

Cyprus Industrial Minerals Company

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RE: CURRENT FDA STATUS OF TALC

Cyprus Industrial Minerals Company continues to ship pure platy talc which is certified to be free of asbestos contamination. Although the FDA's proposed regulation of August 1, 1972 on asbestos-free content has not yet been published as a specific regulation, this is expected to occur soon. Apparently the delay has been due to the lack of agreement on a satisfactory test method for the determination of asbestos content. At such time as the regulation is published, we will again apprise you of the status of our products.

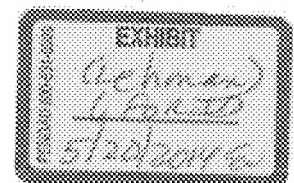
Montana talcs from our Yellowstone and Beaverhead deposits are inspected on a routine basis by X-ray Diffraction, with frequent additional inspection of bulk samples by Scanning Electron Microscopy supplemented with Specific Area Electron Diffraction. In this manner we are utilizing the most positive known analyses methods as prescribed by the National Bureau of Standards and the Bureau of Mines (United States Department of the Interior). Our Yellowstone talc is the closest to a theoretical composition of pure mineral talc of those we have analyzed from any natural source.

Our Montana talcs continue to be "generally regarded as safe" (GRAS) by the Food and Drug Administration.

For the assistance of those who would like to know the specific FDA regulations regarding the use of talc in or in contact with food, a search of the Code of the Federal Register has been made. These regulations have been reported earlier as Part 121 but have been reorganized and republished under a new numbering system (March 15, 1977). In paragraph 175.300 (XXVI) talc is explicitly identified also as magnesium silicate. In the individual references this particular paragraph is generally referred to when talc is used as a pigment or filler.



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The following table gives the specific paragraphs referring to the use of talc:

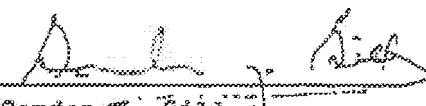
<u>Paragraph</u>	<u>Talc Use</u>	<u>Comments</u>
175.330 (XXVI)	As pigment and colorant in resinous and polymeric coatings in food packaging.	The coating is applied as a continuous film of enamel over the substrate as a functional barrier between it and the food.
175.370 (b) (1)	In resinous and polymeric coatings for polycyclic films	Food contact
175.380 (a)	As pigment and colorant in xylene-formaldehyde resins, condensed with 4, 4" isopropylidene-diphenol-epichlorohydrin epoxy resins	Food contact
175.390 (b) (2)	In zinc-silicon dioxide matrix coatings	
175.170 (a) (2)	As a component of paper and paperboard in contact with aqueous & fatty foods	
175.180 (b) (1)	As a component of paper and paperboard in contact with dry food	
177.1210 (b)	As a pigment and colorant in closures with sealing gaskets for food containers	
177.1350 (a) (3)	In ethylene-vinyl acetate co-polymers	Food contact
177.1480 (c)	As a pigment and colorant in Melamine-formaldehyde resins in molded articles	
177.2600 (c) (1)	In rubber articles intended for repeated use	Food contact

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182.1	In chewing gum base and as an anti-sticking agent.	Proposed amendment: free of asbestos contaminant
182.70	In cotton and cotton fabrics used in dry food packaging	
182.90	In paper and paperboard products in food pack- aging	Later data offered FDA indicates that talc does not appear to migrate
182.2437	In table salt as an anti-caking agent	Maximum 2%

The following products have GRAS status:

1. Altalc 200	15. Compacted Mistron Vapor-R
2. Altalc 300	16. Mistron Monomix
3. Altalc 325	17. Mistron RCS
4. Altalc 400	18. Mistron RCS #2
5. Altalc 500	19. Mistron Spray
6. Altalc 600	20. Mistron Star
7. Beaverwhite 200	21. Mistron Superfrost
8. Beaverwhite 325	22. Mistron ZSC
9. Cypruplate	23. Mistron Ultramix
10. Glacier 200	24. Monoblend
11. Glacier 325	25. Olympic
12. Mistron Frost	26. Supreme USP Talc
13. Mistron Vapor	27. Supreme USP Dense Talc
14. Compacted Mistron Vapor	


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