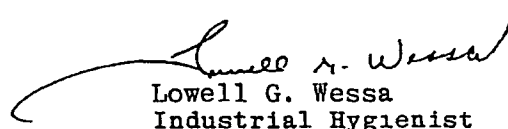


August 5, 1986

the "non-toxicity" and "nuisance" characteristics. I could assume their talc is made from tremolite based on discussion with Vanderbilt although my main objection would be to their reference as nuisance and non-toxic. Obviously, the OSHA PEL and ACGIH TLV are not that of a nuisance material.

In summary, at least the Vanderbilt talc is made from tremolite, but this does not mean it contains asbestos. Both companies show their product is not a carcinogen. Vanderbilt shows their product to be fiber-free/asbestos-free and can apparently back this up by research. Southern talc no longer even mentions the word tremolite nor is any mention made to fiber and handle the talc solely as a nuisance. I would guess from my phone call, Southern Talc has not done the "research" into the product that Vanderbilt has. Based on both MSDSs you should be able to handle either talc product as asbestos (fiber) free. If you use the Health Data and Precautions for Safe Handling from either MSDS for generation of your own MSDS, I suggest you use the Vanderbilt data rather than that of Southern Talc. Talcosis is a possibility from over-exposure as stated by H. T. Vanderbilt.


Lowell G. Wessa
Industrial Hygienist

LGW:EJ

Enc.

CC: Abex Gen. MSDSs-File
Southern Talc Co. - File
H.T. Vanderbilt - File

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