Material Safety Data Sheet

(According to Directive 2001/058/EC)

Section I. Identification of the Substance/Preparation and of the Company/Undertaking

Trade Name	**ABSONET AC XTRA 20/50, ABSONET AC XTRA 15/30, ABSONET AC XTRA SPECIAL**		
Product Name	Attapulgite Clay	**CAS #**	12174-11-7
Chemical Name	Magnesium Aluminium Silicate	**Emergency Telephone**	+34 (91) 360.69.00
Supplier	TOLSA FRANCE S.A Quai de St. Wandrille. Zone Portuaire F-76490 – ST. WANDRILLE-RANÇON – France	**Protective Clothing**	
Manufacturer	TOLSA FRANCE S.A Quai de St. Wandrille. Zone Portuaire F-76490 – ST. WANDRILLE-RANÇON – France	**Material Uses**	Absorbent

Section II. Composition/Information on Ingredients

Name	*EINECS #*	*CAS #*	*EC Annex I no.*	*% wt*	*Symbols*	*R-Phrases*
1) Attapulgite Clay	310-127-6*	12174-11-7	N/C	> 93		
2) Total quartz (Total Crystalline Silica)	238-878-3	14808-60-7	N/C	< 7		

Asbestos Free

(*) As "naturally occuring substances"

N/C: Not Classified

Attapulgite and crystalline silica are not listed as dangerous substances in the Annex I of Directive 67/548/EEC as amended

Section III. Hazards Identification

Classification	**These products are not dangerous preparations according to Directive 1999/45/EC**
Potential Adverse Human Health Effects	These products may generate dust during handling and use. As any natural occurring mineral, attapulgite may contain quartz (crystalline silica). Long term overexposure to crystalline silica dust may cause silicosis. These products, because of their coarse particle size, has very low respirable fraction and the content in respirable crystalline silica is negligible.
Target Organs	Eyes and Skin (irritation risk). Pulmonary System (irritation and chronic risk).
Protective Measures	In case of exposure to high level of airbone dust, it is recommended the use of safety glasses and approved dust respirator. Use in well ventilated areas. Avoid breathing dust and contact with eyes. It is recommended the use of latex or chemical resistant gloves in handling.

Section IV. First Aid Measures

Emergency Medical Treatment	No special instructions are required.
Special Provisions	No special requirements.
FIRST AID	
Eye Contact	Flush with plenty of flowing water. Seek medical attention if irritation persists.
Skin Contact	Wash off with water.
Inhalation	Allow resting in a well-ventilated area if high concentration is inhaled and mechanical irritation or discomfort occurs. Seek medical attention if irritation persists.
Ingestion	Provide symptomatic treatment and seek medical attention.
SYMPTOMS AND EFFECTS	
Eye Contact	May cause irritation.
Skin Contact	None expected in normal conditions.
Inhalation	Mechanical Irritation.
Ingestion	None expected in normal conditions.

Section V. Fire-Fighting Measures

General Advice	Non flammable, non explosive.
Extinguishing Media	*Suitable*: All extinguishing media can be used. *Not to be used*: None known.
Products of Combustion	Not applicable.
Protection for firemen	No special requirements.
Special risks	No hazardous releases in case of fire are expected

Section VI. Accidental Release Measures

Personal Precautions	Avoid dust formation. Avoid breathing dust and contact with eyes Use safety glasses and respiratory protection in case of high level airbone
Environmental Precautions	These products are based on natural clay and no special precautions are required.
Spill Procedures	*Soil*: Scoop up or vacuum soil spillages, if appropriated, use gentle water spray to wet down. *Water*: Clean up any spillage.
Disposal	Place in a closed container prior to disposal. Can be landfilled in compliance with local regulations

Section VII. Handling and Storage

Precautions in handling and storage	Use good housekeeping practices to avoid generating airborne dust. Do not breathe dust. Avoid contact with eyes
HANDLING	
Technical Measures	No special requirements.
Fire/Explosion Controls	No special requirements.
Advice for Safe Handling	Handle in accordance with good industrial hygiene and safety procedures.
Incompatible Products	None expected.
STORAGE	
Suitable storage Circumstances	Store in dry area.
Storage – away from	No special requirements.
Recommended packing materials	No special requirements.

Section VIII. Exposure Controls/Personal Protection

Exposure Limit Values **(for Respirable Crystalline silica)** **(mg/m^3), (January, 2006)**	Respect regulatory provisions for dust (inhalable and respirable). These products have no specific Occupational Exposure Limit (OEL). A non-intentional substance (quartz) in the composition of these products has not community OEL but in some Member States are regulated as follows: *Austria*: **0,15** (Maximale Arbeitspaltz Koncentration) *Belgium*: **0,1** *Denmark*: **0,1** (Threshold Limit Value) *Finland*: **0,2** (Occupational Exposure Standard) *France*: **0,1** (Valeur limite de Moyenne d'Exposition) *Germany*: There are no OELs for crystalline silica since 2005; instead of an OEL there is a workers health protection system *Greece*: **0,1** (Legislation for mining activities) *Ireland*: **0,05** (2002 Code of Practice for the Safety, Health & Welfare at Work) *Italy*: **0,05** (Threshold Limit Value) *Luxemburg*: **0,15** (Grenzwert nach TRGS 900) *The Netherlands*: **0,075** (Maximaal Aanvarde Concentratie) *Norway:* **0,1** (Administrative Nomer (8hTWA) for Forurensing I Arbeldsmilljöet) *Portugal*: **0,1** (Threshold Limit Value) *Spain*: **0,1** (Valores límite, INSHT) *Sweden*: **0,1** (Yrkeshygieniska Gränsvärden) *Switzerland*: **0,15** (Valeur limite de Moyenne d'Exposition) *United Kingdom*: **0,3** (Workplace Exposure Limit, HSE)
Exposure Controls	General ventilation Local exhaust ventilation is recommended to keep airborne dust levels below exposure limits.

