

HETA 92-044-2265
OCTOBER 1992
GENERAL CASTINGS CO.
LIBERTY ROAD FACILITY
DELAWARE, OHIO

NIOSH INVESTIGATORS:
NANCY CLARK BURTON, M.P.H., M.S.
MARJORIE A. EDMONDS, B.S.
JOHN A. DECKER, M.S.
RONALD J. KOVEIN

I. SUMMARY

In November 1991, the National Institute for Occupational Safety Health (NIOSH) received a management request to evaluate worker exposures throughout the General Castings-Liberty Road Facility, and ductile iron foundry in Delaware, Ohio.

On January 13-16, 1992, NIOSH representatives, with field assist from the Ohio Department of Health, conducted an industrial hygiene survey. Personal breathing zone (PBZ) and area air samples were collected for respirable silica and cristobalite, metals, phenol formaldehyde, isopropanol, carbon monoxide, and organic solvents practices and engineering control measures were also evaluated.

The PBZ air concentrations of respirable silica ranged from less than 22 (coremaking department) to 1120 micrograms per cubic meter [$\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$] (cleaning department), as time-weighted averages (TWAs). Seven of 33 sample concentrations (21%) exceeded the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) Permissible Exposure Limit (PEL) of $100 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ for respirable silica (as quartz), and 28 of the 33 samples (85%) exceeded the NIOSH Recommended Exposure Limit (REL) of $50 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ for respirable crystalline silica (regardless of morphology). Cristobalite ($177 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) was detected in one sample collected for a grinder which exceeded the NIOSH REL and OSHA PEL of $50 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$. NIOSH recommends that crystalline silica be treated as a potential human carcinogen. Workers in the cleaning department wore powered air-purifying helmet respirators. The samples were collected outside of the respirators, therefore, the actual exposures to the employees were probably lower than those measured.

One PBZ sample concentration for iron ($8004 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) collected for the grinder exceeded the NIOSH REL for iron of $5000 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$. Area and benzene concentrations ranged from 0.11 to 0.97 parts per million in the cooling, coremaking, and molding departments. These concentrations suggest that PBZ exposures may have exceeded the REL of 0.1 ppm for benzene, which is considered a potential occupational carcinogen. Area formaldehyde concentrations range from 0.02-0.04 ppm which exceeded the NIOSH REL of 0.016 ppm. Carbon monoxide concentrations ranged from 7-50 ppm. Three of the area samples and four PBZ samples exceeded the American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists Threshold Limit Value (TLV®) of 25 ppm for carbon monoxide. Ranges for phenol (0.2-1.2 ppm), isopropanol (7-67 ppm), toluene (0.6-21 ppm), and xylene (0.4-1.2 ppm) concentrations were below current evaluation criteria for occupational exposure.

The industrial hygiene sampling data indicate that respirable cristobalite, iron, and benzene exposures constitute a potential health hazard to employees in the cleaning, coremaking, molding shakeout areas. Employees are potentially overexposed to carbon monoxide in the pouring area. Recommendations for engineering controls, an improved respiratory protection program, and improved work practices can be found in Section IX (please see pages 14 of this report).

KEYWORDS: SIC 3321 (Gray and Ductile Iron Foundries), foundry industry, respirable silica, engineering controls, metals, benzene, formaldehyde, phenol, isopropanol, carbon monoxide.

II. INTRODUCTION

On January 13-16, 1992, National Institute for Occupational Safe Health (NIOSH) representatives, with field assistance from the O Department of Health, conducted a site visit to the General Cast Liberty Road Facility, a gray and ductile iron foundry, in Delaw Ohio. This visit was made in response to a management request t evaluate worker exposures in the coremaking, molding, pouring, m shakeout, sand handling, and cleaning areas of the facility. Si company was under new management and had recently changed the pr flow, there was a general interest in identifying potential occupational health hazards.

III. BACKGROUND

The General Castings-Liberty Road Facility is housed in a 120,00 square foot concrete block building, which was built in 1967 and expanded in the 1970s. The facility operated three shifts: the 59 production workers on the day shift, 8 employees on the after shift, and 13 workers on the night shift.

To produce molten iron, the plant used three coreless electric induction furnaces which operated at 2000 kilowatts with a melt 50 tons per day. There were no exhaust hoods or air pollution c devices in place for the induction furnaces. At the time of the visit, the company was producing gray and ductile iron. Ductile is formed by the addition of magnesium to the molten metal immed before pouring. The furnaces were totally relined with a silica refractory each year. Scrap yards were located both inside and the facility.

The metal pouring operation was performed on the night shift in open areas inside the facility using stationary molds. An overh crane system with electronic controls was used to position the l for pouring in the large mold pouring area. An overhead monorai system was used for the small mold pouring area. The molds were allowed to cool in the location where they were poured.

A mold provides the cavity into which the metal is poured to pro casting. A core is used to define the internal hollows desired casting. Cores and molds were made of a phenolic-formaldehyde b mixed with silica sand in an automatic mixer. A polymeric methy phenylene diisocyanate (MDI) was used as the binder catalyst. T bake binders used were PEPSET I®, PEPSET II®, and PEPSET III® manufactured by the Ashland Chemical Company, Columbus, Ohio. According to the material safety data sheets, the decomposition products from these binders may include carbon dioxide, carbon monoxide, hydrocarbons, and phenols. Cores were made by hand an machine. Crane hoists were used for lifting molds. A "blue dip

primer" containing isopropanol, magnesium silicate, titanium oxides, and xylolene was utilized to seal the molds after forming. The isopropanol was burned off with matches to form a smooth surface. Excess sand was removed using compressed air in the coremaking, molding, and cleaning departments.

The metal castings were shaken out of the molds while still hot (referred to as shakeout) on all three shifts. There were three shotblast machines, in which steel shot was utilized to remove excess sand from the castings. Each machine had its own dust collector. For certain castings, it was necessary for workers to manually use compressed air to remove excess sand from internal cavities. Brushes were used to clean up excess sand throughout the facility. A sand reclamation system with a fluidized bed cooler-heat exchange system was used. A Bobcat® front-end loader was used to load the sand reclamation system and shakeout some of the castings. The majority of casting cleaning recently was moved to another facility owned by the company. Two employees worked on large castings at this facility. Cutoff grinders, and chippers were used to clean and trim the castings. Welders worked on repairs during the first shift and also ran the heat treating ovens.

The grinders and shotblast machine operators used NIOSH/Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) approved air-purifying respirators which had high efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filters and a full face shield. Safety shoes, hard hats and safety glasses were required throughout the facility. Hearing protection devices (disposable earplugs) were required in the grinding area. Flame retardant clothing was worn by the pourers. The material safety data sheets, hearing protection policy, and respiratory protection policy were reviewed.

A direct-fired (gas) makeup-air unit was used in the winter months to supply general ventilation to work areas. Overhead infrared electric heaters provided additional heat. General ventilation during the warmer months was supplied by open doors and windows.

