

MacGregor-Chicago, Nov. 14, 1972

Bound Brook

Mr. R. F. Anderson

Mr. W. T. Ries - BB

Industrial Hygiene Practices

Your Inquiry

As I mentioned to you, OSHA regulations in no way refer to lead as far as dust protection is concerned, but the Department of Labor has chosen lead as one of its Target Health Hazards.

The key to success in handling lead powders is adequate ventilation. We are constantly upgrading our systems to maximize air velocity away from the operator in areas which generate dust. This ventilation must be connected to collection facilities to prevent an air pollution problem.

We require the wearing of respirators approved by the Bureau of Mines in all areas which tend to contain lead dust. The law requires that lead-in-air be reduced such that respiratory protection not be required. The maximum level acceptable for eight hour exposure is 0.2 mg/m^3 and is expected to be reduced to 0.05. Regular air sampling is carried out to measure the effectiveness of the overall program.

We also require head covering to protect dust accumulation in the hair. We have a mandatory shower at the end of the shift with a particularly effective soap which we provide.

We supply work jackets which must be removed prior to entering the lunchroom. Washing before smoking and eating is also a must. Separate eating facilities, away from the production area and ventilated from the outside, have been provided.

General handling procedures for minimizing dust generation are preached regularly. Cleanup by vacuum cleaner rather than broom sweeping is preferred.

-2-

I hope that these items will be helpful to you. We have found that personal hygiene and good work habits are the key to working successfully with lead pigments.

R. K. Felter
Plant Manager

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