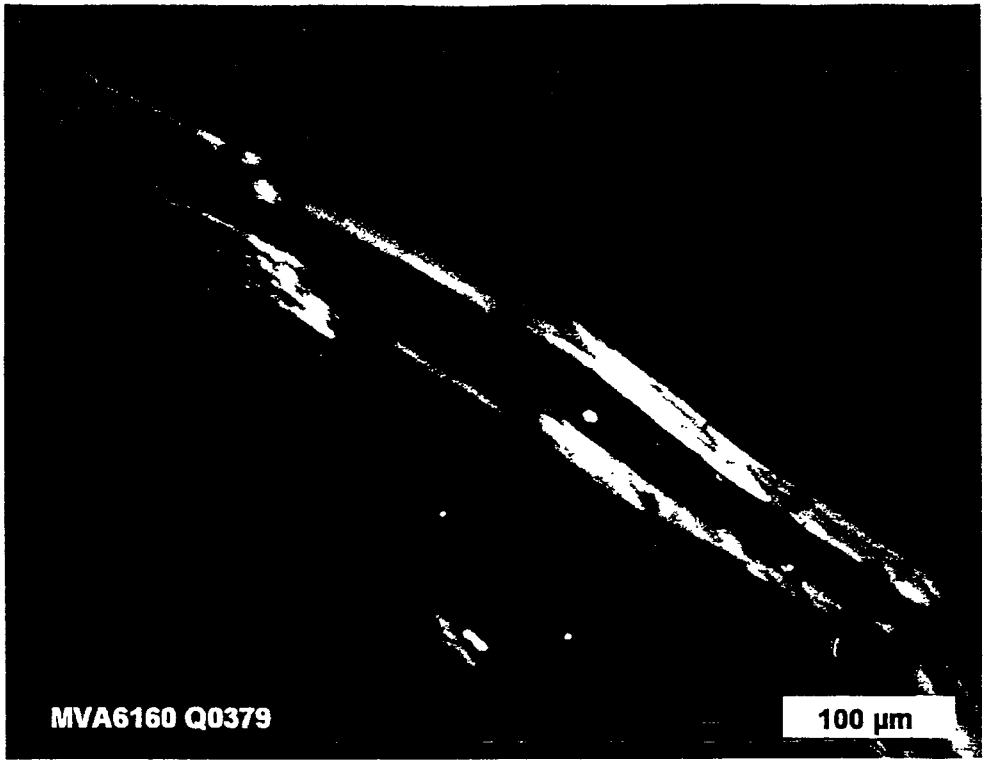


Figure 3. Chrysotile fibers, crossed polars.

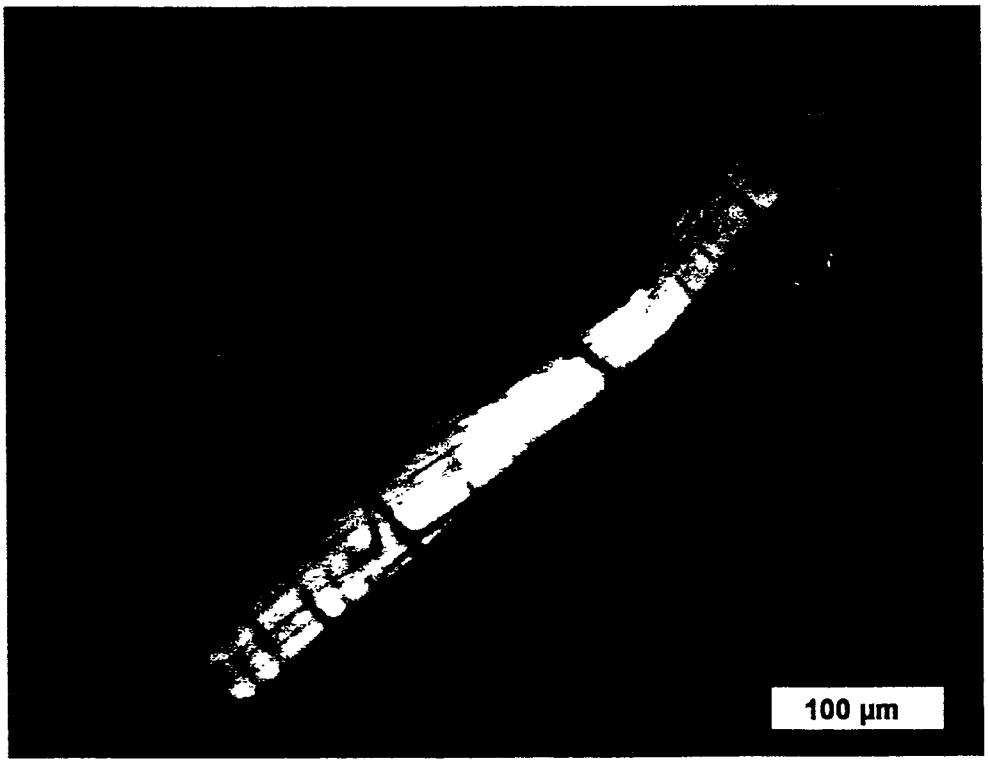


Figure 4. Chrysotile fiber bundle, partially crossed polars.

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