A previous walkthrough industrial hygiene survey was conducted at the facility by the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) in June 1989 under a NIOSH cooperative agreement SENSOR (Sentinel Event Notification for Occupational Risk) program. In December 1989, ODH and the Ohio Bureau of Worker's Compensation, Industrial Hygiene Section, conducted a follow-up survey to evaluate worker exposures to respirable silica and cristobalite, carbon monoxide, phenol, toluene, 1,1,1-trichloroethylene, formaldehyde, MDI, coal tar pitch volatiles, lead.¹ In the cleaning department, the majority of 8-hr TWA exposures for respirable silica [quartz] (irrespective of respiratory protection) exceeded the OSHA PEL of 100 µg/m³ (range: <40 to 580 µg/m³).² All the other exposures were below the respective current occupational evaluation criteria. Phenol exposures in the coremaking and molding departments ranged from 0.32 to 0.50 parts per million (ppm) as

Carbon monoxide levels ranged from 15 to 28 ppm as TWAs. Two di-reading measurements for carbon monoxide did exceed the ceiling (a 15-minute exposure never to be exceeded) of 200 ppm in the shop area. Cristobalite was detected in two samples. MDI concentrations ranged from below the analytical limit of detection (LOD) to 0.0008 ppm. Formaldehyde ranged from 0.2 to 0.5 ppm. Coal tar volatiles ranged from 0.05 to 0.11 mg/m³. The painters had exposures TWAs of lead at 4-5 µg/m³, 1,1,1-trichloroethylene at 140 ppm, toluene at 2 ppm, and xylene at 8 ppm.

IV. METHODS

A. Respirable Silica and Cristobalite

Thirty-three personal breathing zone (PBZ) and three area air samples for respirable dust (aerodynamic diameter less than 10 µm) were collected at a flowrate of 1.7 l/min using 10 mm nylon cyclones mounted in series with pre-weighed polyvinyl chloride (PVC) filters (37 mm diameter, 5 µm pore size). The samples were analyzed for quartz and cristobalite content with X-ray diffraction. Samples were analyzed according to NIOSH Method 7300 with the following modifications: a) the filters were dissolved in tetrahydrofuran rather than being ashed in a furnace, and, b) standards and samples were run concurrently and an external calibration curve was prepared from the integrated intensities rather than the suggested normalization procedure. The analytical LOD was 15 micrograms (µg) per filter, which equates to a minimum detectable concentration (MDC) of 22 µg/m³, assuming a sampling volume of 695 liters. The limit of quantitation (LOQ) was 30 µg per filter, which equates to a minimum quantifiable concentration (MQC) of 43 µg/m³, assuming a sampling volume of 695 liters.

B. Metals

Ten PBZ air samples and five area air samples were collected on mixed-cellulose ester filters (37 millimeter (mm) diameter, 0.8 micrometer (µm) pore size) using a flowrate of 2.0 l/min. Samples were collected for periods as near as possible to entire workshifts (6 to 7 hours). The samples were analyzed for metals according to NIOSH Method 7300.⁴ In the laboratory, the samples were wet-ashed with concentrated nitric and perchloric acids and the residues were dissolved in a dilute solution of the same acids. The resulting sample solutions were analyzed by inductively coupled plasma atomic emission spectrometry. The MQCs, using a sampling volume of 852 liters, for the selected metals are listed in Table 3.

C. Volatile Organic Compounds

Matched pairs of area air samples were collected in five area qualitative and quantitation analyses of volatile organic compounds. Samples were collected on charcoal tubes at a flow of 0.2 l/min. The charcoal tubes were desorbed with carbon disulfide and screened by gas chromatography (GC)-flame ionization detector (FID), using a 30 meter DB-1 fused silica capillary (splitless mode). One set of samples was used for qualitative analysis to identify major constituents by gas chromatography/mass spectrometry (GC/MS) analysis. Major constituents identified were then subsequently quantitatively analyzed in the paired sample (NIOSH Method 1501).⁵ Total aromatic hydrocarbons were determined based on the presence of 1,2,4-trimethyl benzene. The analytical LODs, the MDCs, the LOQs, and the MDQs for the major constituents are presented in the following chart.

Analyte	LOD µg/sample	LOQ µg/sample	MDC ppm	MQC ppm	Minimum Volume (liters)
Benzene	2	8	0.01	0.03	86.4
Toluene	2	8	0.01	0.03	86.4

The analytical LOD for total aromatic hydrocarbons was 3 µg per sample, which equates to a MDC of 0.04 mg/m³, assuming a sampling volume of 86.4 liters. The LOQ for total aromatic hydrocarbons was 9 µg per sample, which equates to a MQC of 0.10 mg/m³, assuming a sampling volume of 86.4 liters.

D. Phenol

Eight PBZ samples were collected on XAD-7 silica gel tubes using a flowrate of 0.1 l/min. The samples were desorbed in methanol and analyzed by high performance liquid chromatography according to OSHA Method 32 for phenol. The analytical LOD was 1 µg per sample, which equates to a MDC of 0.006 ppm, assuming a sample volume of 43.4 liters. The LOQ was 3.3 µg per sample, which equates to a MDC of 0.02 ppm, assuming a sample volume of 43.4 liters.

E. Carbon Monoxide

Carbon monoxide was measured using Draeger® passive diffusion tubes which utilize a colorimetric method (carbon monoxide reacts with palladium salts, resulting in a color change or stain). The diffusion tubes were fastened to the employee's collar in the

breathing zone for the duration of the shift. The length of resulting stain was determined and the time-weighted average calculated. The MDC for an 8-hour sample was 6.25 ppm.

F. Formaldehyde

Five area air samples were collected using impingers with 1% bisulfite solution at a flowrate of 1 l/min. Color was developed by adding chromotropic acid and concentrated sulfuric acid to sample. Samples were heated in a 95°C water bath for 15 minutes and allowed to cool 2 to 3 hours. The samples were read by visible spectroscopy according to NIOSH Method 3500.⁶ The analytical LOD for formaldehyde was 1 µg per sample, which equates to a MDC of 0.01 ppm, assuming a sampling volume of 82 liters. The LOQ for formaldehyde was 3.2 µg per filter, which equates to a MQC of 0.03 ppm, assuming a sampling volume of 82 liters.

G. Gases and Vapors

Short-term area (grab) air sample measurements were collected for alcohols, carbon monoxide, and phenol as a screening device to determine if additional sampling was necessary. The Draeger® gas detection system with colorimetric tubes was used. The LODs for alcohol, carbon monoxide, and phenol were 1000 ppm, 5 ppm, and 5 ppm, respectively.

H. Alcohols

Ten PBZ air samples and five area air samples were collected on charcoal tubes at a flowrate of 0.2 l/min. The charcoal tube was desorbed with carbon disulfide (with 1% 2-butanol as a desorbent aid) and screened by GC-FID according to NIOSH Method 1400.⁷ The analytical LOD was 0.01 mg/sample, which equates to a MDC of 0.04 ppm, assuming a sampling volume of 81.4 liters. The LOQ was 0.03 mg/sample, which equates to a MQC of 0.13 ppm, assuming a sampling volume of 81.4 liters.

I. Solvents

Eight PBZ samples were collected on charcoal tubes at a flowrate of 0.2 l/min. The charcoal tubes were desorbed with carbon disulfide and screened by GC-FID, according to NIOSH Method 1501.⁵ Total aromatic hydrocarbons were based on the presence of mesitylene. The analytical LODs, the LOQs, the MDCs, and the MDQs for the constituents are presented in the following chart.

Analyte	LOD µg/sample	LOQ µg/sample	MDC ppm	MQC ppm	Minimum Volume (liters)
Benzene	1	3.3	0.01	0.02	58.8
Toluene	10	33	0.05	0.15	58.8
Xylene	10	33	0.04	0.13	58.8

The analytical LOD for total aromatic hydrocarbons was 100 µg sample, which equates to a MDC of 1.7 mg/m³, assuming a sampling volume of 58.8 liters. The LOQ for total aromatic hydrocarbons was 330 µg per filter, which equates to a MQC of 5.6 mg/m³, assuming a sampling volume of 58.8 liters.

