

LEAD INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION

60 EAST 42ND STREET

NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

October 7, 1958

**SUBJECT: REPORT ON USE OF LEAD
IN BUILDING CONSTRUCTION**

Industry Development Committee
Technical Steering Committee
Advisory Committee of the Metallic Lead Products Division

We are enclosing a copy of the report of the study of the Use of Lead in Building Construction made for the Association by Skidmore, Owings and Merrill, Architects and Engineers, together with a covering letter from Mr. John B. Rodgers who supervised the survey.

Since receipt of the report we have also had a personal conference with the architects to clarify certain points in the report.

While they place great emphasis on the need for research to develop new products, or new uses of existing products, they also feel very strongly that until such research bears results we should publicize more intensively the existing uses of lead by the methods set forth in the report.

While it may seem that considerable space in the report has been devoted to statistical and physical properties data already known to members of the lead industry, the architects felt it advisable to include this material so that it would be found under one cover with their own findings and recommendations.

We will welcome your comments on this report.

Very truly yours,

Robert L. Ziegler
Secretary.



COPY

SKIDMORE, OWINGS & MERRILL
1 Montgomery Street, San Francisco 4, California

September 12, 1958

Mr. R. L. Ziegfeld
Secretary Treasurer
Lead Industries Association
60 East 42nd Street
New York, New York

Dear Bob:

As I wrote you yesterday in care of the Drake Hotel, Chicago, we are sending the printed copies of the survey report to your New York office via air express. We are sending 75 copies rather than 50, which I mentioned in my letter of yesterday. We had more copies made because the additional cost was relatively slight. Also, the reports were mailed today.

This completes Phase I of the Scope of Services outlined in our letter agreement of October 15, 1957 with the Lead Industries Association. The document we are sending you is the report setting forth our preliminary findings and our recommendations required to be submitted at the end of this phase.

This agreement contains a Phase II — not yet authorized by the Lead Industries Association — which contemplated the preparation of a questionnaire and our conducting a survey from our four principal offices utilizing this questionnaire as well as personal interviews among other representative architects.

We do not recommend that Phase II be carried out on this basis. We do not think that the basic findings as to the status of use of lead or the potential uses of lead in the construction industry, which might result from such a further investigation, would produce any materially different findings than those contained in our recently completed report. We think such a questionnaire would be a duplication of the work we have already done because the practice of our four strategically located offices, both in volume and diversity, pretty well covers the architectural-construction field. We think that the lead industry would be far better advised to expend the money in pursuing practical research in the potential fields suggested by the Phase I report and by laying out a program for their staff to help counteract some of the reasons stated in the report as obvious causes for the lack of increase in the use of lead for traditional use in the construction industry.

We should also like to emphasize that in carrying out research projects which we suggest be pursued, that to capitalize on lead's theoretical potentialities, great attention should be given to practical considerations such as manufacturing and erection processes and methods as well as manufacturing and erection costs.

We, therefore, think that the Lead Industries Association should carry out such research wherever possible with manufacturers' associations or individual manufacturers equipped with research facilities. We also think that these research

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Mr. R. L. Ziegfeld
Lead Industries Association

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programs should be carried out under the supervision of the practical staff of the Lead Industries Association. We think too that it would be well to have a consulting architect working with the Association staff in supervising this research program. This would be highly desirable because of the necessity of detailing, products and for application and developing construction details feasible from an architectural and construction point of view. We, of course, think that our firm would be particularly qualified to act as such consultants and we think that any fee so expended would be of infinitely more benefit to the Lead Industries Association than further fees for the originally contemplated Phase II of our October 15, 1957 agreement. We have had considerable experience in working with partition and other manufacturers with whom the Association would be dealing in our suggested research program, and have been instrumental in introducing new partition designs based on designs and details developed by us for particular important buildings.

Also, we feel that this might very well be tied in with architectural work necessary in putting out a brochure similar to those of Haver Copper and Alcoa Aluminum.

We will be glad to discuss such a further extension of our services after the Association has studied the report and given further thought to a future line of action based upon it.

Very truly yours,

Skidmore, Owings & Merrill

/s/

John B. Rodgers

cc: Mr. J. D. Bradley
President
Lead Industries Association