LEAD PAINT REFORMULATION
TECHNICAL GUIDELINES

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Vojislavka Satric
• The Technical Guidelines are developed to help address both capacity constraints and technical barriers to the substitution of lead compounds in paints
• Focus is on SMEs needs for the effective and efficient reformulation of paint.
1. Technical Guidelines Content

- Information on hazardous properties of lead compounds;
- Substitution process;
- Colour theory and colour index;
- Dispersion process;
- Alternative pigments and additives;
- Assessments of alternative pigments and additives;
- General information about reformulation processes;
2. COLOURS
Colour Theory

This Section provides tips for tinting
Colour Index

- Colour Index (CI) is universally accepted standard coding system for pigments;
- Colour Index identifies each colorant by giving the compound a unique Colour Index name (CI) and a Colour Index number.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Pigment</th>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Pigment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PB</td>
<td>Pigment Blue</td>
<td>PBk</td>
<td>Pigment Black</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PBr</td>
<td>Pigment Brown</td>
<td>PG</td>
<td>PG Pigment Green</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PM</td>
<td>Pigment Metal</td>
<td>PO</td>
<td>Pigment Orange</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PV</td>
<td>Pigment Violet</td>
<td>PR</td>
<td>Pigment Red</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PW</td>
<td>Pigment White</td>
<td>PY</td>
<td>Pigment Yellow</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chemical class</th>
<th>CI numbers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nitrosol</td>
<td>100000–102999</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nitro</td>
<td>103000–109999</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monoazo</td>
<td>110000–199999</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diazoz</td>
<td>200000–299999</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
• Since there are many different initial lead-containing formulations for colour and other paint properties, Technical Guidelines may provide only general information about reformulation processes.

• In-depth analyses and more specific data will be provided through the pilot demonstrations in the GEF Lead Paint Project to participating companies according to their specific needs.
3. LEAD COMPOUNDS IN PAINTS
# Paint Raw Materials that may Contain Lead Compounds (1)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of paint</th>
<th>Pigments</th>
<th>Extenders</th>
<th>Driers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Air-drying primers and topcoats</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primers, other bases</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primer surfacers, other bases</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Top coats, other bases</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Paint Raw Materials that may Contain Lead Compounds (2)

- Natural extenders or pigments (like ferro oxides) may contain lead compounds;
- By using these extenders or pigments, lead compounds may be added unintentionally;
- Paint may be also unintentionally contaminated if company produced lead free and lead paints (if there is no equipment cleaning between batches)
# Hazardous Properties of Lead Compounds in Paints

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chemical</th>
<th>Hazard statements according to GHS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>PIGMENTS</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lead chromate molybdate sulphate red (PR 104)</td>
<td><strong>H350</strong> – may cause cancer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>H360</strong> - May damage fertility or the unborn child</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>H373</strong> - May cause damage to organs through prolonged or repeated exposure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lead chromate (PY 34)</td>
<td><strong>H400</strong> - Very toxic to aquatic life</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>H410</strong> - Very toxic to aquatic life with long lasting effects</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4. SUBSTITUTION PROCESS
Substitution

• Substitution is a basic principle of good chemical risk management.

• The principle of chemical substitution states that hazardous chemicals should be systematically substituted by less hazardous alternatives or, preferably, alternatives for which no hazards have been identified
Other hazardous raw materials in paints

In addition to lead compounds there are many other very hazardous raw materials that are in use in paint industry, for example:

- solvents (solvent naphtha, toluene),
- additives (dibutyl phthalate, formaldehyde),
- hexavalent chromium pigment (Zinc chromate),
- bromine compounds in fire retardant paints
4. Substitution Process
Identification of Potential Alternatives

- An alternative is a possible replacement for a hazardous substance that is able to replace the function that original substance performs.
- It is important to determine all the functions of a substance for each use (a specific industry or a specific customer)
- Once the specific function and use conditions are precisely defined, consultation within and outside the supply chain is more successful.
Assessment of Potential Alternatives (1)

- When possible alternatives that fulfil function requirements are discovered, it is necessary to define whether or not process adaptations or changes are needed.
- To fulfil the same function, sometimes the alternative has to be processed under different conditions.
This assessment consists of:

- setting criteria for acceptable hazards and risks and
- the comparison of hazardous properties between hazardous substance (or mixture, such as driers) and their possible alternatives.
Lead Compounds Substitution

Anticorrosive pigment Red Lead
- Zine chromate, Zine phosphate?, Calcium (poly)phosphate?

