

W: TOMC
NOV 6 1973

Lead, per eff

Congress Passes Compromise Bill on Lead— Sets Level at 0.5%, Extends 0.06% Date

Washington, D.C., Oct. 31 —The Conference Committee compromise bill regulating lead in paint, designating a maximum lead standard of 0.5 per cent for residential paints and setting a new date of Dec. 31, 1974, for possible reduction to a lower level, has been approved by both houses of Congress and is now on the President's desk awaiting his signature.

Federal Preemption Included

The compromise bill includes these major provisions:

1. A Federal research program will be conducted by the Consumer Product Safety Commission on multiple layers of dried paint film to determine the safe level of lead for residential paint, with a report to be made to Congress by Dec. 31, 1974.

2. The definition of "lead-based paint" in the bill sets a lead standard of 0.5 per cent prior to Dec. 31, 1974; after that date the standard becomes 0.06 per cent, except if the research report shows another level (not to exceed 0.5 per cent) is safe, in which case the other level would go into effect.

3. Lead-based paint cannot be used on any toy, furniture, cooking, drinking, and eating utensil manufactured and distributed after the bill's date of enactment.

4. Federal preemption, included in the original House bill, supersedes any state or local laws containing requirements, prohibitions, or standards different from this bill.

5. Approximately \$63 million to be appropriated for each of the next two years for use as follows: \$25 million for

detection and treatment of lead poisoning; \$35 million for elimination of the poisoning; and \$3 million for research

Industry Influence Felt

Originally the Senate bill called for a maximum of 0.5 per cent lead immediately, and a level of 0.06 per cent on Jan. 1, 1973. Industry observers have indicated they felt more time was needed to establish if such a low level was necessary.

The National Paint and Coatings Association has been very active in working with the government to help obtain adoption of a realistic lead level. Members of both houses of Congress have reported receiving a large amount of mail from coatings industry people and raw material suppliers.

Ashcroft Transferred By Cabot Corp.

Boston, Nov. 1 — Cabot Corporation has announced the appointment of Charles F. Ashcroft as assistant to the marketing manager, Carbon Black Division. Ashcroft will be relocating from Akron, Ohio, to Boston.

He will assist in new products planning, servicing of customer accounts, handle the division advertising program, as well as other administrative functions.

Ashcroft started with Cabot in 1958 as a salesman. In 1965 he was promoted to western regional manager in Los Angeles. He moved to Dallas in 1967 as southwest regional sales manager and on to Akron in 1968. For the past five years, he has been central divisional sales manager.