V. EVALUATION CRITERIA

To assess the hazards posed by workplace exposures, industrial hygienists use a variety of environmental evaluation criteria. These criteria propose exposure levels to which most employees may be exposed for a normal working lifetime without adverse health effects. These levels do not take into consideration individual susceptibility, pre-existing medical conditions, or possible interactions with other agents or environmental conditions. Evaluation criteria change over time with the availability of new toxicologic data.

There are three primary sources of environmental evaluation criteria for the workplace: 1) NIOSH Recommended Exposure Limits (RELs)⁸, 2) the American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists' (ACGIH) Threshold Limit Values (TLVs®)⁹, and 3) the U.S. Department of Labor OSHA PELs.² The OSHA PELs may reflect the feasibility of controlling exposures in various industries where these agents are used; whereas the NIOSH RELs are based primarily on criteria relating to the prevention of occupational disease. It should be noted when reviewing this report that employers are legally required to maintain those levels specified by an OSHA standard.

A. Respirable Silica and Cristobalite

Crystalline silica (quartz) and cristobalite have been associated with silicosis, a fibrotic disease of the lung caused by the deposition of fine particles of crystalline silica in the lung. Symptoms usually develop insidiously, with cough, shortness of breath, chest pain, weakness, wheezing, and non-specific chest illnesses. Silicosis usually occurs after years of exposure,

may appear in a shorter period of time if exposure concentrations are very high.¹⁰ The NIOSH RELs for respirable quartz and cristobalite, published in 1974, are 50 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$, as 10-hour TWA. Based on data available more recently, NIOSH considers quartz and cristobalite to be potential human carcinogens and recommends exposures be reduced to the lowest feasible levels.⁸ The OSHA PEL and the ACGIH TLV@s for respirable quartz and cristobalite are 100 and 50 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$, as 8-hour TWAs, respectively.^{2,9}

B. Metals

A list of selected metals along with a brief summary of their primary health effects are presented in Table 1. The evaluation criteria for occupational exposures to these contaminants are included in Table 3.

C. Organic Solvents

Acute benzene overexposure can cause central nervous system depression with symptoms such as headache, nausea, and drowsiness. Chronic exposure to benzene has been associated with the depression of the hematopoietic system and is associated with an increased incidence of leukemia and possibly multiple myeloma.^{8,18} The NIOSH REL is 0.1 ppm. NIOSH classifies benzene as a human carcinogen. The OSHA PEL is 1 ppm. The current ACGIH TLV@ is 10 ppm as a suspected human carcinogen. ACGIH has proposed to lower the TLV@ to 0.1 ppm and classify it as a proven human carcinogen.⁹

Toluene exposure has been associated with central nervous system depression. Symptoms may include headache, dizziness, fatigue, confusion, and drowsiness. Exposure may also cause irritation of the eyes, respiratory tract, and skin.^{12,18} The NIOSH REL, ACGIH TLV@, and OSHA PEL for toluene are 100 ppm as a TWA. ACGIH has proposed a TLV@ of 50 ppm in their notice of intended changes.

Xylene exposure may cause irritation of the eyes, mucous membranes, skin, and respiratory tract.^{12,18} The NIOSH REL, ACGIH TLV@, and OSHA PEL for xylene are 100 ppm as a TWA.

D. Phenol

Phenol is an irritant of the eyes, mucous membranes, and skin. Systemic absorption can cause convulsions as well as liver and kidney disease. The skin is a route of entry for the vapor and liquid phases. Phenol has a marked corrosive effect on any tissue. Symptoms of chronic phenol poisoning may include difficulty swallowing, diarrhea, vomiting, lack of appetite, headache, fainting, dizziness, dark urine, mental disturbances, and possibly a skin rash.¹² The NIOSH REL, ACGIH TLV@, and OSHA PEL for phenol are 25 ppm as a TWA. NIOSH has set a ceiling limit of 15.6 ppm.

All criteria include a skin notation, which indicates that skin absorption may be a significant route of exposure.

E. Carbon Monoxide

Carbon monoxide (CO) is a colorless, odorless, tasteless gas that can be a product of the incomplete combustion of organic compounds. CO combines with hemoglobin and interferes with the oxygen-carrying capacity of blood. Symptoms include headache, drowsiness, dizziness, nausea, vomiting, collapse, and death.¹² The NIOSH and OSHA PEL for carbon monoxide are 35 ppm as a TWA. The ACGIH TLV® for carbon monoxide is 25 ppm as an 8-hour TWA.

F. Formaldehyde

Formaldehyde is a colorless gas with a strong odor. Exposure occurs through inhalation and skin absorption. The acute effects associated with formaldehyde are irritation of the eyes and respiratory tract and sensitization of the skin. The first symptoms associated with formaldehyde exposure, at concentrations of 0.1 to 5 parts per million (ppm), are burning of the eyes, tearing, and general irritation of the upper respiratory tract. There is variation among individuals, in terms of their tolerance and susceptibility to acute exposures of the compound.²¹ In two separate studies, formaldehyde has induced a rare form of nasal cancer in rodents. Formaldehyde exposure has been identified as a possible causative factor in cancer of the upper respiratory tract in a proportionate mortality study of workers in the garment industry.²² NIOSH has identified formaldehyde as a suspected carcinogen and recommends that exposures be reduced to the lowest feasible concentration (0.016 ppm). The OSHA PEL is 0.75 ppm as an 8-hour TWA and 2 ppm as a STEL.²³ ACGIH has designated formaldehyde to be a suspected human carcinogen and therefore recommends that worker exposure by all routes should be carefully controlled to levels "as low as reasonably achievable" below the TLV.⁹ ACGIH has set a ceiling limit of 0.3 ppm.

G. Isopropyl Alcohol

Isopropyl alcohol is an irritant of the eyes and mucous membranes. High exposures can cause central nervous system depression.¹² The NIOSH REL, ACGIH TLV®, and OSHA PEL for isopropyl alcohol are 400 ppm as a TWA.

VI. RESULTS

A. Respirable Silica and Cristobalite

The results of the PBZ and area air sampling are presented in Table 2. The 33 PBZ sample concentrations ranged from less than 22 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ to 1120 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$, as TWAs. Seven of the 33 sample concentrations (21%) exceeded the OSHA PEL of 100 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ for respirable silica and 28 of the 33 sample concentrations (85%) exceeded the NIOSH REL of 50 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ for respirable silica. The sample collected for a grinder had the highest exposure (1120 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$), followed by the shotblast operators (37 to 1002 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$, average: 272 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$), and front-end loader/shakeout operators (to 99 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$, average: 88 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$). One PBZ sample collected for a shotblast operator contained 177 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ of cristobalite which is over the NIOSH REL and OSHA PEL of 50 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$. These samples were collected outside the workers' NIOSH/MSHA approved airhats, therefore the employees' exposures were probably less than those reported.

The employees in the coremaking department were overexposed to respirable silica; the average exposure was 66 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ (range: <22 to 119 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$). Workers in the molding department were also overexposed; the average exposure was 80 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ (range: 51 to 138 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$). Employees in these two departments were not required to wear respiratory protection. The area air samples in the shakeout and grinding areas ranged from 26-51 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$.

