

ONTARIO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES BRANCH

365 - 4066

FIELD VISIT REPORTPART I

Memorandum to:  
Dr. V. L. Tidey  
Chief, Occupational Health Service

Date: June 14, 1972

From: P. A. Byrnes, P.Eng.

Plant: Abex Industries of Canada Ltd.

Address: 50 Colborne St. E.,  
Lindsay, Ontario.Contacts: Mr. P. Milner, Works Manager  
Mr. C.W. Netherton, Personnel Manager

Requested by: E.H.B.

Accompanied by: Mr. L. Bithel, E.H.B.

Date of Visit: May 30, 1972

Copies to: J. McNair (3)  
Mr. P. Milner, Works Manager  
Mr. H. Wall, E.H.B.

Abstract: This visit was made to assess the lead exposure as a result of high lead-in-blood levels in this plant that manufactures brake linings. The directions for a medical supervision program for lead are suggested, and air sampling for lead and asbestos by the Occupational Health Service Laboratory is recommended.

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The brake lining formulations or "compounds" are prepared in the Compounding Department which is about 40' x 40' x 10' high and is located on the second floor of this cement block building. There are windows in three of the walls and they were open at the time of the visit. The department is operated on a three shift basis with three men on the day shift and two men on each of the other two shifts.

Most of the "compounds" contain either 5% lead sulphate or lead formate by weight approximately. The balance of the compound consists of approximately 50% asbestos, plus a bonding resin, a high boiling petroleum solvent, accelerators, inhibitors, etc. The compound weights are about 500 lb. each and are formulated on a batch basis with about 7 to 8 compounds being produced per shift.