

PRESS RELEASE

Directa Plus' graphene-based products certified as safe for human contact

(Lomazzo; Italy) 21 April 2016 – Directa Plus (“Directa” or “the Company”), one of the largest producers and suppliers of graphene-based products for use in consumer and industrial markets, is pleased to announce that all of its graphene-based products have received international certification from Farcoderm Srl., the renowned toxicity testing organisation, confirming them to be safe for human contact. Farcoderm is a specialist testing agency that assesses safety, tolerability and sensory aspects of all products which may come in contact with human skin.

Giulio Cesareo, Chief Executive Officer of Directa Plus, stated: “*We are delighted to receive these certifications following thorough testing from a world renowned organisation such as Farcoderm. We believe we are the first graphene producer to be awarded such certification. The results confirm that our graphene-based products are created through a process that uses only physical forces and no chemical additives. Our customers and the end users can enjoy using our innovative products in the knowledge that they have been certified safe for human contact.*”

Highlights of the tests that were conducted and the results are as follows:

- 1- Evaluation of the CYTOTOXIC POTENTIAL of a product:** Cytotoxicity is defined as the capability of a substance to cause damage to a cell.
At the end of the study, BASIC G+/GRAFYSORBER™ and PURE G+ were classified as NOT TOXIC.
- 2- Evaluation of SKIN IRRITATION and CORROSION:** For these tests, *in vitro* reconstructed skin tissues were used. These analysis evaluated the cellular damage induced by the substance put in direct contact with the tissue.
At the end of the study, BASIC G+/GRAFYSORBER™ and PURE G+ were classified as NON SKIN IRRITANT and NON SKIN CORROSIVE.
- 3- Evaluation of EYE IRRITATION:** This test measures the cellular damage induced by the substance on a reconstructed human tissue model, mimicking human corneal epithelium.
At the end of the study, BASIC G+/GRAFYSORBER™ and PURE G+ were classified as NON EYE IRRITANT.
- 4- Analysis of the PRO-SENSITISING POTENTIAL of a material:** This test establishes if a substance is able to activate the immune system.
At the end of the study, BASIC G+/GRAFYSORBER™ and PURE G+ did not show any detectable pro-sensitising effects.
- 5- Analysis of the REPRODUCTIVE TOXIC POTENTIAL of a material:** This test evaluates the capability of a substance to inhibit the correct maturation process of oocytes.
At the end of the study, BASIC G+/GRAFYSORBER™ and PURE G+ did not show reproductive toxicity.
- 6- Evaluation of the GENOTOXICITY POTENTIAL of a material:** This test investigates the ability of a substance to cause DNA mutations in a cell, phenomenon that could lead to carcinogenesis (whereby normal cells are transformed into cancer cells).
At the end of the study, BASIC G+/GRAFYSORBER™ and PURE G+ did not show any evidence of genotoxicity/mutagenicity.

Enquiries

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About Directa Plus

Directa Plus is one of the largest producers and suppliers of graphene-based products for use in consumer and industrial markets worldwide. By incorporating Directa Plus' unique graphene blends, identified by the G+ brand, its customers can enhance the performance of their end products without significantly increasing their cost. Directa Plus graphene-based products are natural, chemical-free, sustainably produced and tailored to specific customer requirements for commercial applications such as smart textiles, tyres, composite materials and environmental solutions.

Established in 2005, the Company has a patented technology process and a scalable and exportable manufacturing model. It produces graphene-based products at its own factory in Lomazzo, Italy, and can set up additional production at customer locations to reduce transport costs, waste and time-to-utilisation. Directa Plus partners with customers to enable them to offer the high-performance benefits of graphene in their own products.