B. Metals

The 10 PBZ and 5 area air sample concentrations are presented in Tables 3 and 4, respectively. Concentrations of aluminum, chromium, copper, magnesium, nickel, lead, and zinc (range: 0 to 134 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) did not exceed the respective occupational evaluation criteria. However, since the valence state of chromium was not determined, worker exposures to the more toxic Chromium VI were unknown. PBZ concentrations for iron ranged from 81 to 8004 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$. One PBZ sample collected for a grinder (8004 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) exceeded the NIOSH REL of 5000 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$. This sample was collected outside the workers' NIOSH/MSHA approved airhats, therefore the actual exposure to the employee was probably less. The area concentrations of the metals (<0.6 to 352 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) were relatively low, none of the five samples' concentrations exceeded the respective evaluation criteria.

C. Organic Decomposition Products

The five area air samples collected in the cleaning and mold cooling areas for organic decomposition products had similar chromatographs. A copy of the chromatograph with identified

is included as Figure 1. The major compounds identified include isopropanol and alkyl benzenes, aromatics in the C₉ - C₁₂ range which include such isomers as trimethyl-methyl ethyl benzenes (Molecular Weight [MW] 120), tetramethyl- and diethyl-benzene (MW 134), and pentamethyl- and diethylmethyl benzenes (MW 148). Other compounds detected included benzene, toluene, fatty acid esters, C₆ - C₉ alkanes, and naphthalene.

The results of the quantitative analyses are shown in Table 5. Area benzene concentrations ranged from 0.31 to 0.5 ppm. The results indicate that personal exposures in these areas may exceed the NIOSH REL of 0.1 ppm. Area toluene concentrations ranged from 0.05 to 0.18 ppm, which were below current evaluation criteria for occupational exposures.

D. Phenol

The results of the 8 personal breathing zone samples are presented in Table 6. The concentrations ranged from 0.18 to 1.16 ppm (average: 0.48 ppm) which is below the current occupational evaluation criteria of 5 ppm.

E. Carbon Monoxide

The results for the 15 personal breathing zone and 5 area air samples are listed in Table 7. The PBZ concentrations ranged from 7 to 35 ppm. The four samples collected for two pourers, a forklift driver, and a shakeout operator exceeded the ACGIH TLV of 25 ppm. The area air sample concentrations ranged from 8 to 50 ppm. The large and small pouring lines were 43 ppm and 50 ppm respectively. These results indicate that workers were potentially overexposed to carbon monoxide in these areas. The most likely source of the carbon monoxide was the decomposition of the organic binders used in the molds and cores.

F. Formaldehyde

The results for the five area air samples in the coremaking department are given in Table 8. The results ranged from 0.02 to 0.04 ppm, above the NIOSH REL of 0.016 ppm for occupational exposure.

G. Gases and Vapors - Grab Sampling

The results of the short-term (grab) sampling for total alcohol, carbon monoxide, and phenol are listed in Table 9. Alcohols were not detected at the LOD of 1000 ppm. Carbon monoxide levels ranged from 8 ppm to 20 ppm. Trace phenol concentrations were detected in the coremaking and pouring areas.

H. Isopropyl Alcohol

The results of the PBZ and area air sampling are presented in Table 10. The PBZ concentrations ranged from 2.9 to 67.4 ppm (average: 17 ppm); all were below the current occupational evaluation criteria of 400 ppm. The area air concentrations from 0.4 ppm to 11 ppm.

I. Organic Solvents

The eight PBZ sample results for benzene, toluene, and xylene given in Table 11. Benzene concentrations ranged from 0.11 to 0.97 ppm (average: 0.39 ppm). The highest concentration was collected for a molder. All eight of the PBZ samples exceeded NIOSH REL of 0.1 ppm for benzene. Toluene concentrations ran from 0.56 to 2.12 ppm (average: 1.1 ppm) which was below the current evaluation criteria of 100 ppm. Xylene concentration ranged from 0.44 to 1.22 ppm (average: 0.76 ppm) which was below the evaluation criteria of 100 ppm.

J. Observations of Work Practices

Hearing and eye protection was required in the facility, but everyone wore hearing protection or safety glasses in the building. Employees were observed smoking and eating lunch in the general work area. During the walkthrough, it was noted that employees were exposed to high noise levels as metal casting scraps were being dropped into metal bins before being returned to the scrap yard. Workers were observed lifting and moving molds, weighing to approximately 75 pounds, by hand which could result in back and other injuries.

VIII. DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

The foundry industry has been identified as a complex process with numerous associated health hazards.²⁴ Little information is available about the long-term health effects of emissions from molds composed of synthetic chemical molding materials. Mortality studies have indicated that a two- to three-fold excess risk of lung cancer has been identified for molders, pourers, and cleaning room operators when compared to a standard population.²⁵ Smoking history was not available for these studies. Additional investigations are needed to determine if chronic health effects do result from exposures to current mold emissions. The industrial hygiene sampling data indicate that respirable silica, cristobalite, iron, formaldehyde, and benzene exposures in the cleaning, coremaking, molding, and shakeout at this facility constitute a potential health hazard to workers. Additionally, results indicated that employees are potentially overexposed to carbon monoxide. The concentrations found during

survey are similar to a study conducted at the same site by the Bureau of Workers' Compensation and the Ohio Department of Health 1989. The majority of employees in the cleaning department during these two visits had been moved to a different facility prior to survey. During the walkthrough survey, some potential safety and health hazards were identified, such as the use of compressed air clean molds, and unenforced hearing and eye protection policies.

IX. RECOMMENDATIONS

The following recommendations are offered to reduce workers' exposure to respirable silica, cristobalite, iron, benzene and other solvents, formaldehyde, carbon monoxide, and to correct safety and health hazards that were identified at this facility. NIOSH and OSHA recommend engineering controls should be used to control hazards, followed by work practices, and, if necessary, personal protective equipment.

- 1) Until appropriate engineering controls are implemented to reduce exposures to within OSHA and NIOSH recommended criteria, employees in the cleaning, coremaking, molding, and shakeout department should be provided respiratory protection for organic vapors (coremaking and molding) and respirable silica exposures.²⁶ NIOSH considers respirable silica to be an occupational carcinogen, as such, recommends that exposures be reduced to the lowest feasible level. Based on this recommendation, workers in the cleaning and shakeout areas should use supplied air respirators.
- 2) To reduce employee exposures to benzene and other decomposition products, the molds should be poured on a conveyor and then enter an enclosed and ventilated tunnel. The tunnel could lead to a smokehouse where they could off gas safely until ready for the shakeout operation.
- 3) The shaker table (shakeout area) should be enclosed on three sides and ventilated to help contain emissions of dust containing respirable silica and thermal decomposition products. To reduce exposures, the molds should be dropped directly onto the semi-enclosed shaker table, instead of breaking the molds on the concrete floor using the front-end loader. To reduce exposures to decomposition products, the molds should be shaken out cold.
- 4) To reduce exposures to respirable silica during the cleaning of core and mold surfaces, the compressed air hoses should be eliminated and replaced with a central vacuum system. As an interim measure, the existing air lines should be regulated to reduce air to less than 30 pounds per square inch (psi) to reduce the dust levels currently being generated.²⁷ An industrial vacuum should be used on a regular basis to collect loose sand/dust from the floor instead of dry sweeping.

