

HEALTH HAZARD EVALUATION DETERMINATION
REPORT 73-16-62RINGSBY UNITED FREIGHT LINE
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA
AUGUST 1973I. TOXICITY DETERMINATION

It is determined that no hazard from Carbon Monoxide existed under conditions as observed on August 9, 1973. This determination is based upon (1) employee interviews in which no complaints regarding work conditions were expressed, nor were any symptoms associated with CO intoxication evident, (2) environmental samples indicating airborne CO levels well below Federal Standards, and (3) no past history of CO intoxications or similar symptoms as would be reflected in the OSHA Form 102, record of employee occupational illnesses and injuries.

II. DISTRIBUTION AND AVAILABILITY OF DETERMINATION REPORT

Copies of this Determination Report are available upon request from Hazard Evaluation Services Branch, Technical Services Branch, NIOSH, U.S. Post Office Building, Room 508, 5th and Walnut Streets, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202. Copies have been sent to:

- a) Ringsby United Freight Line, Los Angeles California
- b) Authorized Representative of Employees
- c) U.S. Department of Labor - Region IX
- d) NIOSH - Region IX

For the purposes of informing the affected employees, the employer will promptly "post" the Determination Report in a prominent place(s) near where affected employees work for a period of 30 calendar days.

III. INTRODUCTION

Section 20(a)(6) of the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 authorizes the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare, following a written request by any employer or authorized representative of employees, to determine whether any substance normally found in the place of employment has potentially toxic effects in such concentrations as used or found.

The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health received such a request from an authorized representative of employees regarding exposures to carbon monoxide and forklift trucks on the premise.

IV. HEALTH HAZARD EVALUATION

On August 9, 1973, NIOSH representative D. Jeff Burton conducted an investigation at the Ringsby facility in Los Angeles, California. With the assistance of the Terminal Manager, Assistant Manager and the Shop Steward, the following pertinent information was obtained:

(1) Excellent natural ventilation exists on the loading dock because the area in question is open on three sides. On August 9, a Southerly wind of about 5 m.p.h. effectively cleared the dock about every 5 minutes as observed by smoke tube testing.

(2) Four new forklifts were purchased 2 months ago replacing old forklifts.

(3) Employees now express "no complaints"

(4) Environmental samples taken in the area and on the operating forklifts indicated CO exposures were well below Federal Standards.*

(5) No history of CO intoxications were evident.

V. AUTHORSHIP

Report prepared by: D. Jeff Burton
Project Officer

Originating Office: Jerome P. Flesch, Chief
Hazard Evaluation Services Branch

*The Occupational Health Standard as promulgated by the U.S. Department of Labor (Title 29, CH. XVII, Part 1910, Subpart G,

Carbon Monoxide 50 parts per million, by volume 8-hour time weighted average.

VI. TABLE 1

TABLE 1. CO LEVELS, August 9, 1973

| Time | Location | Type Sample | P.P.M.* | Notes |
|-------|---------------|---|---------|----------------------------------|
| 10:45 | Outbound Dock | Area | N.D. | 1-2 Forklifts operating in area. |
| 10:50 | | | N.D. | |
| 10:55 | | | N.D. | |
| 11:00 | | | N.D. | |
| 11:05 | Outbound Dock | Breathing Zone Samples of Forklift operator | N.D. | While driving around dock |
| 11:08 | | | N.D. | |
| 11:10 | | | N.D. | |
| 11:12 | | | N.D. | |
| 11:15 | | | N.D. | |
| 11:20 | | | 15 | While inside trailer |
| 11:22 | | | 20 | |
| 11:25 | | | 10 | |

Total time per shift - 8 hours

Estimated total time Driving forklift/shift - 6 hours

Estimated total time Inside trailer/shift - 2 hours

$$\text{TWA (8 hour)} = \frac{(2)(15)}{8} \cong 5 \text{ p.p.m.}$$

*Parts per million measured with an MSA portable CO indicator, Model D

N.D. - None detected