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PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT FD-521

Inter Office

Body and Electrical Product Engineering

May 5, 1980

To: Mr. J. W. Durstine

cc: Messrs. D. D. Baker, J. H. Douma, R. E. Edwards, P. D. Fadow, D. F. Hagen, M. M. Hamburg, E. T. Mabley, J. H. Ogden, J. A. Pflug, H. W. Potoczak, J. G. Rivard, J. D. Velte

From: J. P. Bernard

Subject: Identification of Production Materials and Components Containing Chromium and Benzene

Reference: Your Communication Dated April 28, 1980, Same Subject

We have reviewed the referenced communication and wish to offer the following comments:

Attempts made to date to delete chromium from primer formulations have been unsuccessful, because corrosion resistance is degraded to an unsatisfactory level. While suitable substitutions are currently being considered, we are not very optimistic that elimination of chromium in primers can be achieved in the near future. With regard to topcoat enamels, the elimination of chromium has been attained for all colors except for unique fleet colors, i.e. "school bus yellow", etc. A task force is currently evaluating the potential for deleting chromium from the latter colors.

Small trace amounts of benzene (less than 0.1%) have been known to exist in solvents used in paint manufacture. However, the concentration of benzene is further reduced in the finished product.

Those ESB-M numbers identified on the attachments with an "X", should be considered as "Suspected of Containing Carcinogenic Substances (Chromium/Benzene)" and should be categorized as "Control Catagory "C"".

James P. Bernard

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