- 5) To reduce exposures to respirable silica and solvents in the molding and coremaking departments, uncontaminated, tempered air should be supplied directly to the operator work areas. This air could be supplied in the form of a low velocity air shower located directly over the workers. If this would interfere with the use of overhead cranes when moving the molds, the fresh air could be introduced behind the worker.
- 6) To reduce exposures to respirable silica, all chutes transporting sand in the coremaking department should be enclosed and ventilated. At a minimum, the hinged lids on the chutes should be securely fastened shut to help reduce dust emissions. Transfer points, particularly where valves activate, should also be enclosed with sheet metal and ventilated to reduce dust emissions (see Figure 2). The sand free fall distance from the machine to the core box should be reduced or enclosed.
- 7) A remote pendant is used by the crane operator during the third shift to operate the overhead crane from the floor. This pendant should be used during the first and second shifts as well to protect the crane operator from the high exposures to decomposition products he would otherwise encounter while in the cab. If the crane operator continues to operate the controls from inside the cab, a fresh air supply system should be installed to ventilate the cab with uncontaminated air from the outside, and the cab should be maintained under positive pressure with respect to the work environment.
- 8) Certain castings, due to their shape, cannot be completely cleaned of sand by the shotblast machine, and the sand is removed from inside castings by compressed air hoses which generate visible quantities of dust. To reduce employee exposures to respirable silica during this process, the following procedure is recommended: Plug up all but two holes in the casting, attach a vacuum or exhaust duct to one open hole, and then blow the sand out of the casting using a compressed air hose attached to the other open hole.
- 9) To reduce respirable silica exposure, bins which collect waste from the shotblast machines should be enclosed and ventilated. This could be accomplished by either installing a rubber cover from the waste line to the bin or by completely enclosing the waste line bin in sheet metal, and then connecting an exhaust duct to remove the dust from the enclosed area.
- 10) To reduce employee exposures to respirable silica when the parts to be cleaned are too large to put in the shotblast machine, a shotblast room could be installed and the castings manually cleaned prior to the grinding operation. Also, for large castings, h

velocity, low volume (HVLV) tool hoods could be used for the grinders.

- 11) To reduce employee exposure to carbon monoxide, the natural gas flame used to preheat the ladles should be adjusted until it appears blue to minimize the formation of carbon monoxide due to incomplete combustion.
- 12) To avoid ingestion or inhalation of contaminants such as heavy metals and hydrocarbons, employees should not be allowed to eat, drink, or smoke in the production area.
- 13) Foundry returns should be cleaned of adhering sand by shot blasting prior to placing in scrap area. An annual housekeeping program to reduce the build up of dust in the scrap compartments should be implemented.
- 14) The current written hearing and eye protection policies should be continued and enforced. During the site visit, it was observed that some workers did not wear their hearing protection or safety glasses.
- 15) Employees should use the available crane hoists instead of manual lifting and moving cores and small molds as observed.
- 16) To reduce the noise emitted when metal parts are thrown into portable scrap bins, located around the shakeout area, the bins should be lined with damping compound.²⁸

X. REFERENCES

1. Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation [1990]. Survey Report - General Castings Liberty Road Facility.
2. Code of Federal Regulations [1989]. OSHA Table Z-1. 29 CFR 1910.1000. Washington, DC: U.S. Governmental Printing Office Federal Register.
3. NIOSH [1989]. Silica, crystalline, respirable: method no. 7 (supplement issued 5/15/89). In: Eller PM, ed. NIOSH manual of analytical methods. 3rd rev. ed. Cincinnati, OH: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Public Health Service, Centers for Disease Control, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, DHHS (NIOSH) publication No. 84-100.
4. NIOSH [1984]. Elements (ICP): method no. 7300. In: Eller PM, ed. NIOSH manual of analytical methods. 3rd rev. ed. Cincinnati, OH: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Public Health Service, Centers for Disease Control, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, DHHS (NIOSH) publication No. 84-100.

Occupational Safety and Health, DHHS (NIOSH) publication No. 84-100.

5. NIOSH [1984]. Hydrocarbons, aromatic: method no. 1501. In: Eller PM, ed. NIOSH manual of analytical methods. 3rd rev. Cincinnati, OH: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Public Health Service, Centers for Disease Control, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, DHHS (NIOSH) Publication No. 84-100.
6. NIOSH [1989]. Formaldehyde: method no. 3500. In: Eller PM NIOSH manual of analytical methods. 3rd rev. ed. Cincinnati U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Public Health Service, Centers for Disease Control, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, DHHS (NIOSH) Publication No. 84-100.
7. NIOSH [1984]. Alcohols I: method no. 1400. In: Eller PM, NIOSH manual of analytical methods. 3rd rev. ed. Cincinnati U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Public Health Service, Centers for Disease Control, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, DHHS (NIOSH) Publication No. 84-100.
8. NIOSH [1992]. Recommendations for Occupational Safety and Health Compendium of Policy Documents and Statements. Cincinnati, OH: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Public Health Service, Centers for Disease Control, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, DHHS (NIOSH) Publication No. 92-100.
9. ACGIH [1992]. Threshold limit values and biological exposure indices for 1992-93. Cincinnati, OH: American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists.
10. NIOSH [1986]. Occupational respiratory diseases. Cincinnati U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Public Health Service, Centers for Disease Control, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, DHHS (NIOSH) Publication No. 86-102.
11. CDC [1988]. NIOSH recommendations for occupational safety and health standards 1988. Atlanta, GA: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Public Health Service, Centers for Disease Control, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health. MMWR (suppl. no. S-7).
12. Proctor NH, Hughes JP, and Fischman ML [1988]. Chemical Hazards in the Workplace, 2nd Edition. Philadelphia, PA: Lippincott.

13. Blair A and Mason TJ [1980]. Cancer mortality in the United counties with metal electroplating industries. Arch Environ 35(2):92-94.
14. Franchini I, Magnani F, and Mutti A [1983]. Mortality experi among chromeplating workers: Initial findings. Scand J Work Environ Health 9:247-252.
15. Royle H [1975]. Toxicity of chromic acid in the chromium pla industry. Environ Res 10:39-53.
16. Silverstein M, Mirer F, Kotelchuck D, Silverstein B, and Benn [1981]. Mortality among workers in a die-casting and electroplating plant. Scand J Work Environ Health. 7 (s 4):156-165.
17. Sorahan T, Burges DCL, and Waterhouse JAH [1987]. A mortalit study of nickel/chromium platers. Br J Ind Med. 44:250-258.
18. NIOSH [1977]. Occupational diseases--a guide to their recogn Revised Ed. Cincinnati, OH: U.S. Department of Health, Educ and Welfare, Public Health Service, Center for Disease Contro National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, DHEW (Publication No. 77-181.
19. Hernberg S, Dodson WN, and Zenz C [1988]. Lead and its compo In Zenz C., Occupational Medicine: 2nd Ed., Chicago, IL: Yea Medical Publishers, pp. 547-582.
20. NIOSH [1990]. NIOSH Pocket Guide to Chemical Hazards, 2nd Printing, Cincinnati, Ohio: U.S. Department of Health and Hu Services, Public Health Service, Centers for Disease Control, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, DHHS (Publication No. 90-117.
21. NIOSH [1977]. Criteria for a recommended standard - occupati exposure to formaldehyde. Cincinnati, OH: U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, Public Health Service, Center Disease Control, National Institute for Occupational Safety a Health, DHEW (NIOSH) Publication No. 77-126.
22. Stayner L, Smith AB, Reeve G, Blade L, Keenlyside R, and Halp [1985]. Proportionate mortality study of workers exposed to formaldehyde. Am J Ind Med 7:229-40.
23. OSHA [1992]. Occupational exposures to formaldehyde; final r The Occupational Safety and Health Administration, Washington in Federal Register 57(102)22289-22328. U.S. Governmental Pr Office, Washington, D.C.

