

March 12, 1976

To: Dr. C. H. Costello
From: J. P. Simko, Jr.
Subject: Analytical Data on Talc Samples 1972-Present

Since late 1972 when the possibility of asbestos in talc was first raised, R&D Analytical has been engaged in re-analyzing U.S. talc raw material and finished products for asbestos minerals by the most sophisticated methodology available at that time. Analyses were made on a spot-check basis. Techniques used in-house are x-ray diffraction followed by optical and scanning electron microscopy, if necessary. X-ray is the basic screening tool and examination by microscopy is made when positive responses occur. Additional tests on random samples were made by transmission electron microscopy and selected area electron diffraction by an outside consulting firm.

Forty-two samples (from 20 raw materials and from 17 finished products), covering the period 1971 to the present, have been examined by these various techniques. Asbestos minerals were not detected in any of these with the exception of trace amounts in 3 samples from 1971-2. These levels are considered generally below the normal background levels encountered when this microscopic methodology is employed. It is believed that these trace amounts are due to laboratory contamination. A detailed tabulation is attached.

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Att.



No. of Samples Examined for Asbestos Minerals 1972-76

<u>Method</u>	<u>Raw Talc</u>	<u>Cashmere Bouquet</u>
TEM-SAED	*5	**7
Sample dates (yrs.)	1971-72	1972-76
X-ray plus microscopy (optical - SEM)	12	11
Sample dates (yrs.)	1971-76	1972-76
DTA	6	1
Sample dates (yrs.)	1972	1972

*1 sample 1971 raw talc contained 10-100 ppm. chrysotile

*1 sample 1971 raw talc contained 1-10 ppm. chrysotile

**1 sample 1972 Cashmere Bouquet talc contained <5 ppm. chrysotile

No amphibole detected in any of these.

These levels do not
present possible
background con-
tamination

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