

LEAD INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION

400 EIGHTH AVENUE

NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

METALLIC LEAD PRODUCTS DIVISION

February 10, 1953

GENERAL MANAGER
U. S. ARMY
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.ATTENTION: MR. J. J. O'DON
1000 ARMY AVE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

Re: Inquiry of the Metallic Lead Products Division:

The following information is supplementary to Circular Bulletin No. 59 in which a failure of one-inch, nine-pound lead coil is described. This covered the useful life of lead in Alus process equipment in the Harbison Division of the Monsanto Chemical Company in Everett, Massachusetts. The quotation below is from a letter from Mr. G. J. Odon, Plant Superintendent.

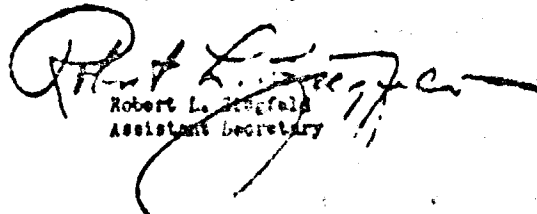
"For many years, we used one-inch, seven-pound lead coil in our Alus process equipment. We obtained an average of about two years service from this size coil. Some four to five years ago, as an experiment, one tank was equipped with one-inch, nine-pound coil. Experience has demonstrated better performance by the heavier coil, and it has been adopted as standard in the department since that time.

"We never considered this specification as being outside standards. We merely order our requirements and have received what we desired without question.

"The one-inch, nine-pound coil has increased the average life of this equipment. Instances of four years service have been recorded, and the average life is certainly nearer three years than two at the present time. Of course, the amount and rate of operations has some bearing on coil life; however, a bigger factor is probably the amount of maintenance and patching performed when nearing the end of a service life, which becomes an economic balance of repair vs. replacement.

"Ultimate failure of any lead coil usually arises because of typical swelling or blister formation."

Very truly yours,


Robert L. Stiefeld
Assistant Secretary