24. NIOSH [1985]. Recommendations for control of occupational safety and health hazards--foundries. Cincinnati, OH: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Public Health Service, Center for Disease Control, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, DHHS (NIOSH) Publication No. 85-116.
25. Palmer WG, and Scoot WD [1981]. Lung cancer in ferrous foundry workers: a review. American Industrial Hygiene Association Journal. 42(5):329-340.
26. Code of Federal Regulations [1989]. Personal protective equipment respiratory protection. 29 CFR 1910.134. Washington, DC: U.S. Governmental Printing Office, Federal Register.
27. Code of Federal Regulations [1989]. Hand and portable power tools and equipment, general. 29 CFR 1910.242. Washington, DC: U.S. Governmental Printing Office, Federal Register.
28. Holmer CI, and Lagace H [1972]. Effect of structural damping on the sound radiated from impacted structures. American Industrial Hygiene Association Journal. 33(1):12-18.

XI. AUTHORSHIP AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Report Prepared by: Nancy Clark Burton, M.P.H., M.S.
Industrial Hygienist

John A. Decker, M.S.
Industrial Hygienist
Industrial Hygiene Section
Hazard Evaluation and Technical
Assistance Branch

Marjorie A. Edmonds, B.S.
Industrial Engineer

Ronald J. Kovein
Engineering Technologist
Engineering Control Technology
Branch
Division of Physical Sciences
and Engineering

Field Support: Richard Liston
Ohio Department of Health
Bureau of Occupational Health

Dennis O'Brien, Ph.D., C.I.H.
Chief, Control Section 2

Division of Physical Sciences
and Engineering

Analytical Support: Data Chem, Inc.
960 West Leroy Drive
Salt Lake City, Utah

Originating Office: Hazard Evaluations and Technical
Assistance Branch
Division of Surveillance, Hazard
Evaluations and Field Studies

Report Typed by: Donna M. Humphries
Office Automation Assistant
Industrial Hygiene Section

XII. DISTRIBUTION AND AVAILABILITY OF REPORT

Copies of this report may be freely reproduced and are not copyr
Single copies of this report will be available for a period of 9
from the date of this report from the NIOSH Publications Office,
Columbia Parkway, Cincinnati, Ohio 45226. To expedite your req
include a self-addressed mailing label along with your written r
After this time, copies may be purchased from the National Techn
Information Service (NTIS), 5285 Port Royal Road, Springfield, V
22161. Information regarding the NTIS stock number may be obtai
from the NIOSH Publications Office at the Cincinnati address.

Copies of this report have been sent to:

1. The General Castings Company - Liberty Road Facility
2. Employee Representative
3. OSHA, Region V

For the purpose of informing affected employees, copies of this
shall be posted by the employer in a prominent place accessible
employees for a period of 30 calendar days.

Table 2

Results of Personal Breathing Zone and Area Samples
for Respirable Silica and Cristobalite

General Castings Company
Liberty Road Facility
Delaware, Ohio
HETA 92-044

January 14-16, 1992

Location/ Job Title	Sampling Time	Sample Volume (liters)	Respirable Silica Concentration (TWA- $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)*	Cr Concentration
<u>Personal:</u>				
Shakeout Operator	6:45-11:50 12:31-2:26	525 182	99	ND**
Shotblast Operator	6:52-11:51 12:36-2:25	525 189	238	ND
Shotblast Operator	7:00-2:26	768	91	ND
Grinder	7:02-2:30	765	1120	ND
Shakeout/Bobcat Operator	7:10-12:30 12:34-2:21	495 185	88	ND
Shakeout Operator	3:49-11:36	796	214	ND
Shakeout Operator	3:48-11:37	806	37	ND
Shakeout Operator	3:59-11:38	787	51	ND
Coremaker	3:49-11:44	813	86	ND
NIOSH Recommended Exposure Limit (REL):			50	50
OSHA Permissible Exposure Limit (PEL):				1500
ACGIH Threshold Limit Value (TLV®):			100	50
Minimum Detectable Concentration (MDC) [Volume: 69 2 2 liters]				22
Minimum Quantifiable Concentration (MQC) [Volume: 695 liters]				43

* - TWA- $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ - Time-weighted average micrograms per cubic meter

** - ND - None Detected, below the MDC

- Between MDC and MQC

Table 2 (continued)

Results of Personal Breathing Zone and Area Samples
for Respirable Silica and CristobaliteGeneral Castings Company
Liberty Road Facility
Delaware, Ohio
HETA 92-044

January 14-16, 1992

Location/ Job Title	Sampling Time	Sample Volume (liters)	Respirable Silica Concentration (TWA- $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)*	Cr Concentration
<u>Personal:</u>				
Bobcat Operator	4:04-11:34	777	77	ND**
Pouring/Shakeout Operator	3:50-11:36	784	89	ND
Shotblast Operator	3:50-11:40	789	1002	177
Coremaker	3:56-11:41	782	90	ND
Core finisher	7:02-2:37	774	ND	ND
Molder	7:41-2:30	695	72	ND
Mold Finisher	7:32-2:25	702	57	ND
Molder	7:24-2:21	709	71	ND
Coremaker	7:06-2:32	758	92	ND
Coremaking/ Mill Operator	7:18-2:34	741	40#	ND
Coremaker	7:15-2:31	741	40	ND
Core Finisher	7:13-2:38	757	119	ND
Core Setter	7:51-2:22	772	78	ND
NIOSH Recommended Exposure Limit (REL):			50	50
OSHA Permissible Exposure Limit (PEL):				1500
ACGIH Threshold Limit Value (TLV®):			100	50

Minimum Detectable Concentration (MDC) [Volume: 695 liters] 22
 Minimum Quantifiable Concentration (MQC) [Volume: 695 liters] 43

* - TWA- $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ - Time-weighted average micrograms per cubic meter

** - ND - None Detected, below the MDC

- Between MDC and MQC

Table 2 (continued)

Results of Personal Breathing Zone and Area Samples
for Respirable Silica and CristobaliteGeneral Castings Company
Liberty Road Facility
Delaware, Ohio
HETA 92-044

January 14-16, 1992

Location/ Job Title	Sampling Time	Sample Volume (liters)	Respirable Silica Concentration (TWA- $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)*	Cr Concentration
<u>Personal:</u>				
Crane Operator	6:46-2:35	804	75	ND
Chain Operator	6:42-2:23	791	114	ND
Crane Operator	7:02-2:40	785	89	ND
Chain Operator	6:39-2:23	799	138	ND
Coremaker	7:00-2:31	768	65	ND
Molder	6:57-2:25	768	65	ND
Molding-Rollover Machine Operator	7:03-2:30	763	66	ND
Molder	7:00-2:32	774	52	ND
Core Finisher	6:46-2:22	775	ND	ND
Coremaker	6:41-2:22	782	76	ND
Molder/Coremaker	6:50-2:25	782	64	ND
<u>Area:</u>				
Shakeout Area	6:52-2:31	782	51	ND
Grinding Area	6:56-2:28	775	26#	ND
Shakeout Area	7:13-2:35	755	40#	ND
NIOSH Recommended Exposure Limit (REL):			50	50
OSHA Permissible Exposure Limit (PEL):				1500
ACGIH Threshold Limit Value (TLV®):			100	50

Minimum Detectable Concentration (MDC) [Volume: 6932 liters] 22

Minimum Quantifiable Concentration (MQC) [Volume: 695 liters] 43

* - TWA- $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ - Time-weighted average micrograms per cubic meter

