

(Bureau) my copy

Mr. H. F. Robertson
Bakelite Company
New York

July 17, 1956

Mr. V. J. Houska (2)
Dr. H. F. Smyth, Jr.

Extraction Tests on
Rigid Vinyl Compounds

Dear Mr. Robertson:

Thank you for referring Mr. Houska's letter to me. I have often wondered how effective an overlay of an acceptable vinyl film on an unacceptable one would be as a barrier.

The Food and Drug Administration considers compounds of selenium, cadmium, lead, barium, boron, antimony, and mercury too toxic for use where food contact is concerned. At present Dr. Lehman and his associates might consider 0.01 or 0.02 parts per million to be negligible. At the same time they would expect a test for sensitivity of the respective material in that category. This represents a difficult requirement to meet.

Mr. Houska does not indicate how much cadmium and barium was present in the test solutions themselves, but control analyses were made on these solutions.

Since the analytical methods to which Mr. Houska refers are not within the limits mentioned above, there would be no advantage of presenting this information to Dr. Lehman at this time.

I am referring Mr. Houska's letter to Henry Smyth.

Very truly yours,

MEDICAL DIRECTOR

Thomas W. Hale, M. D.

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FOR INTERNAL CORRESPONDENCE

BAKELITE COMPANY

UCC

30 EAST 42nd STREET, NEW YORK 17, NEW YORK

To (Name)
Company
LocationDr. T. W. Nale
Industrial Medical and
Toxicology Department
Room 203-300 Madison

Date July 16, 1956

Originating Dept. New Product Engineering

Answering letter date

Copy to

Subject Extraction Tests on
Rigid Vinyl Compounds

Dear Dr. Nale:

Sometime ago Mr. L. L. Carpenter of our Bound Brook laboratory suggested that one way of overcoming the problem of extraction of undesirable materials from vinyl compounds would be to overlay an unacceptable material with one that was acceptable. Some work has been done along this line using barium and cadmium stabilizers in the base stock which is then overlaid with a material which is presumably acceptable. Although the extraction tests are not conclusive, they show within the limits of sensitivity of the analytical methods that less than 1 ppm of barium and less than .5 ppm of cadmium are extracted.

We would be glad to have your opinion as to whether or not the results obtained to date justify approaching the Food and Drug Administration in the matter or alternately, if you feel that further work should be done before this is undertaken.

A copy of Mr. Houska's letter of June 12th is attached.

Yours very truly,

*H. Robertson*HFRobertson;mm
Att.UCC
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RECEIVED

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INDUSTRIAL MEDICAL &
TOXICOLOGY DEPARTMENT