

to carbon monoxide in synthesis gas, and from benzol vapors in solvent dewaxing, to the mists associated with drum painting. Other potential exposures are to oxides of nitrogen, mercaptans, ammonia, chlorine, toluol, xylol and other aromatics, acetone, methyl ethyl ketone, methyl propyl ketone, methyl chloride, carbon tetrachloride, boron trifluoride, aluminum chloride, hydrogen chloride, sulfur trioxide, lead tetraethyl, phenol, sulfur trioxide, aliphatic hydrocarbons both saturated and unsaturated, vaporized lube and grease additives, vaporized and sublimed plasticizers, alcohols from methyl to iso-octyl, ethers, esters, and others.

Fumes and dusts are encountered almost as widely. There are welding fumes in maintenance operations and occasional heavy exposures to siliceous catalyst dusts, coke dust from equipment cleaning and litharge dust in Doctor sweetening, asbestos dust in insulating operations and talc dust in rubber manufacture. Catalyst manufacture offers a wide variety of dust exposures. Lube and grease manufacture offer exposures to diatomaceous earth, several types of clays, graphite, metal stearates, lime, asbestos, mica, and others. Metallizing operations, lead burning, sand blasting and pipe reconditioning -- all present potential industrial hygiene problems.

The problem of industrial dermatitis is like the poor -- always with us. The problems vary from those associated with defatting of the skin, as would occur on intimate contact with certain petroleum fractions, to those accompanying the use of harsh abrasives and detergents in hand cleansers. There are plant exposures to primary skin irritants, such as the mineral acids and alkalis, and to more serious substances, as the chromates. Cutting oils, gasoline, lube, and grease additives present opportunities for contact with primary irritants, as well as sensitizing agents.