** - ND - None Detected, below the MDC

- Between MDC and MQC

Table 3

Results of Personal Breathing Zone Samples for Metals

General Castings Company
 Liberty Road Facility
 Delaware, Ohio
 HETA 92-044

January 14-16, 1992

Job Title	Sampling Time	Sample Volume	Metal Concentrations (TWA- $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)							
			Al	Cr	Cu	Fe	Mg	Ni	Pb	
Grinder	6:55-2:20	912	76	13	15	8004	30	14	ND**	3
Grinder	6:59-2:27	902	63	23	9	4102	44	9	ND	23
Grinder	7:06-2:32	896	87	104	12	3125	134	9	ND	4
Shakeout/Overhead Crane Operator	7:20-2:35	880	9	0.6	2	81	15	ND	ND	1
Forklift Operator	7:17-2:24	858	16	0.9	3	175	28	ND	ND	2
Furnace Operator	9:30-5:45	866	25	2	3	381	35	2	8	16
Ladle Preparer	9:28-5:09	926	57	6	2	497	54	ND	6	13
Pourer	9:40-5:07	902	10	1	3	288	26	ND	3	8
Crane Operator For Ladle	10:00-5:06	852	6	0.8	3	176	25	ND	2	5
Furnace Charger	10:05-5:10	868	16	3	2	426	23	ND	6	13
Minimum Quantifiable Concentration (MQC) (Volume: 852 liters)			0.6	2.0	0.6	1.2	1.2	0.6	1.2	0.6

* - TWA- $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ - Time-weighted average - micrograms per cubic meter

** - ND - None Detected, below the MQC

Metals	OSHA PELs ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)	NIOSH RELs ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)	ACGIH TLVs
Al - Aluminum	15000	10000	10000
Cr - Chromium	1000	500	500
Cu - Copper	1000	1000	1000
Fe - Iron	10000	5000	5000
Mg - Magnesium	10000	None#	10000
Ni - Nickel	1000	15 (carcinogen)	1000
Pb - Lead	50	<100	150
Zn - Zinc	10000	5000	10000

- NIOSH contends that health effects can occur at the PEL.

Table 4

Results of Area Air Samples for Metals

General Castings Company
 Liberty Road Facility
 Delaware, Ohio
 HETA 92-044

January 14-16, 1992

Job Title	Sampling Time	Sample Volume	Metal Concentrations (TWA- $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)							
			Al	Cr	Cu	Fe	Mg	Ni	Pb	
Grinding	6:59-2:30	906	11	0.7	ND	143	13	ND	ND	1
Grinding	7:23-2:32	864	2	0.9	4	162	14	ND	ND	1
Shakeout	7:12-2:35	884	16	0.9	3	136	25	ND	ND	2
Furnace Platform	10:05-5:10	852	12	1	1	352	16	ND	8	16
Large Pouring	10:09-5:02	886	6	1	1	124	24	ND	2	6
Minimum Quantifiable Concentration (MQC) (Volume: 852 liters)			0.6	2.0	0.6	1.2	1.2	0.6	1.2	0.6

* - TWA- $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ - Time-weighted average - micrograms per cubic meter

** - ND - None Detected, below the MQC

Metals	OSHA PELs ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)	NIOSH RELs ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)	ACGIH TLVs
Al - Aluminum	15000	10000	10000
Cr - Chromium	1000	500	500
Cu - Copper	1000	1000	1000
Fe - Iron	10000	5000	5000
Mg - Magnesium	10000	None#	10000
Ni - Nickel	1000	15 (carcinogen)	1000
Pb - Lead	50	<100	150
Zn - Zinc	10000	5000	10000

- NIOSH contends that health effects can occur at the PEL.

Table 8

Results of Area Samples for Formaldehyde

General Castings Company
 Liberty Road Facility
 Delaware, Ohio
 HETA 92-044

January 14-15, 1992

Location	Sampling Time	Sample Volume (liters)	Concentration (TWA-ppm) *
Coremaking Area- Small Hand Work	9:49-11:16	87	0.03**
Coremaking Area- Center of Large Assembly Line	9:50-11:16	86	0.03**
Coremaking Area- Between Large and Small Assembly Lines	9:54-11:16	82	0.04
Coremaking Area- Small Hand Work	9:01-10:26	85	0.02**
Coremaking Area- Between Large and Small Assembly Lines	9:00-10:27	87	0.02**
NIOSH Recommended Exposure Limit (REL):			0.016
OSHA Permissible Exposure Limit (PEL):			0.75
ACGIH Threshold Limit Value (TLV®):			1
Minimum Detectable Concentration (MDC): (Sample Volume - 82 liters)			0.01 ppm
Minimum Quantifiable Concentration (MQC): (Sample Volume - 82 liters)			0.032 ppm
* - ppm - parts per million			
** - Between MDC and MQC			

Table 7

Results of Passive Dosimeter Monitors for Carbon Monoxide

General Castings Company
Liberty Road Facility
Delaware, Ohio
HETA 92-044
January 14-16, 1992

Location	Sampling Time	Concentration (TWA-ppm)*
<u>Personal:</u>		
Ladle Repair	10:14-5:20	7
Pourer	10:10-5:20	28
Pourer	10:10-5:20	35
Furnace Charger	10:16-5:20	10
Furnace Charger	10:15-5:20	14
Shakeout	6:45-2:45	25
Forklift Driver	7:04-2:45	15
Forklift Driver	7:04-2:45	29
Shotblast Operator	7:00-2:26	9
Shakeout	7:10-2:30	14
Forklift Operator	7:16-2:25	14
Grinder	7:06-2:31	7
Molder/Coremaker	7:26-2:30	10
Superintendent	7:28-2:30	7
Shakeout (2 hrs Overhead Crane)	7:20-2:35	8
<u>Area:</u>		
Small Pouring Line	10:20-5:20	50
Large Pouring Line	10:20-5:20	43
Pouring/Cooling Area	10:19-5:20	21
Sand Handler and Shakeout	9:56-5:20	27
Furnace Platform	10:15-5:20	8
NIOSH Recommended Exposure Limit (REL):		35
OSHA Permissible Exposure Limit (PEL):		35
ACGIH Threshold Limit Value (TLV®):		25

* - TWA-ppm - time-weighted average - parts per million. MDC for 8-hr shi

Table 6

Results of Personal Breathing Zone Air Samples for Phenol

General Castings Company
 Liberty Road Facility
 Delaware, Ohio
 HETA 92-044

January 14-16, 1992

Location/ Job Category	Sampling Time	Sample Volume (liters)	Concentr (TWA-p
Coremaking/ Coremaker	7:11-2:41	45	0.63
Molding/Wash Applicator	7:03-2:27	44.4	0.49
Molding/ Molder	6:57-2:25	44.8	1.16
Coremaking/ Coremaker	7:06-2:33	44.7	0.43
Coremaking/ Corefinisher	7:02-2:23	45.5	0.21
Coremaking/ Corefinisher	7:13-2:38	43.7	0.18
Coremaking/ Mill Operator	7:18-2:34	43.6	0.37
Coremaking/ Coremaker	7:15-2:31	43.4	0.33
NIOSH Recommended Exposure Limit (REL):			5
OSHA Permissible Exposure Limit (PEL):			5
ACGIH Threshold Limit Value (TLV®):			5
Minimum Detectable Concentration (MDC) (Sample Volume: 43.4 liters)			0.006 ppm
Minimum Quantifiable Concentration (MQC) (Sample Volume: 43.4 liters)			0.02 ppm
* - ppm - parts per million			

