

P. J. ...

LEAD INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION

60 EAST 42ND STREET

NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

(C O P Y)

December 21, 1959

Mr. W. P. Wilke III
Secretary-Treasurer
Hammond Lead Products, Inc.
5231 Sherman Avenue
Hammond, Indiana

Dear Mr. Wilke:

I am in receipt of your telegram of 16 December, 1959 concerning the proposed investigation of lead pigments compatible with water-reducible ferrous metal primers.

We should advise that no precipitous action will be taken regarding this project; however, we have asked our committee representatives to forward their replies promptly so that the research recommended by the Pigments Committee and the Chemical Subcommittee can be initiated as promptly as possible.

As you no doubt know, this work was recommended by the Pigments Committee to the Chemical Subcommittee and was in turn recommended to the Technical Steering Committee, the Industry Development Committee, and to the Board of Directors of the LIA. It was the belief of all these groups that this work was urgent and timely and should be initiated at the earliest possible date to ensure that lead pigments retain their present market rather than lose out entirely because of the rapidly changing position with regard to paint vehicles. I was not present at the meeting of the Pigment Committee which recommended this research. However, it is my understanding that your representative, Mr. Butsov, participated in the deliberations at the meeting which recommended this research.

Unfortunately, I have not had an opportunity to discuss at length our over-all research objectives with you. However, the scope of our research includes applied as well as basic research, and certainly applied research plays a major part in the research efforts of our standard research program. A review of the research in question will show that at least 60% of our research is devoted to applied investigations in order that we can retain our present markets and prevent further encroachment upon them.

With regard to previous work done in the field of lead pigments compatible with water-based vehicles, I have taken the recommendations of the Pigments Committee as to the requirements for the work in this area since the Committee includes representatives of the major pigment producers. On this basis, together with the support of the Chemical



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Subcommittee, further backed up by the Technical Steering Committee, it was believed that this research was proper, and therefore the recommendations of all these groups were accepted and acted upon by presentation of this research proposal.

With regard to your third question, we feel that the research should be carried on by any organization which has the technical background and skill, as well as motivation, to ensure that the interests of the lead industry are properly considered. We believe that the Eagle-Picher Company met these requirements, and it was on this basis that the proposal from the Eagle-Picher Company was circulated to our committees for review and screening.

As to the basis for the producers of pig lead supporting this research, the research in question was reviewed and approved at all levels by the Pigments Committee, the Chemical Subcommittee, the Technical Steering Committee, the Industry Development Committee, and the Board of Directors.

There is precedence for participating companies conducting the research for our industries. Many of us believe that our own companies can do a more effective job; they have the motivation and certainly the technical skills in many areas where we desire research to be carried on. For this reason, we have always considered our member companies as an important source for our research efforts. At the present time, the American Zinc Institute has a major program being carried out by The New Jersey Zinc Company on the development of new and improved zinc-based die casting alloy. With regard to new and improved finishes for zinc, The Consolidated Mining and Smelting Company of Canada, Limited will undertake a new research effort for the A.Z.I. in this area in 1960.

We would not hesitate to initiate any desired research with our member companies from a patent standpoint since in all cases the contract requirements clearly stipulate that any rights for inventions whether or not patentable revert to the LIA. Depending on the action of our Advisory Committee, it is likely that in virtually all cases the invention would be licensed to any and all participating and/or associated organizations.

I hope the foregoing helps to clarify the points in question, and shall look forward to an early opportunity to discuss our over-all program with you in further detail.

With kindest regards, I remain

Very sincerely yours,

SW:KH

cc: Lead Chemical Subcommittee
Pigments Committee

Schneider J. Kadtke