Pigments for topcoats – Red molybdate, Lead chromate
There is a wide choice of possible, non-hazardous alternatives

Lead additives (driers)
- Zirconium or Strontium octoate, Zirconium or Strontium neodecanoate
Assessment of Potential Alternatives (3)

- Economic feasibility identifies the lowest cost option among a set of alternative options that all achieve the targets.
- Assessment would include a range of direct and tangible indirect production costs, rather than simply comparing alternatives to the chemical we would like to substitute, in terms of product price.
The first step is to determine the availability and cost of identified alternatives, based on information readily available for a cost comparison.
Coating technology is complex and includes variables, such as:

- chemical,
- physical,
- process-engineering,
- environmental,
- health and safety and
- economic.
5. Substitution of Lead Pigments
Dispersion process

- Pigments may be well dispersed, but
- Effective, long-term stabilisation of the pigment particles is also important
- When laboratory testing is scaled up to production, comparable grinding results can be achieved only if the equivalent grinding conditions are created.
Insufficient stabilisation may cause negative effects, such as

- Flooding/Floating;
- Gloss decrease;
- Colour shift;
- Sedimentation;
- Changes in viscosity of the dispersion;
- Sagging issues;
- Levelling issues.
Red Lead (PR 104)

• Indirect inhibitor
• It reacts with the acidic groups in the resin to form lead soap, which has a corrosion inhibitory effect.
Alternatives to Red Lead

- Chemically active anticorrosive pigments (Zinc oxide, zinc phosphate, calcium phosphate and their modifications)
- Electrochemically active anticorrosive pigments (Zinc and calcium phosphates and their modifications)
- Active, cathodic protective anticorrosion pigment (Zinc dust)
- Passive anticorrosive pigments (Micaceous iron oxide, aluminium silicates)
Paint Reformulation

- Paint reformulation is not complex – the Guidelines provides examples of base coat formulations;
- Parallel testing of lead anticorrosive paint and reformulated paint is necessary to judge the effectiveness of substitution;
- Beside drying time and mechanical properties, anticorrosion properties must be checked.
# EHS Assessment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Request</th>
<th>Red Lead</th>
<th>Alternative</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Environmental and human health hazard | **H272** - May intensify fire; oxidiser  
**H302** - Harmful if swallowed  
**H332** - Harmful if inhaled  
**H351** - Suspected of causing cancer  
**H360** - May damage fertility or the unborn child  
**H372** - Causes damage to organs through prolonged or repeated exposure  
**H410** - Very toxic to aquatic life with long lasting effects | **Zinc orthophosphate**  
**H 410** Very toxic to aquatic organisms with long lasting effects.  
Product is not hazardous for the human being when used properly (use of protective personal equipment). | **Calcium orthophosphate**  
Based on currently available data, this product does not meet the regulatory definition of a hazardous substance.  
However, good industrial hygiene practices should be used when handling. |
Lead Chromate (PY 34) and Lead Chromate Molybdate Sulphate (PR 104)

PY 34 and PR 104 are used for properties that meet

- Decorative performance, such as bright colours, clean colour shades and high visibility (signal function of a paint),

- Demanding technical criteria such as excellent hiding power, light and weather fastness, heat stability, in combination with non-bleeding properties.
Lead Chromate (PY 34) and Lead Chromate Molybdate Sulphate (PR 104)

- The Colour Index contains over 13,000 entries but currently there is no single pigment that can cover all of the properties of PY 34 or PR 104;
- These pigments are usually used in applications where not all of their high-performance attributes are necessary (e.g. for indoor application);
- It is not necessary to substitute them with a single pigment;
- It is possible to find an alternative formulation that fulfils specific requirements.
### Alternative Pigments Assessment (1)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pigment</th>
<th>Possible Alternative to</th>
<th>Colour comparison</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bismuth Vanadate PY 184</td>
<td>PY 34</td>
<td>Pigments have similar chroma, but PY 184 has lighter shade than PY 34 which leads to difficulty in obtaining a deeper yellow colour. These colours can be obtained by addition of other pigments.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

PY 34  
PY 184
## Alternative Pigments Assessment (2)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Request</th>
<th>Lead chromate yellow PY 34</th>
<th>Alternative</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Function**             | Excellent hiding power. Excellent bleeding properties and gloss retention, the vibrant and deep colours of PY 34 and PR 104 do not fade or become dull. | Durable paints, the same colour range cannot be achieved without other pigments  
 Excellent bleeding properties |
| Production process       |                                                                                           | There is no need for changes in the production process |
| Environmental and human health hazard | H350 – may cause cancer  
 H360 - May damage fertility or the unborn child  
 H373 - May cause damage to organs through prolonged or repeated exposure  
 H400 - Very toxic to aquatic life  
 H410 - Very toxic to aquatic life with long lasting effects | Not classified as hazardous to human health and the environment |
| Economic feasibility     |                                                                                           | The best alternative for PY 34, but 5 to 6 times more expansive (22 to 35 EUR per kg) |
| Availability             |                                                                                           | Somewhat limited; due to limited sources of raw materials (Bi, V) |
Paint Reformulation

The first stage of the reformulation process should be to define precisely which performance properties a paint should have, in addition to colour:

- Is it for external or internal use (weather and light fastness);
- Is there request for heat resistance;
- Excellent hiding power at defined film thickness;
- Shade and brightness of colour;
- Is bleeding acceptable (is paint use in a different-layer colour system, paint purpose).
Paint Reformulation

