Lead Review at the CPSC "An Apparel Point of View"

L. Tadd Schwab May 13, 2008

Biography

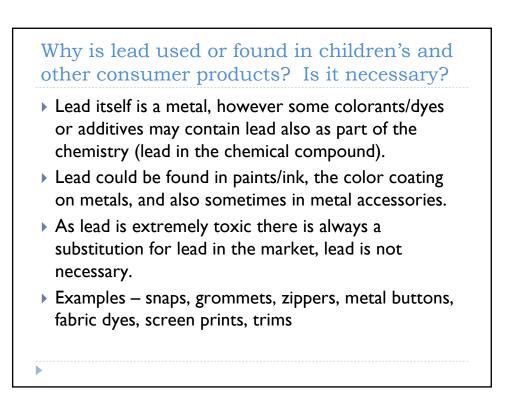
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L. Tadd Schwab

- Former Vice President Little Me Childrenswear (Sales and Quality).
- Former Vice President of Quality and Compliance Ralph Lauren Childrenswear.
- Member AAFA Childrenswear Committee
- Member AAFA Government Relations Committee
- Member VICS Floor Ready Committee

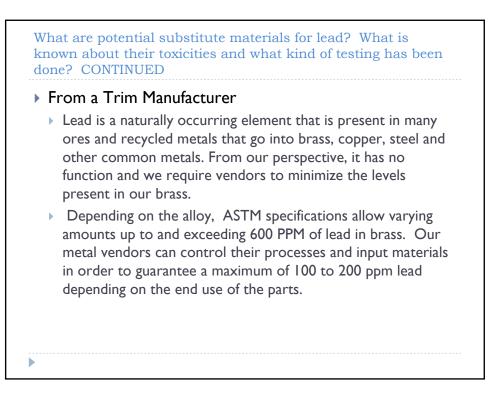


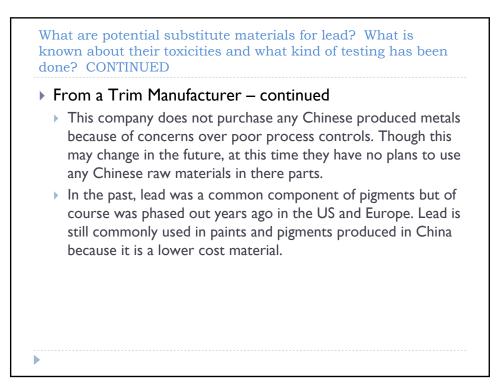
- Former associate who manages quality and compliance in Asia.
- Former associate who manages sourcing and quality in India.
- Plant Manager for a respected trim company who produces metal parts for apparel.

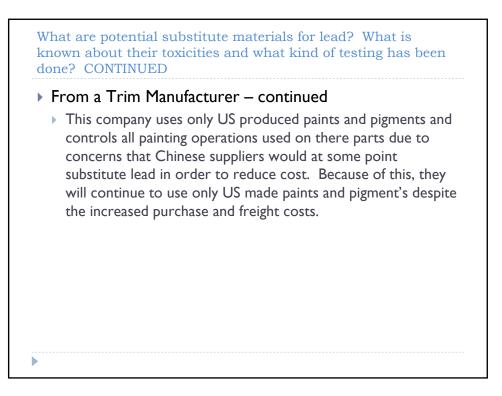


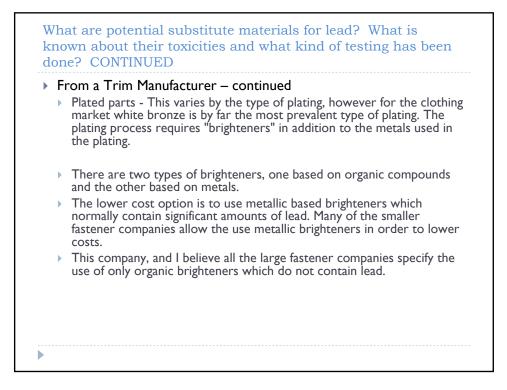
What are potential substitute materials for lead? What is known about their toxicities and what kind of testing has been done?

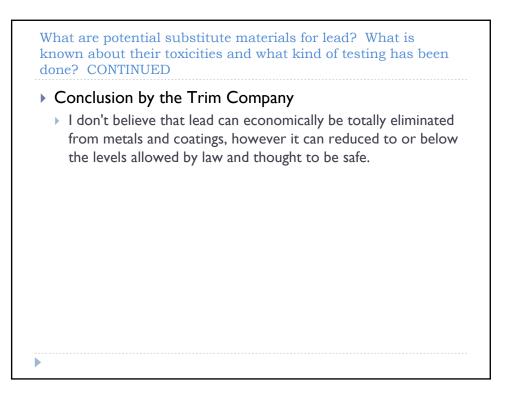
- For colorants, contractors can easily find colorants in the market which are lead-free, or even, eco-colorants (environmental friendly colorants). They are commonly available in the market.
- For metal accessories / parts, we just need to contact the metal suppliers to make sure the metal parts they provide are lead free. We also test the parts for lead.

