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From: graz235@Lni.wa.gov
Sent: Wednesday, May 07, 2008 12:16 PM
To: NIOSH Docket Office (CDC)
Cc: Chen, Jihong (Jane) (CDC/NIOSH/EID) (CTR); Doyle, Glenn (CDC/NIOSH/EID)
Subject: 128 - FiringRangesAlert Comments

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Comments

Firing range owners should also ensure that if they hire contractors to do work in the facility, they inform them about the potential lead exposure hazard.

In 2007 Washington State's OSHA program investigated a complaint from an employee of a cleaning company which was hired to clean ventilation ducts at a firing range. The firing range owners did not mention lead hazards to the cleaning company owner. The cleaning company had never done work at a firing range before.

The cleaning company employees did have potential exposure to lead, and were experiencing some flu-like symptoms. Although their employer had looked up some lead information from EPA, he had not provided all the appropriate training and protection for his workers. Fortunately, he had found and implemented procedures for wet cleaning and HEPA vacuuming. Our sampling showed his employees' airborne lead exposure was just at the action level (30 ug/m³). Additional exposure by ingestion was a distinct possibility, as employees were eating and drinking in the work area. Citations were issued, and the violations were ultimately corrected.