

FILE NAME: Talc (TALC)

DATE: 2014

DOC#: TALC117

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: Italian Article Excerpt with Translation

Untitled

please add the translation and the Italian document to my talc file. This is a statement by Dr. Callisti, expert for the public prosecutors in Italy, in a recent Michelin case. Provided by attorney Laura D'Amico e Associati Studio Legale, via Casalis n. 61, 10138 Torino.

2014 ?

In the past from the early 1970s In the rubber industry talc was widely used before being partly replaced by zinc stearate. Talc was used as an anti-stick or anti adhesion agent to avoid sheets, pellets, plaques and all the semi-finished products of raw rubber (that is of non vulcanised rubber) sticking to each other. If need be it was also used as a dry lubricant which might be required for instance for the baking chambers (for vulcanised rubber) to slide more easily when positioned in the chambers to be vulcanised.

Industrial talc was also known as 'third' talc, 'first choice talc being used for pharmaceutical purposes, and second choice talc being used for the cosmetic industry. Compared to the others, third was more frequently fibrous and contained impurities of other minerals such as Chlorite, Magnesite, Dolomite, Quartz and Asbestos (tremolite, crysotile and actinolite). Until the mid 1970s researchers and industrial hygienists focused on the possible role of talc impurities in causing disease, and specifically on free crystalline silica, which was rarely present in large quantities. From the 1980s concern shifted to fibrous tremolite which was found in several types of talc, and less frequently on crysotile and actinolite. The issue was first raised for cosmetic talc (because it was used on newborns and according to some could play a role in the development of serous ovarian cancer, and only later did the interest shift to the industrial talcs.

An extreme case can be found in the US, with the commercial talcs extracted in the State of New York where fibrous tremolite accounted for 50 to 75% of the total product. Other US (from Texas, Vermont and Montana) , Norwegian, Cypriot and Chinese talcs were found to be contaminated by asbestos (order of magnitude up to several percent points).

Smaller amounts of asbestos impurities were found in the French Luzenac talc. Research was also carried out in Italy where substantial (literally: non negligible percentages) of tremolite and/or chrysotile were found talcs mined from the ultrabasic serpentine rocks from the Lanzo Valley (Piedmont), the Aosta Valley and the Val Malenco (Lombardy) as well as the Val Aurina (South Tyrol). Talcs from the Chisone, Germanasca and Maira Valleys in Piedmont which originated from non serpentine rock but from the so called Dora Maira series (see Peretti, 1966- *Mineraria Subalpina*, issues 3-4 pages 283-306) and the Sardinian ones which had the so called 'granular or solid texture' virtually had no asbestos contamination. Talc and tremolite found in the Chisone and Germanasca Valleys were virtually exclusively lamellar and only rarely fibrous. The Val Maira talc was either lamellar or fibrous. For a more detailed description reference should be made to Paoletti, L, Caiazza S, Donelli G., and Pocchiari, P (1984) *Evaluation by electron microscopy techniques of asbestos contamination in industrial, cosmetic and pharmaceutical talcs. Reg Toc Pharm. Issue 4: 222-235* and to Marconi A, Maccione M. Rossi L (1986) *Asbesto e talco: determinazione del contenuto di particelle minerali fibrose in polveri di talco commerciali mediante tecniche associate di microscopia ottica, Med Lav 77 issue 5: pages 496-510 (Asbestos and Talc: fibrous mineral particle determination in commercial talc dust using LM associated techniques).*

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Nell'industria della gomma il talco venne largamente usato in passato (a iniziare dai primi anni '70 fu, gradualmente, in parte soppiantato dallo stearato di zinco) come agente antiaderente, necessario soprattutto ad evitare che i pani, i pellett, le placche e tutti i vari semilavorati di gomma cruda (non ancora vulcanizzata) si appiccicassero gli uni agli altri, nonche' come lubrificante a secco necessario, ad esempio, per far si' che le camere di cottura (in gomma gia' vulcanizzata) scorressero meglio durante il loro inserimento nelle coperture da vulcanizzare.

ad alcuni

punti percentuali. Impurità di amianto più modeste furono trovate in talchi francesi di Luzenac. Ricerche furono condotte anche in Italia, con riscontro di percentuali di tremolite e/o di crisotilo non trascurabili in talchi estratti da rocce serpentinitiche ultrabasiche delle Valli di Lanzo (Piemonte), della Val d'Aosta, della Val Malenco (Lombardia) e della Valle Aurina (Alto Adige). I talchi delle Valli Chisone, Germanasca e Maira (Piemonte), originatisi nel contesto non delle serpentiniti ma di formazioni rocciose della cosiddetta serie "Dora - Maira" (cfr. PERETTI L. (1966) Geologia dei giacimenti di talco del Pinerolese Bollettino Associazione Mineraria Subalpina 3-4: 283 - 306), e quelli sardi, a tessitura cosiddetta "granulare" ovvero "massiccia", si rivelarono praticamente esenti da contaminazioni di amianto. Il talco propriamente detto e la tremolite presente nei talchi delle Valli Chisone e Germanasca avevano abito quasi soltanto lamellare, solo eccezionalmente fibroso; nei talchi della Val Maira il talco propriamente detto si presentava in abiti sia lamellare sia fibroso. Si rimanda, per una disamina di dettaglio del problema e per diversi dati analitici di rilievo, ai lavori di PAOLETTI L., CALAZZA S., DONELLI G., POCCHIARI F. (1984) Evaluation by electron microscopy techniques of asbestos contamination in industrial, cosmetic and pharmaceutical talcs. Reg. Tox. Pharm. 4: 222-235 e di MARCONI A., MACCIONE M., ROSSI L. (1986) Asbesto e talco: determinazione del contenuto di particelle minerali fibrose in polveri di talco commerciali mediante tecniche associate di microscopia ottica. Med. Lav. 77, 5: 496-510.

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