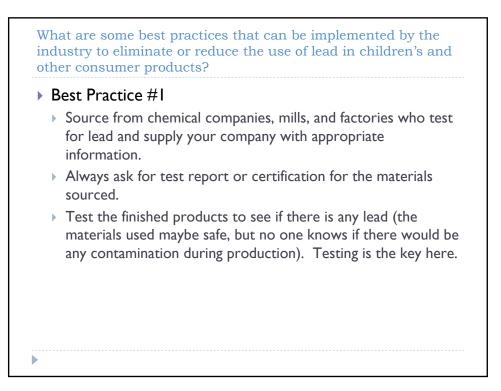


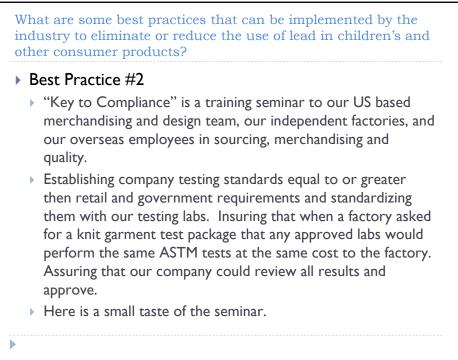






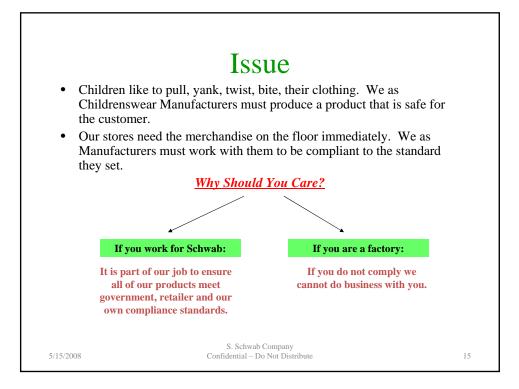




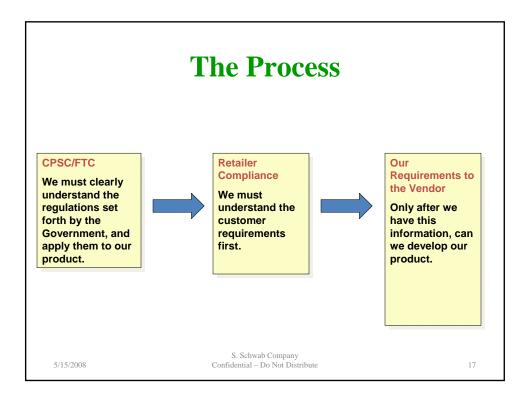




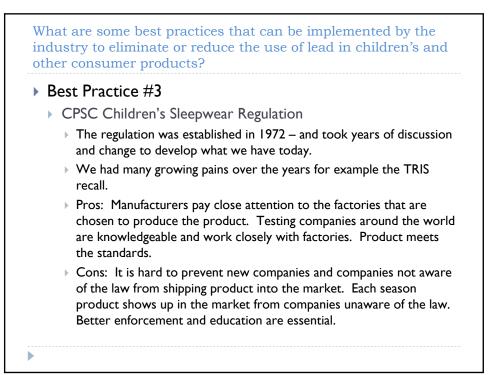


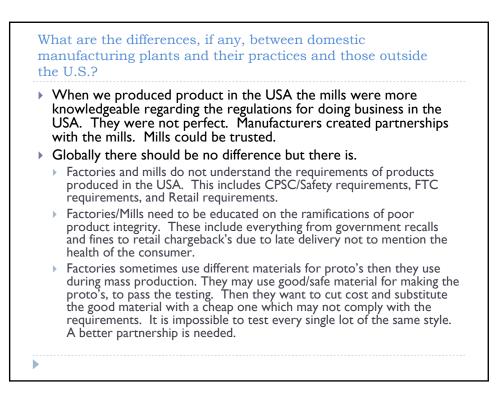












Conclusion

- Standards may be needed for lead and other chemicals or safety issues that may harm the people who wear garments containing them. Proper testing prevents problems.
- Education both here in the United States and overseas in factories is required to better educate people on compliance requirements. Hopefully this will also provide a better working relationship between partners.
- Product Integrity can be defined as delivering a competitively priced product in a timely manner that is safe and meets a quality standard you set for your company, as well as government and retail compliance standards. ALL products must meet this criteria.
- Work by the AAFA Committee on the restricted substance list has helped the industry better understand these problems and work together to solve them.