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UNITED STATES GYPSUM COMPANY

1000 East Northwest Highway/Des Plaines, Illinois 60016

RESEARCH CENTER
AREA CODE 312
GYPSUM 9-3381

December 7, 1979

Mr. George T. Causey
Director of Physical Plant.
Loyola College of Maryland
4501 North Charles Street
Baltimore, MD 21210

Dear Mr. Causey:

This is in response to your letter of December 4, 1979, requesting information on SABINITE Acoustical Plaster. Although we have no samples or other confirmation that the United States Gypsum Company product, SABINITE Acoustical Plaster, was actually used in your building at Loyola College, we submit the following information to assist you.

SABINITE Acoustical Plaster consists primarily of gypsum plaster, an aggregate (pumice or expanded perlite), wood and/or paper fiber, and a foaming agent which together total approximately 93 to 95%.

SABINITE Acoustical Plaster contains only a minor amount of asbestos, approximately 5 to 7%. The asbestos is added to provide body to the wet mortar, thereby reducing the tendency of the mortar to sag and flow when applied to the ceiling. The small amount of asbestos fiber is securely embedded in the mortar matrix and should not be released to the air unless it is forcefully pulverized or abraded.

I am not aware of, nor can I conceive of, a hazardous exposure result from a properly installed and maintained SABINITE Acoustical Plaster ceiling. However, if there is concern about the surface, for whatever reason, I would suggest that the ceiling be painted, if it has not been painted in the past.

We recommend a thin, spray-applied coat of vinyl latex ceiling flat paint such as USG TEXOLITE Standard, appropriately thinned for spray application. The paint must be a permeable type, rather than a scale or a bridging type. A heavy coat of paint, or numerous applications of paint, will obviously impair the acoustical efficiency of Acoustic Plaster.

Use a slow, uniform motion. Cover surface in one pass. Do not pass over the same area several times, as this builds up paint unnecessarily.



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George T. Causey
College of Maryland

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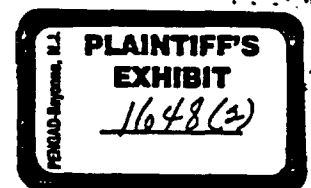
at least overnight drying between coats. Brush or roller painting recommended.

your opinion, the "flaking" which you reported in our phone conversation could not be adequately coated or encapsulated by painting, and recommend the use of a vacuum cleaner equipped with a hose and brush. Do not use a stiff brush, and do not scrub or abrade the surface of the plaster. Workmen should be provided with a respirator specified by OSHA Regulations in 29 CFR 1910.1001. Disposal of material must be made in impermeable containers to designated disposal in accordance with regulations of the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency.

that this information serves your needs. If you require further information, please feel free to contact the writer.

Sincerely,

Walter S. Freeman
Walter S. Freeman, Manager
Consumer Product Safety
Research and Development



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