

# **Classification**

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# IARC Classification

## **Group 1**

The agent (mixture) is carcinogenic to humans

## **Group 2A**

The agent (mixture) is probably carcinogenic to humans

## **Group 2B**

The agent (mixture) is possibly carcinogenic to humans

## **Group 3**

The agent (mixture or exposure circumstances) is not classifiable as its carcinogenicity to humans

## **Group 4**

The agent (mixture) is probably not carcinogenic to humans

**1987: Mineral Wool, group 2B**

Commission Directive 97/69/EC of 5 December  
1997 adapting to technical progress Directive  
67/548/EEC

Inclusion of certain man-made vitreous fibres

# EU Classification of MMVF

Carc. Cat. 3

Possibly carcinogen

Irritant

Xn – Harmful

Possible risk of  
irreversible effects  
(R40)

Xi

Irritating to skin  
(R38)

# **EU Classification of MMVF**

## **Note Q criteria for exoneration from classification as a carcinogen**

- Biopersistence – Short-term inhalation
- Biopersistence – Intra-tracheal instillation
- Appropriate chronic inhalation
- Appropriate i.p. tests
- $T_{1/2} < 10$  days for fibers  
Length  $< 20\ \mu\text{m}$
- $T_{1/2} < 40$  days for fibers  
Length  $< 20\ \mu\text{m}$
- No excess of tumours (or fibrosis)
- No excess of tumours  
dose  $10^9$  fibers

- Epidemiologic studies published during the 15 years since the previous IARC Monographs review of these fibres in 1988 provide no evidence of increased risks of lung cancer or of mesothelioma (cancer of the lining of the body cavities) from occupational exposures during manufacture of these materials, and inadequate evidence overall of any cancer risk.

***IARC Press Release, 2001***

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**2001: Mineral Wool, group 3**

## **Follow-up I of the meeting of the Technical Committee on Classification and Labelling in Arona, 21-24 March 2006**

In March 2006, the TC C&L confirmed their decision to de-classify both fibres entries (650-016-00-2 and 650-017-00-8) in Annex I with respect to Xi; R38, as the mechanical irritation from the fibres did not correctly meet the criteria for classification and knowing that the concern for skin irritation that the current classification had been covered still would be completely covered by voluntary labelling from IND.



# Summary timeline

- 5 September 2009: 1<sup>st</sup> ATP published in the official Journal
- 25 September 2009: The 1<sup>st</sup> ATP entered into force
- 1 December 2010: Deadline for implementing the provisions of the 1<sup>st</sup> ATP