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George Cross News Letter
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WESTERN CANADA

PACIFIC TALC LTD. (PTL-V)

EQUIPMENT SELECTION FOR - Pacific Talc has completed
TALC TESTS CONTINUES a test program for the
selection of process equipment.

The company has developed a process being patented in the U.S., Canada, and Europe which transforms some of the properties of the talc enabling this product to be used as a filler and coater pigment in the production of paper in the North American industry. Talc produced in this process not only meets the specifications of brightness, abrasion and particle size distribution imposed by paper manufacturers, but also has dispersion and hydrophilic properties that are very different compared to natural high grade talcs.

The production of talc in B.C. for use as a filler and coater pigments, creates an alternative to the Pacific North West paper industry in terms of supply of pigments which until now are produced from imported supplies or by chemical production.

Talc has been used as a paper pigment in the European industry for several years but has not penetrated the North American market. This is due: in Europe the principal printing method used is Rotogravure in which the pigment is required to have good dispersion properties but not be hydrophilic. The use of offset imposes certain restrictions which the European talc production processes cannot meet. Until the proposed development of Pacific Talc's deposit near Hope, B.C., the use of talc in large quantities has been prohibitive due to high transportation costs.

Pacific Talc in 1991 produced talc from its deposit and used the product as pigment in the manufacture of paper samples called "handsheets". Both the talc and the handsheets were then subjected to a battery of tests which resulted in positive results and these have been circulated to potential clients within the paper industry as part of an in-depth market study.

In preparation of a fully integrated pilot plant, Pacific Talc tested equipment for use in the proprietary process which differ from other talc manufacturers.

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