

Mexico

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Allegations	Statement
Apasco shares the market in Mexico with Cemex.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are six competitors in the market. Approx. market shares: Cemex: 50%, Holcim 20%.
As in other countries, including Brazil, Mexico is also suspected of cartel formation in the two market leading companies.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On October 13, 2011, the antitrust authorities in Mexico (Federal Competition Commission – FCC) cleared Cemex, Holcim, Cruz Azul and BuzziUnicem (Moctezuma) of all charges. • The FCC released Holcim Apasco from any liability from the investigated monopolistic practices imputed. However, in December 2011, the claimers objected the resolution of the FCC. • On March 7th, 2012 the FCC solved the Motion of Reconsideration and the final resolution, where Holcim Apasco was released from any liability derived from such investigation process, was deemed confirmed.
People in Apasco complain about bad odors leading to headache, itching of the eyes as well as sore throat and nausea. Ecoltec had to admit several incidents publicly.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The platform has no emissions with the unfortunate exception of three instances of bad but harmless odors. • The bad odors were produced by acrylate emissions as part of the waste received from a generator. These odors have happened three times since Ecoltec started to operate (2002) in the State of Mexico. • Scientific information confirms that short-term exposure to low concentrations, which is the case at hand, are not toxic although they could be annoying without affecting an individual's health (nausea, dizziness, et cetera). • The following sources have been queried, among others: ILO (International Labor Organization), NIOSH (National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health), WHO (World Health Organization), IARC (International Association Research of Cancer), BMM (Basic Acrylic Monomer Manufacturers).
The book insinuates that Holcim (Ecoltec) is responsible for illnesses in Apasco and even the death of people: In March 2009, eleven farmers were killed in an accident. When working in a cistern, they fell into the water. The water came from a river that flows past at Ecoltec. Ecoltec is suspected of pumping toxic waste into the river. According to official representation the farmers drowned, however citizens' movements made poison gases responsible for the deaths. Due to lack of evidence, the investigation was not continued.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is a very tragic accident. We do not know what caused these deaths. • There is no relation of Ecoltec to this tragic accident. The platform is not connected to the sewage water system the farmers had been working in. • The National Water Commission (CONAGUA) has confirmed this officially in a report after inspecting the facilities. • Ecoltec has no water discharges. The waters are collected in a recollection tank and subsequently treated and co-processed.