Table 10

Results of Personal Breathing Zone and Area Air Samples
for Isopropyl AlcoholGeneral Castings Company
Liberty Road Facility
Delaware, Ohio
HETA 92-044

January 14-16, 1992

Location/ Job Category	Sampling Time	Sample Volume (liters)	Concentr (TWA-p
<u>Personal:</u>			
Molding/Molder	7:24-2:21	81	10
Molding/Rollover Machine Operator	7:39-2:27	82	9
Molding/Machine Operator	7:46-2:29	82	7
Molding/Mold Finisher	7:32-2:25	82	67
Molding/Crane Operator	6:46-2:35	93	5
Coremaking/Rollover Machine Operator	7:05-2:20	87	10
Molding/Molder	7:22-2:25	85	3
Coremaking/Coremaker	6:50-2:25	90	13
Coremaking/Corefinisher	6:46-2:20	92	31
Molding/Coremaker	6:41-2:24	93	16
<u>Area:</u>			
Shakeout	6:46-2:45	96	2
Molding	6:49-2:45	94	11
Mold Cooling Floor	7:08-2:45	91	7
Sandhandler	9:54-5:20	86	0.6
Vacuum Cleaner	9:52-5:20	87	0.4
NIOSH Recommended Exposure Limit (REL):			400
OSHA Permissible Exposure Limit (PEL):			400
ACGIH Threshold Limit Value (TLV®):			400
Minimum Detectable Concentration (MDC) (Volume: 81.4 liters)			0.4 ppm
Minimum Quantifiable Concentration (MQC) (Volume: 81.4 liters)			0.2 ppm
* - ppm - parts per million			

Table 1

Health Effects Summary for Metals

General Castings Company - Liberty Road Facility
 Delaware, Ohio
 HETA 92-044

<u>Substance</u>	<u>Primary Health Effects</u>
Aluminum	Metallic aluminum dust is considered a relatively benign dust". ¹²
Chromium	Chromium (Cr) exists in a variety of chemical forms and t varies among the different forms. For example, elemental is relatively non-toxic. ¹² Other chromium compounds may c irritation, sensitization, and allergic dermatitis. In t hexavalent form (Cr(VI)), Cr compounds are corrosive, and carcinogenic. Until recently, the less water-soluble Cr(V were considered carcinogenic while the water-soluble form considered carcinogenic. Recent epidemiological evidence indicates carcinogenicity among workers exposed to solubl compounds. ¹³⁻¹⁷ Based on this new evidence, NIOSH recommen all Cr(VI) compounds be considered as potential carcinoge
Copper	Inhalation of copper fume has resulted in irritation of t respiratory tract, metallic taste in the mouth, and nause Exposure has been associated with the development of meta fever. ⁸
Iron	Inhalation of iron oxide dust may cause a benign pneumoco called siderosis. ¹⁸
Lead	Chronic lead exposure has resulted in nephropathy (kidney gastrointestinal disturbances, anemia, and neurologic eff These effects may be felt as weakness, fatigue, irritabil blood pressure, mental deficiency, or slowed reaction tim Exposure also has been associated with infertility in bot fetal damage. ¹⁹
Nickel	Metallic nickel compounds cause sensitization dermatitis. considers nickel a potential carcinogen, as nickel refini associated with an increased risk of nasal and lung cance
Magnesium	Magnesium can cause eye and nasal irritation. ²⁰ Exposure associated with the development of metal fume fever. ⁸
Zinc	Zinc has been associated with shortness of breath, minor function changes, and metal fume fever. ^{8,20}

Table 11

Results of Personal Breathing Zone Samples
for Volatile Organic Compounds

General Castings Company
Liberty Road Facility
Delaware, Ohio
HETA 92-044

January 14-16, 1992

Job Title	Sampling Time	Sample Volume (liters)	Benzene Concentration (TWA-ppm)*	Toluenes Concentration (TWA-ppm)	Hydrocarbons Concentration (TWA-ppm)	
Molder	7:43-2:37	83.5	0.97	1.85	0.44	191.6
Molder	7:41-2:29	81.6	0.11	0.59	1.22	171.6
Coremaker	7:13-12:09	58.8	0.23	2.12	0.63	105.4
Molder	7:00-2:33	90.5	0.22	0.56	1.17	154.7
Molder/ Chain Operator	6:39-2:23	92.9	0.40	0.63	0.52	71.0
Coresetter	7:51-2:22	88.8	0.42	1.14	0.75	112.6
Molder	6:42-2:23	92.5	0.51	0.89	0.62	118.9
Crane Operator	7:09-2:28	87.8	0.24	1.00	0.68	86.6
NIOSH Recommended Exposure Limit (REL):				0.1	1000	
OSHA Permissible Exposure Limit (PEL):				1.0	1000	
ACGIH Threshold Limit Value (TLV®):				10	1000	
				(proposed-0.1)	(proposed-50)	
Minimum Detectable Concentration (MDC) (Sample Volume: 58.8 liters)				0.018	0.039	1.7
Minimum Quantifiable Concentration (MQC) (Sample Volume: 58.8 liters)				0.01849	0.129	5.6

* - TWA-ppm - Time-weighted average - parts per million

** - TWA-mg/m³ - Time-weighted average - milligrams per cubic meter

Table 9

Results of Direct Reading Survey for Carbon Monoxide,
Alcohols and Phenol

General Castings Company
 Liberty Road Facility
 Delaware, Ohio
 HETA 92-044

January 15, 1992

Location	Concentration (ppm)*			Phenol
	Carbon Monoxide	Alcohols		
Coremaking	10	ND**	Trace	
Pouring (Large Molds)	20	--	Trace	
Ladle Preparation	10	--	--	
Pouring (Small Molds)	20	ND	Trace	
Shakeout Area	5 10	--	--	
Sand Reclamation System Control Room	8	--	--	
Limit of Quantitation (LOQ)	5	1000	5	

* - ppm - parts per million
 ** - ND - none detected

Table 5

Results of Quantitative Area Samples
for Volatile Organic Compounds

General Castings Company
Liberty Road Facility
Delaware, Ohio
HETA 92-044

January 14-16, 1992

Location	Sampling Time	Sample Volume (liters)	Benzene Concentration (TWA-ppm)*	Total Toluene Concentration (TWA-ppm)	Hydrocarbon Concentration (TWA-mg/m ³)
Shakeout	6:46-2:45	95.6	0.43	0.10	29.2
Molding	6:49-2:45	94.3	0.50	0.14	61.6
Mold Cooling Floor	7:08-2:45	91	0.45	0.18	60
Sandhandler	9:54-5:20	86.4	0.48	0.10	15.1
Vacuum Cleaner	9:52-5:20	87	0.31	0.05	6.2
Minimum Detectable Concentration (Sample Volume: 86.4 liters)			0.007	0.006	0.03
Minimum Quantifiable Concentration (Sample Volume: 86.4 liters)			0.029	0.025	0.104
NIOSH Recommended Exposure Limit (REL):			0.1	100	
OSHA Permissible Exposure Limit (PEL):			1.0	100	
ACGIH Threshold Limit Value (TLV®):			10	100	
			(proposed-0.1)	(proposed-50)	

* - TWA-ppm - Time-weighted average - parts per million

** - TWA-mg/m³ - Time-weighted average - milligrams per cubic meter