

R.A. Moore

A-12

Oakland #18

FEB 24 1972

Coatings Laboratory

Cleveland

Legal

February 22, 1972

Harold Bretz

U. S. Plywood, New York
Shenandoah Wall Panel

cc: RAMoore

2477

Mr. Bill Mechermann of U. S. Plywood called to advise that one of their distributors had been questioned about the lead content of a coating on one of their Shenandoah Wall Panels.

Apparently a child had come down with lead poisoning, and one of the suspected areas was the recently purchased wall paneling.

The particular colored panel involved—Lafayette Red—has a finishing system comprising a red lacquer basecoat, P99 E 12; a black glaze, S99 X 1248; and a clear topcoat, T77 F 12. The red basecoat is applied at about one mil dry film (300 sq. ft/gal.).

The basecoat has a mixed pigment system including molybdate orange, and the total lead content on the dried basecoat film is 10.5 percent. We have all of the needed materials to change Lafayette Red to a lead-free pigment system, and it is primarily a matter of convincing our Sales Department and the customer's manufacturing unit of the necessity for changing to the less toxic material. This inquiry should help.

Would you please write Mr. Mechermann and advise him of as much of the above as is necessary. During the course of our telephone conversation, I told him there was a "minor" amount of lead in the total paint system. His address is:

Softwood Specialties Division
U. S. Plywood - Champion Papers, Inc.
777 Third Avenue
New York, NY 10017

J. A. Stephenson
Technical Manager
Forest Products

JAS/ba

Enclosures (3 letters & panel)

0007-SWP-000076921