• It is necessary to use a combination of inorganic and organic pigments in the paint reformulation or pigment preparations and hybrid pigments;

• The inorganic pigments provide hiding power, while the organic pigments provide colour, chroma and tinting strength;

• Weather resistance depends on the organic pigments used and may be adapted to specific requirements;

• By combining these two pigment types, the required paint performance is achievable.
# Alternative Pigment Properties Compared to PY 34 and PR 104

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pigment</th>
<th>External Use</th>
<th>Worse Heat Stability*</th>
<th>Bleeding</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PY 184, PY 42, PR 101, PY 110, PR 254</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PY53, PBr.24, <strong>PY 151</strong>, PY 154, PY 194, PO 73, PY 139</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PO 36</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PO 13, PO 34, PY 14, PY 83, PO 16, PO 155</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PY 65</strong>, <strong>PY 74</strong>, PY 97</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PO 67</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PY 138</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

PY 151 cannot reach the bright, high chroma shades of yellow as pigment is limited to green shades of yellow.
Paint Reformulation

- Depending on pigment combinations in initial formulations with lead pigment and in the new formulation, replacement of a dispersant agent and the grinding process should be considered.
- Inorganic and organic pigments properties related to grinding are different;
- In the case of organic/inorganic pigment combinations, co-grinding should be avoided.
5. Substitution of Lead Driers
Alternatives to Lead Driers

1. **Zirconium driers** - Zirconium is only effective in combination with primary driers.
   - It promotes surface and through drying.
   - Unlike lead, zirconium is a poor pigment - wetting and dispersing agent - the combination with calcium is necessary.

2. **Strontium driers** – Strontium has the same through drying performance of Zirconium
   - it offers benefits in delivering auxiliary drying characteristics, resulting in improved stored stability
   - it is a good pigment - wetting and dispersing agent preventing haze and wrinkling
Alternatives to Lead Driers

• Strontium driers are now considered to have better all-round performance compared to zirconium driers;
• They are a cost-effective alternative to zirconium driers providing superior drying performance in low temperatures and high humidity conditions.
Assessment of Alternatives

- Driers may contain components (organic solvents or drying accelerators) with undesirable health and/or environmental effects;
- It is necessary to look upon the entire product and not just the active metallic compound;
- Octoate acid (2-ethylhexanoic acid) is now defined as hazardous, it is suspected of causing damage to the unborn child;
## EHS Assessment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Request</th>
<th>Lead octoate</th>
<th>Alternatives</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Environmental and human health hazard</strong></td>
<td><strong>H226</strong> - Flammable liquid and vapour</td>
<td><strong>H302</strong> - Harmful if swallowed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>H302</strong> - Harmful if swallowed</td>
<td><strong>H302</strong> - Harmful if swallowed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>H332</strong> - Harmful if inhaled</td>
<td><strong>H304</strong> - May be fatal if swallowed and enters airways</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>H410</strong> - Very toxic to aquatic life with long lasting effects.</td>
<td><strong>H318</strong> - Causes serious eye damage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>H360</strong>(f,d) - May damage fertility. May damage the unborn child.</td>
<td><strong>H318</strong> - Causes serious eye damage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>H371</strong> - Cause damage to organs through prolonged or repeated exposure</td>
<td><strong>H361d</strong> - Suspected of damaging the unborn child.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>H336</strong> - May cause drowsiness or dizziness</td>
<td><strong>H361d</strong> - Suspected of damaging the unborn child.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>H315</strong> - Causes skin irritation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>H315</strong> - Causes skin irritation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>H304</strong> - May be fatal if swallowed and enters airways</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>H304</strong> - May be fatal if swallowed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>H361d</strong> - Suspected of damaging the unborn child.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>H315</strong> - Causes skin irritation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>H304</strong> - May be fatal if swallowed and enters airways</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Paint Reformulation

• Effective drying requires a minimum quantity of drier;

• Adding too much impairs film formation and film properties as metals promote continuous further oxidation, leading to embrittlement of the binder and hence of the paint.
Paint Reformulation

• Parallel paints testing is necessary to check if reformulation is effective

• Drier systems should be tested on stability, viscosity, film hardness, gloss and yellowing.

• Storage at an elevated temperature (40°C for two weeks) stimulates, prolonged storage, to some extent.

• Drying time, viscosity, gloss and hardness of the dry film should be measured before and after storage.
CONCLUSION

- Lead is classically a chronic or cumulative toxin. Exposure to lead is a major public health concern;
- Lead compounds should have priority in substitution;
- There are many pigments and driers available on the market that may effectively substitute lead compounds;
- Lead Paint Reformulation Technical Guidelines provides information about alternatives, their assessments and reformulation processes. This helps companies to effectively substitute lead compounds;
- We will work with participating SMEs on specific reformulations, according to their needs
THANK YOU!

Vojislavka Satric