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G. M. ESTOCK
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MERCURY-CONTAINING PAINT ADDITIVE

We are not aware of any regulations in Hawaii or Puerto Rico which prohibit sale of mercury-containing additives for paint such as "Super-Addit." However, organo-mercury compounds can be readily aborbed through the skin and, depending upon the specific compound, can be quite toxic. The concentrated additive, of course, is potentially more hazardous than paint which used to contain only low concentrations of the mercury compound.

There is a great deal of emotional fear of mercury compounds in todays' "consumerist environment". Hense any accidental ingestion or real or imagined medical problems which might be attributed to mercury compounds probably would be subject to widespread and very unfavorable publicity.

In view of all this, it is my opinion that Du Pont should discontinue sale of mercury-containing additives for paint.

E. E. SWAIN, JR.

EES:psb

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