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GULF COAST

INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE REPORT.

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**TITLE: Area Monitoring For Toluene, Essex Specialties Plant,
March 8, 1994, Poplar Bluff, Missouri**

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Reviewer

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Purpose

An area sample was taken in the lab at the Essex Specialties Plant, Poplar Bluff, Missouri, on March 8, 1994 to assess ambient levels of toluene in the lab. A Drager tube sample was taken inside of one of the two urethane waste bins located in the lab with a result of more than 25 ppm but less than the ACGIH eight hour exposure limit of 50 ppm toluene. A Drager tube sample taken in the general lab area was none detectable. It was decided to collect an area sample using the pump and tube method.

Background

The Essex Specialties Plant makes adhesives and work in 8 hour shifts. During their operations, several waste drums of adhesive material is generated which releases toluene.

Conclusions

One area sample was taken in the lab at worker's breathing zone. The 60 minute sample result was 0.51 ppm toluene. The sample was taken after normal working hours and is to be compared to the ACGIH eight hour exposure limit of 50 ppm.

Recommendations

Future sampling should be conducted during normal working hours and include any task related activities which might have a potential for exposure to toluene.

Distribution

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