

Mr. J. E. Southwick

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LEAD CONTENT IN
CHILDREN'S TOYS & FURNITURE

Reference is made to the National Paint, Varnish & Lacquer Association bulletin of August 3, 1971.

The recommended paints for children's toys and furniture are Spred Gloss (Y-900 line) and Spred Lustre (Y-4600 line). These products were reduced to below 1% lead calculated on the non-volatile in 1958. All colors including White and tint bases in the Spred Gloss line have .5 to .6% lead except Y-908 Flat Black which has .8%. All formulas in the Y-4600 line contain .45 to .5% lead. The production of enamels with less than 1% lead has not presented a hardship or inferior quality for our company except that several colors gave slightly higher costs.

We do not feel it is feasible at this time to remove all lead driers and lead additives to obtain less toxic enamels. Dry stability and long term shelf life with paints containing large amounts of titanium would become a major problem. Possibly a .5% lead maximum would be a good compromise. We feel we could meet this requirement after some testing.

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