

COLGATE-PALMOLIVE COMPANY
909 River Road
Piscataway, N.J. 08854

March 15, 1976

Norman F. Estrin, Ph.D.
Vice President
The Cosmetic, Toiletry and
Fragrance Association, Inc.
1133-15th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005

Dear Dr. Estrin:

Attached please find a summary of Analytical Data on 42 Talc Samples (representing 20 raw materials and 17 finished products) covering the period 1971 to present and examined by various techniques by the Colgate-Palmolive Research and Development Analytical Department and McCrone Associates.

Asbestos minerals were not detected in any of these samples, with the exception of insignificant trace amounts found by microscopic methods in three samples from 1971-1972, which is believed due to laboratory contamination. Other methodologies indicate the absence of any asbestos. The results of these analyses indicate to us that talc products produced by the Colgate-Palmolive Company since 1972 are free of asbestos minerals when subjected to the most sophisticated methodology available.

We have ascertained by inspection of the package and analyses of the product that the sample of Colgate-Palmolive's Cashmere Bouquet examined by Dr. Langer of Mt. Sinai Hospital was manufactured prior to 1970. The Bauer and Black Talc reported by Dr. Langer has not been manufactured since the end of World War II. This company was acquired by Colgate-Palmolive approximately three years ago.

Very truly yours,



Christopher H. Costello, Ph.D.
Administrator Regulatory Affairs

CHC:mp
Attachments

March 12, 1976

To: Dr. C. H. Costello
From: J. P. Simko, Jr.
Subject: Analytical Data on Talc Samples 1972-Present

Since late 1972 when the possibility of asbestos in talc was first raised, R&D Analytical has been engaged in re-analyzing U.S. talc raw material and finished products for asbestos minerals by the most sophisticated methodology available at that time. Analyses were made on a spot-check basis. Techniques used in-house are x-ray diffraction followed by optical and scanning electron microscopy, if necessary. X-ray is the basic screening tool and examination by microscopy is made when positive responses occur. Additional tests on random samples were made by transmission electron microscopy and selected area electron diffraction by an outside consulting firm.

Forty-two samples (from 20 raw materials and from 17 finished products), covering the period 1971 to the present, have been examined by these various techniques. Asbestos minerals were not detected in any of these with the exception of trace amounts in 3 samples from 1971-2. These levels are considered generally below the normal background levels encountered when this microscopic methodology is employed. It is believed that these trace amounts are due to laboratory contamination. A detailed tabulation is attached.

JPS/ed
Att.

No. of Samples Examined for Asbestos Minerals 1972-76

<u>Method</u>	<u>Raw Talc</u>	<u>Cashmere Bouquet</u>
TEM-SAED	*5	**7
Sample dates (yrs.)	1971-72	1972-76
X-ray plus microscopy (optical - SEM)	12	11
Sample dates (yrs.)	1971-76	1972-76
DTA	6	1
Sample dates (yrs.)	1972	1972

*1 sample 1971 raw talc contained 10-100 ppm. chrysotile

*1 sample 1971 raw talc contained 1-10 ppm. chrysotile

**1 sample 1972 Cashmere Bouquet talc contained <5 ppm. chrysotile

These levels represent possible background contamination

No amphibole detected in any of these.

JPS/ed
3-12-76