

LEAD INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION, INC.

292 MADISON AVENUE

NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

January 4, 1963

Mr. H. V. Fenton, President
California Metal Enameling Company
6904 East Slauson Avenue
Los Angeles 22, California

Re: Your letter of
December 28, 1962

Dear Mr. Fenton:

We are of the opinion now, as we have been in the past, that enamel aluminum cookware should not be coated on the interior surface with lead-bearing enamels. Our recent series of tests run at the Kettering Laboratory lead us to believe that one of the most important factors in the reduction of lead release from glasses and enamels is the firing temperature. Thus far the Kettering tests indicate that those glasses fired below 1860°F. increase the risk of lead leaching.

We would recommend that you contact Dr. Robert A. Kaboe, Director of the Kettering Laboratory, The University of Cincinnati, College of Medicine, Eden Avenue, Cincinnati 19, Ohio, for his advice and help in suggesting and, possibly, performing suitable tests.

The main reason we make the suggestion that your company contact Dr. Kaboe is that there is no suitable standard for lead release in cookware or dinnerware at the present time in this country and we have been working with the Kettering Laboratory in an investigation designed to inquire into the development of a suitable standard. None of the standards that we have seen in foreign countries use the terminology or test methods which the Truesdall Laboratories used in the evaluation which they performed for your company. So that it is difficult to relate the results they obtained to the known foreign standards. If you wish, we will obtain copies of these foreign standards and make them available to you.

In summary then, we do not at the present time and in the light of our current knowledge recommend the production and use of enamel aluminum cookware which contains interior enamel surfaces.

Very truly yours,

Signed:

Don G. Fowler

DGF:md



Lead Ahead with Lead