

Driers
Advance Solvents & Chemical Co.
Fred. A. Stresen-Reuter
Ferro Chemical & Drier Co.

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Philadelphia Laboratory
February 4, 1948

MEMORANDUM REPORT #M-181

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HEXOGEN & OCTOATE DRIERS

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Several drier manufacturers are now marketing a new type of drier. Chemically they are the mineral spirits solution of the metallic soaps derived from ethyl hexoic acid.

Two sources of this new drier have been evaluated to determine how they compare with our standard lead, cobalt and manganese naphthenate driers. The sources evaluated were Advance Solvents and Chemical Corp. Hexogen driers and Fred. A. Stresen-Reuter, Inc.'s Octoate driers. Also included in this study were Ferro Chemical Company's naphthenate driers which they claim are superior to other naphthenate driers on the market for color and ease of dispersion because of their lower viscosity.

These driers were evaluated in 153-005 Flintflex Black, RK-234 Aluminum Vehicle, RK-235 Sign Baking Vehicle and RK-265 Air Dry Sign Clear. The driers were checked for drying properties, both initially and after five months storage, color and odor which the suppliers claim are superior to naphthenates.

Results were as follows:-

Drying Properties.

None of the driers tested showed any advantages over our present source of naphthenate driers either initially or after five months storage. In both 153-005 and RK-265 our naphthenate drier showed slightly better initial dry and noticeably better dry after five months.

Color.

Only slight differences were noted in the color of the clears with the advantage in favor of the naphthenate driers. This slight difference was not noticeable in the film. The Ferro driers were slightly superior to our naphthenates.

Odor.

The odor of the Hexogen and Octoate driers as received is better than the naphthenates. Also the odor of the enamels in the can using the new type drier is less objectionable. However, when the bottoms of gallon cans were painted and allowed to dry with the lids on and sniff tests made at various drying stages, the better odor was not as apparent. Results of the sniff tests showed that the preference of individuals was divided about equally for odor between the naphthenates and the new type.

In view of the above results, it does not appear that the Hexogen and Octoate driers are superior in any respect to our present drier with the possible exception of odor in the package. Even if there was no question regarding the better odor of the new type drier, the deficient drying properties noted above would not warrant a general shift to them. The superior color claimed for the Ferro driers was not noticed in this study.

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