



**COSMETIC,
TOILETRY and
FRAGRANCE
ASSOCIATION, INC.**

FORMERLY THE TOILET GOODS ASSOCIATION, INC.

F. ROESCH

MFE/K.L.

ASBESTOS
TALC

News Release

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ASBESTOS IN TALC

The CTFA has an expert Talc Subcommittee which has been working for the past two years on the detection of asbestos in talc. This Subcommittee has developed reproducible research methods for the detection of fibrous minerals in cosmetic talc. CTFA has performed repeated analyses on the talcs representing more than 85% of the volume of cosmetic talc sold in the United States. Chrysotile Asbestos has not been found in any of these talcs.

CTFA has also developed a specification for cosmetic grade talc and has made its specifications and test methods available to the FDA and the appropriate OTC panels.

Although CTFA has not had the opportunity to review the Mt. Sinai data for methodology, we believe the results of the analysis on asbestos fibers can be misinterpreted because: (1) the dates of the samples are unknown and don't represent currently manufactured products, (2) other raw materials represented in the formulation can confuse the test results, (3) previous Mt. Sinai test results on some United Kingdom formulated talc products have been disputed by well recognized experts in this field.

For these reasons the CTFA critically questions the validity of the Mt. Sinai conclusions on the alleged presence of asbestos like particles.

On the issue of nickel detected in talc, one of our member companies has extensively studied their talc. They have reported that the nickel is permanently bound within the molecular lattice of the talc and therefore cannot be extracted to react with body tissues.

EXHIBIT

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The work by Dr. Wagner on the occurrence of fibrosis in rats was only one of several studies on the safety of cosmetic talcs revealed last September. A lifetime inhalation study in hamsters exposed to talc reported no fibrosis. An epidemiological study on talc workers showed no evidence of increased cancer despite high occupational exposure over a 30-year period. All of this information has been presented at world-wide scientific meetings, published in the proceedings and forwarded to the FDA.

The CTFPA does not feel that consumer talc products represent any hazard to the consumer.

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