

## Statement about talcum

(Calw, Germany, December 2013) Talc is a natural, frequently occurring mineral that is mostly used in powdered form, known as talcum. Since it is very soft and water-repellent, it is very versatile.

In general, talc is neither irritating to the skin nor to the eyes, and is also non-allergenic. However, inhaling talcum powder can lead to inflammation in the peripheral airways. For this reason, a mask must be worn during extraction and processing. Apart from the very slight dust produced, it can be assumed that pressed talc in particular – such as in eye shadow or powder – is of no risk to intact skin.

Since talc has a very similar chemical composition to asbestos, in some natural repositories talc and asbestos occur together. By law, talcum used in cosmetics must be free of asbestos. Börlind GmbH therefore procures talc solely from repositories which are free of asbestos.

Talcum that contains fibers, which has a similar effect to asbestos, may not be used for pharmaceutical purposes. Börlind GmbH also complies to this, of course, in the production of its products. All Börlind suppliers are obliged to check for the presence of asbestos by means of X-ray structural analysis and to substantiate this with the appropriate certificates.

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