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INTRA-COMPANY CORRESPONDENCE

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H. V. Smith - Toledo

Date March 9, 1962

From

W. C. Taylor - Toledo

Subject

REDUCTION IN DUSTINESS
OF KAYLO BLOCK

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You were shown, during the Quality Audit at Berlin on January 23, a sample of block which had had its dustiness completely eliminated by treatment of its surface with Ludox (a suspension of colloidal silica).

Further trials at the Research Laboratory, indicated that such treatment can be accomplished at a materials cost of one cent per square foot. Of course, less complete elimination of dustiness could be achieved at correspondingly lower figures.

Nothing has been done as yet toward equipping and modifying the flatware finishing line to provide this surface treatment. One reason for this delay is the recent absence of John Pershing because of his hospitalization. Then, almost coincident with Pershing's return, DuPont indicated a most likely acceptance of Kaylo if it were to contain 5% of sodium silicate by weight as a stress-corrosion inhibitor (see letter of Lotz to Boynton, March 2, 1962).

Thus far DuPont has not defined whether the finished ware is to be impregnated with the sodium silicate, or if this amount of sodium silicate would be equally acceptable as an integral ingredient in the raw batch. The Research Laboratory is currently exploring both approaches.

If the decision is made to treat the surface of the ware with sodium silicate, by dip or spray, a much less dusty surface would result from this treatment in itself. (Sodium silicate tends to pick up water under conditions of high humidity and become tacky, whereas dried Ludox does not.) As for the effect of sodium silicate in the batch on the degree of dustiness, this remains to be determined.

In any case, you will be advised at an early date of developments as they pertain to be subject.

WCT:arm

W. C. Taylor

87