



COPY

Centers for Disease Control
National Institute for
Occupational Safety & Health
Robert A. Taft Laboratories
4676 Columbia Parkway
Cincinnati OH 45226-1998

✓ October 29, 1993
HETA 93-0702

Dear Confidential Requestor:

I am writing to you regarding the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) health hazard evaluation (HHE) you requested regarding concerns of health problems associated with working at Specialty Records Corporation in Olyphant, Pennsylvania. I have been in contact with the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), Wilkes-Barre Area Office, regarding inspections they have performed at your workplace, and I would like to share some information with you.

In July 1991, OSHA conducted an inspection at Specialty Records (inspection number 109366237) which included an ergonomic evaluation of many job tasks (job tasks were videotaped). As a result of their inspection, OSHA issued a lengthy citation regarding ergonomic hazards and provided the company with a copy of the report "Ergonomic Evaluation of Operations at Specialty Records," which contains detailed discussions of observed ergonomic hazards and potential control measures for those hazards. In July 1993, OSHA conducted a second inspection (inspection number 106474273) at Specialty Records during which they found a reduction of reported cases of ergonomic illness and injury. At this second inspection, OSHA also noted implementation of many control measures designed to decrease cumulative trauma disorders among employees. No ergonomic citations were issued at the 1993 OSHA inspection. I have reviewed the OSHA 200 Logs of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses for the years 1987 - July, 1993, and there has been a marked reduction in reported upper extremity cumulative trauma disorders since the 1991 OSHA inspection.

✓ Regarding chemical exposures, review of the OSHA 200 logs revealed no reported cases of chemical-related illness. Extensive industrial hygiene sampling has been performed by the company and by OSHA, and only trace amounts of air contaminants have been detected. The company regularly does personal sampling for ozone, acetone, total organic hydrocarbons as hexane, total organic hydrocarbons as benzene, total volatile organic compounds, formaldehyde, acrolein, N-vinyl-2-pyrrolidone, and benzene. During their inspections, in addition to some of the above agents, OSHA sampled for vinyl chloride, lead, carbon monoxide, xylene, and methyl chloroform. OSHA also found that a majority of the manufacturing processes take place in clean room environments in which the ventilation is appropriate and the internal air quality is constantly monitored electronically.

The company should continue to study ways to decrease the incidence of cumulative trauma disorders at Specialty Records, as outlined in the OSHA report. However, because of the number of HHE requests NIOSH receives, and because of the thoroughness of the investigations performed by OSHA

Inspection Detail

Inspection: 109366237 - Wea Manufacturing

Inspection Information - Office: Wilkes Barre Area Office

Inspection Nr: 109366237

Report ID: 0317700

Date Opened: 02/20/1991

Site Address:

Wea Manufacturing
1400 E Lackawanna Avenue
Olyphant, PA 18447

Union Status: NonUnion

SIC:3652

NAICS: 0

Mailing Address:

P. O. Box 1400, Olyphant, PA 18447

Inspection Type: Complaint

Safety/Health: Health

Scope: Partial

Close Conference: 07/08/1991

Advanced Notice: Y

Emphasis:

Ownership: Private

Case Closed: 11/15/1991

Related Activity

Type	Activity Nr	Safety	Health
Complaint	72060478	Yes	Yes
Complaint	72060866		Yes

Violation Summary

Violations/Penalties	Serious	Willful	Repeat	Other	Unclass	Total
Initial Violations	4			2		6
Current Violations	4			2		6
Initial Penalty	\$2,500	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,500
Current Penalty	\$2,500	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,500
FTA Penalty	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Violation Items

#	Citation ID	Citation Type	Standard Cited	Issuance Date	Abatement Due Date	Current Penalty	Initial Penalty	FTA Penalty	Contest	Latest Event	Note
1.	01001	Serious	5A0001	07/11/1991	11/08/1991	\$800	\$800	\$0		-	
2.	01002	Serious	19100147 C04 I	07/11/1991	08/10/1991	\$900	\$900	\$0		-	
3.	01003	Serious	19100151 C	07/11/1991	08/10/1991	\$500	\$500	\$0		-	
4.	01004A	Serious	19101450 E01	07/11/1991	07/14/1991	\$300	\$300	\$0		-	
5.	01004B	Serious	19101450 F03 I	07/11/1991	08/10/1991	\$0	\$0	\$0		-	
6.	02001	Other	19100020 G01	07/11/1991	08/10/1991	\$0	\$0	\$0		-	
7.	02002	Other	19101017 D01	07/11/1991	07/14/1991	\$0	\$0	\$0		-	

