

cc: F. T. Johnson
C. A. Riley

TE-2

August 10, 1973

W. S. CULLITON

**CONSIDER PAINT
CONFORMING PAINT OBJECTIVE
(REF. J.S. POWELL TO C. A. RILEY 7/20/73)**

Reference letter states that antimony arsenic, cadmium, mercury, and selenium have all been removed and that lead is controlled to 0.06%. This is an excellent beginning but consideration should be given to elimination of other toxic materials.

Chromium

The ACSIH TLV booklet lists "certain insoluble chromates" as carcinogens. Eventually this statement will probably become more explicit and name zinc chromate, lead chromate, and possibly others. While the greatest hazard is inhalation and inhalation of consumer paint is unlikely (except for spray paints), use of chromium compounds is likely to become regulated. Even in the absence of regulation, its presence could result in adverse publicity generated by some consumer group. In my opinion, you should remove these compounds within the next year or so.

Cyanides

In my opinion, cyanide compounds should be removed from Consumer Paints. This opinion is not based on potential toxicity problems but because of possible public alarm and adverse publicity.

N38281

Barium

Provided that we get vendor certification that the product contains less than 1% soluble barium, continued use of barium sulfate and barium metaborate should not cause any problems.

I do not believe that the other metals in the concentrations listed in referenced letter will cause any problems.

E. E. SWAIN, JR.

EEB:pab