

# JNJTALC000294134

## Metadata

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| <b>AttachCount</b>                  | 0                               | ORIGINAL |
| <b>BegAttach</b>                    | JNJTALC000293784                | ORIGINAL |
| <b>Confidentiality</b>              | Y                               | ORIGINAL |
| <b>Custodian</b>                    | Legacy 1                        | ORIGINAL |
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| <b>EndAttach</b>                    | JNJTALC000294230                | ORIGINAL |
| <b>FileName</b>                     | K000141878.TIF - K000141880.TIF | ORIGINAL |
| <b>FileSize</b>                     | 0.00                            | ORIGINAL |
| <b>ProdVol</b>                      | TALC_PROD_033                   | ORIGINAL |
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| <b>Replacement</b>                  | Yes                             | ORIGINAL |

*Muldick - Smith*

Johnson & Johnson

BABY PRODUCTS COMPANY

August 23, 1974

SUBJECT: Asbestos - ASTM Fiber Meeting  
Quebec, August 13-16, 1974  
Project No. 0503.00

Mr. G. Lee

Background

NIOSH has advised the asbestos industry that they will finalize their position on asbestos dust exposure this December. NIOSH has also indicated that they will be guided by a consensus opinion from a responsible ASTM group provided that opinion is documented during November, 1974. The task force meeting last week is the responsible group putting together the consensus opinion relating to exposure to naturally occurring inorganic fibers (the asbestos minerals) and they intend to meet the time deadline on the matter. The task force comprises men representing 90% of the asbestos tonnage on this continent and several Canadian Health and Environmental officials. All are interested in trying to prevent NIOSH and OSHA from issuing unworkable regulations which would shut down the industry, both here and in Canada.

There was an indication that talc fragments of 3:1 aspect would be misbranded as inorganic naturally occurring fiber material in the above document.

Comments on Meeting

I attended the meeting to keep talc (fragments) out of the ASTM documentation. This became essential since Vanderbilt recently has disclosed that they now think they have a fibrous form of talc in their N.Y. deposit and have apparently indicated to MESA that such is the case. This presents the possibility that some talcs could be fibrous and thus brand all talcs (fragments) in a way which could erroneously fall under the upcoming asbestos regulations.

Our main interest in the group was how the asbestos minerals were to be defined in the document. I was appointed as part of the definition sub-committee for that and helped keep talc out of it.

The definition proposed for asbestos now is:

A generic term for naturally occurring inorganic hydrated silicates which can be separated into flexible fibers made up of fibrils. This includes only the fibrous varieties of serpentine (chrysotile), crocidolite and amosite, fibrous tremolite fibrous actinolite and fibrous anthophyllite.

The definition proposed for a naturally occurring inorganic fiber is:

A form of mineral characterized by properties of flexibility and length-to-width ratio of the order of 100.

The group agreed that a fiber cannot be defined by aspect ratio alone since it is obvious that particles of a non-fibrous material do not become fibers when their aspect ratio increases thru fracture or comminution.

Note that talc or talc fragments cannot be part of the above definitions and that massive forms of tremolite and actinolite (which are in trace amounts in some high grade talcs) will also be out of the document. Hopefully the final draft will carry the above recommendations we proposed.

Additional interesting information which came up is attached:

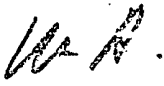
1. An historic account of how the 3:1 aspect ratio was pioneered by scientists of the United Kingdom submitted by Dr. S. Holmes which he apparently developed in 1964. (This is a valuable revelation we've been trying to get clear on paper for the last three years).
2. A statement on Health Effects of Asbestos and related consideration submitted by Dr. Grimard representing the official position of the Environmental Health Directorate of Canada.

3. An article by Dr. Gross dated August, 1974 which says that short fibered asbestos dust is incapable of causing cancer.
4. A letter from the Asbestos Information Association of North America which recommends how they think OSHA should revise the Health Standard for exposure to asbestos dust.

Besides myself, two other talc men at the meeting were:

|             |   |                    |
|-------------|---|--------------------|
| A. Harvey   | - | Vanderbilt Company |
| T.D. Oulton | - | Engelhard          |

12 other attendee's represented the Asbestos Industry here and abroad.

  
W.H. Ashton

paj

cc: Dr. G. Hildick-Smith (attach. 1,2,3)  
Dr. D.R. Petterson (no attach.)  
Dr. B. Semple to Dr. W. Waggoner (attach. 1,2,3)