OSHA ▾ STANDARDS ▾ ENFORCEMENT ▾ TOPICS ▾ HELP AND RESOURCES ▾ NEWS ▾

Violation Detail

Standard Cited: 19101450 E01 Occupational exposure to hazardous chemicals in laboratories

Inspection Nr: 109366237

Citation: 01004A

Citation Type: Serious

Abatement Date: 07/14/1991 X

Initial Penalty: \$300.00

Current Penalty: \$300.00

Issuance Date: 07/11/1991

Nr Instances: 1

Nr Exposed: 2

Related Event Code (REC): C

Gravity: 03

Report ID: 0317700

Contest Date:

Final Order:

Emphasis:

Substance: 0670

Substance: 2310

Substance: 2260

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Violation Detail

Standard Cited: 19101017 D01 Vinyl chloride

Inspection Nr: 109366237

Citation: 02002

Citation Type: Other

Abatement Date: 07/14/1991 X

Initial Penalty:

Current Penalty:

Issuance Date: 07/11/1991

Nr Instances: 1

Nr Exposed: 20

Related Event Code (REC): C

Gravity:

Report ID: 0317700

Contest Date:

Final Order:

Emphasis:

Substance: 2580

Inspection Detail

Inspection: 106474273 - Wea Manufacturing

Inspection Information - Office: Wilkes Barre Area Office

Inspection Nr: 106474273

Report ID: 0317700

Date Opened: 07/13/1993

Site Address:

Wea Manufacturing
1400 E Lackawanna Avenue
Olyphant, PA 18447

Union Status: NonUnion

SIC: 3652

NAICS: 0

Mailing Address:

P. O. Box 1400, Olyphant, PA 18447

Inspection Type: Complaint

Safety/Health: Health

Scope: Partial

Close Conference: 07/16/1993

Advanced Notice: N

Emphasis: L:Xhlthcmp

Ownership: Private

Case Closed: 08/30/1993

Related Activity

Type	Activity Nr	Safety	Health
Complaint	76996404		Yes
Complaint	76996636		Yes

Violation Summary

Violations/Penalties	Serious	Willful	Repeat	Other	Unclass	Total
Initial Violations	1					1
Current Violations				1		1
Initial Penalty	\$1,500	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,500
Current Penalty	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,500	\$0	\$1,500
FTA Penalty	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Violation Items

#	Citation ID	Citation Type	Standard Cited	Issuance Date	Abatement Due Date	Current Penalty	Initial Penalty	FTA Penalty	Contest	Latest Event
1.	01001	Other	19101028 E01 III	07/27/1993	08/29/1993	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$0		I - Informal Settlement

Violation Detail

Standard Cited: 19101028 E01 III Benzene

Inspection Nr: 106474273

Citation: 01001

Citation Type: Other

Abatement Date: 08/29/1993 X

Initial Penalty: \$1,500.00

Current Penalty: \$1,500.00

Issuance Date: 07/27/1993

Nr Instances: 1

Nr Exposed: 50

Related Event Code (REC): C

Gravity: 02

Report ID: 0317700

Contest Date:

Final Order:

Emphasis:

Penalty and Failure to Abate Event History

Type	Latest Event	Event Date	Penalty	Abatement Due Date	Citation Type	Failure to Abate Inspection
Penalty I: Informal Settlement		08/11/1993	\$1,500.00	08/29/1993	Other	
Penalty Z: Issued		07/27/1993	\$1,500.00	08/29/1993	Serious	

Wrongful death lawsuit due to exposure to Benzene in 1986.

Instructions to all other claimants:

- ☒ All other claimants give a concise statement below of the facts constituting the claim and the total amount claimed.

During the years 1978 to 1983, [REDACTED] was an employee of Specialty Records. During those years Novick Chemical Co. supplied Specialty with chemicals which contained benzene and similar chemicals. As a result of [REDACTED] [REDACTED] having inhaled, ingested and/or coming in contact with these chemicals [REDACTED] contracted leukemia and died on [REDACTED] 1985.