Personal Protection	*Respiratory*: Use air-purifying dust respirator if airborne dust concentration is above exposure limits. *Hands*: No special hands protection is required in normal conditions but the use of gloves is recommended. *Skin*: No special skin protection is required in normal conditions. Wash skin if mechanical irritation is experienced. *Eyes*: Use safety glasses with side shields if large amounts of product that could generate dust is handled.
Industrial Hygiene	Wash hands and other exposed areas with mild soap and water before eating, drinking, smoking and when leaving work. Keep the working area as clean and tidy as possible.
Environmental Exposure Controls	Do not allow product to reach sewage system or any watercourse.

Section IX. Physical and Chemical Properties

Appearance	Dark cream granules.
Odour	Odourless.
pH (10% in water)	9.5 ± 0.5
Boiling Point	Not applicable.
Flash Point	Not applicable.
Flammability	Non-flammable.
Explosive Properties	None.
Oxidising Properties	None.
Vapour pressure	Not applicable.
Relative Density	2.2 (Water = 1)
Solubility	Insoluble in water. Insoluble in fats.
Partition Coefficient	Not applicable.
Viscosity	Not applicable.
Vapour density	Not applicable.
Evaporation rate	Not applicable.
Melting/Sublimation Point	Not available / Not applicable.
Auto-Ignition Temperature	Not applicable.

Section X. Stability and Reactivity

Stability Data	These products are stable in normal conditions.
Hazard reactions	None expected.
Conditions to avoid	No special requirements.
Materials to avoid (Incompatibility)	None known.
Hazardous Decomposition	No hazardous decomposition or by-products are expected but one of their natural components (dolomite or calcite) may generate CO_2 by reaction with acids or by thermal decomposition.

Section XI. Toxicological Information

Routes of Entry	Inhalation. Ingestion.

EFFECTS OF ACUTE EXPOSURE

Eye contact	May cause irritation if exposed to large amounts of dust.
Skin contact	Minor skin irritation may result from physical contact.
Sensitisation	No adverse effects are known.
Ingestion	No adverse effects are known.
Inhalation	Inhalation of high concentrations of dust may cause slight mechanical irritation.
Additional Remarks	No additional remarks.

EFFECTS OF CHRONIC OVEREXPOSURE

Main Effects

Individual particle length of this attapulgite is shorter than 5µm. IARC has classified attapulgite dust (*fibres below 5µm*) as class 3 ("Cannot be classified as to carcinogenicity to Humans).

As any natural occurring mineral, attapulgite may contain quartz (crystalline silica). In 1997, IARC concluded that the respirable fraction of crystalline silica inhaled from occupational sources can cause lung cancer in humans. However, it pointed out that not all industrial circumstances, nor all crystalline silica types, were to be incriminated (IARC Monographs, Vol 68)

In June 2003, the EU Scientific Committe on Occupational Exposure Limits (SCOEL) concluded that the main effect in humans of the inhalation of respirable crystalline silica dust is silicosis. "There is sufficient information to conclude that the relative risk of lung cancer is increased in persons with silicosis. Therefore preventing the onset of silicosis will also reduce the cancer risk…". (SCOEL SUM Doc 94-final, July 2003)

Other Effects

No mutagenic, teratogenic or developmental toxicity effects are known

Additional Remarks

There is body of evidence supporting the fact that increased cancer risk would be limited to people already suffering from silicosis. According to the current state of the art, worker protection against silicosis can be consistently assured by respecting the existing regulatory occupational exposure limits.

Section XII. Ecological Information

Ecotoxicity	No specific adverse effects known
Mobility	No data available.
Persistence and Degradability	No data available.
Bioaccumulative Potential	No data available.
Other adverse effects	None known.

Section XIII. Disposal Considerations

Methods of disposal	Dispose of in a safe manner in accordance with local/national regulations. In the case of use to control spillages of hazardous materials, it is recommended removing the product from the application area after use and disposing accordingly.
Contaminated Packages	Dispose of in a safe manner in accordance with local/national regulations.

Section XIV. Transport Information

Shipping Name	Not regulated.
Transport Classification	*ADR*: Not classified. *IMDG*: Not classified. *ICAO/IATA*: Not classified. *RID*: Not classified.

Section XV. Regulatory Information and Pictograms

Trade Name	Absonet AC Xtra 20/50, Absonet AC Xtra 15/30
EEC Labelling	Not classified.
Symbol(s)	None.
Contains	None.
R-Phrases	None.
S-Phrases	None.
Annex I Number	Not applicable.
EEC Number(s)	Not applicable.
Protective Clothing (Pictograms)	

Section XVI. Other Information

R- Phrases Text	None.
Revision Number	#5
Revision Date	March, 2006
Revision Reason	Information updating. Specification of granulometry in Absonet AC Xtra.

The information in this Material Safety Data Sheet should be provided to all who will use, handle, storage, transport or otherwise be exposed to this product. This information has been prepared for the guidance of plant engineering, operations, management and for people working with or handling these products. This information is believed to be reliable and updated at Revision Date, and represents the best information currently available and known by TOLSA. However, TOLSA makes no guarantee or warranty, express or implied, with respect to such information, and we assume no liability resulting from its use. The information related herein is based in proper handling and anticipated uses and is for the material without chemical additions/alterations Users should make their own investigations to determinate the suitability of the information for their particular purposes.