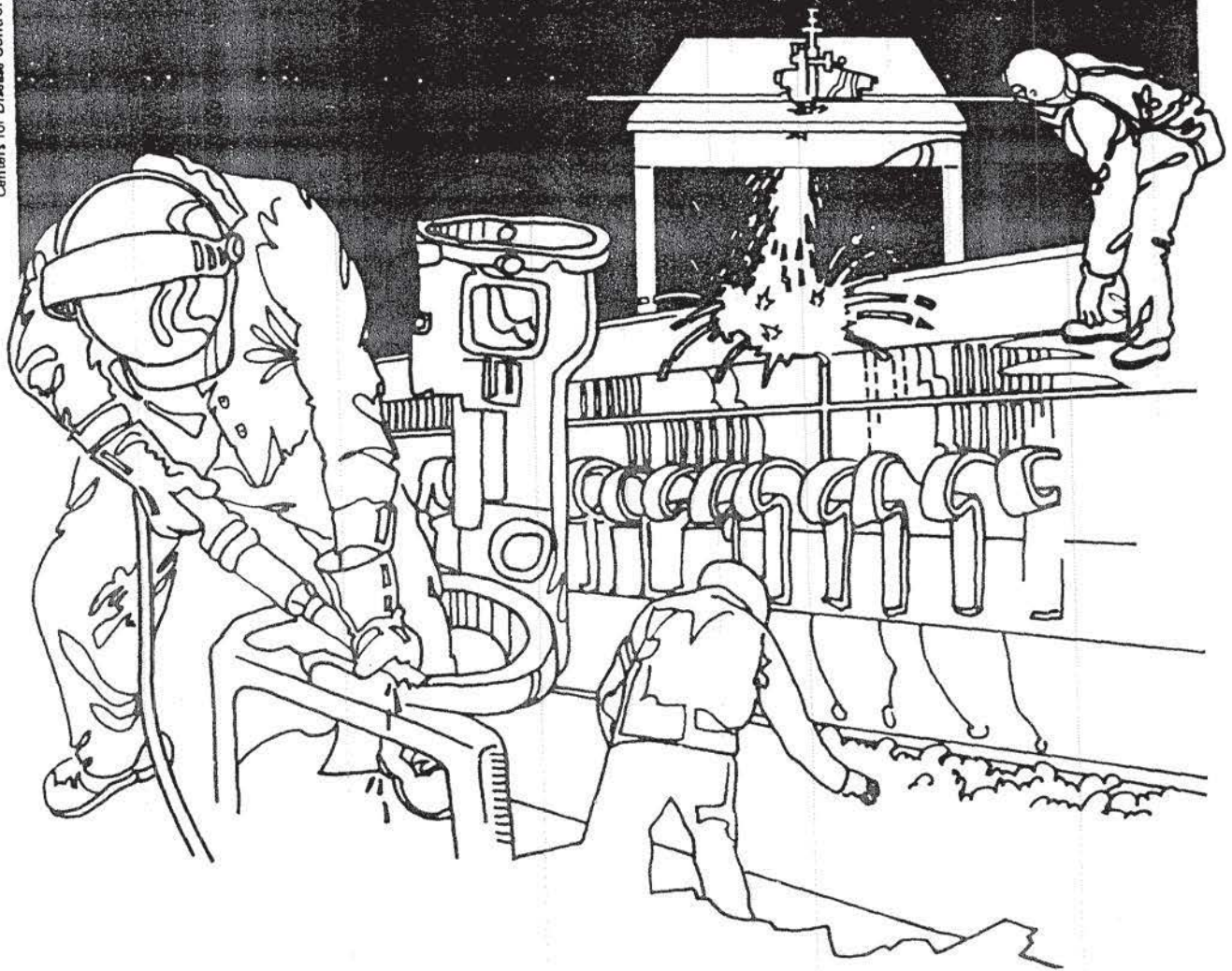


# NIOSH



## Health Hazard Evaluation Report

HETA 82-124-1141  
MAZZA GALLERIE! PRODUCTIONS  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

## PREFACE

The Hazard Evaluations and Technical Assistance Branch of NIOSH conducts field investigations of possible health hazards in the workplace. These investigations are conducted under the authority of Section 20(a)(6) of the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, 29 U.S.C. 669(a)(6) which authorizes the Secretary of Health and Human Services, following a written request from 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 Hazard Evaluations and Technical Assistance Branch also provides, upon request, medical, nursing, and industrial hygiene technical and consultative assistance (TA) to Federal, state, and local agencies; labor; industry and other groups or individuals to control occupational health hazards and to prevent related trauma and disease.

Mention of company names or products does not constitute endorsement by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health.

HETA 82-124-1141  
JULY 1982  
MAZZA GALLERIE! PRODUCTIONS  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

NIOSH INVESTIGATOR:  
William N. Albrecht, M.S.

I. SUMMARY

On January 26, 1982, Mazza Gallerie! Productions, Washington, D.C. requested the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) to conduct a health hazard evaluation of their management office at 5300 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W. Mazza Gallerie! Productions manages a mall-shopping center. The office uses a xerographic copier on an intermittent basis. Both employees complained of burning and itching eyes, headaches, and cough.

An environmental survey was performed on February 19, 1982. Carbon monoxide (CO) and formaldehyde detector tubes samples were taken. Two charcoal tube samples for non-specific volatile organics were collected. Various atmospheric parameters such as temperature, humidity, and wet-bulb globe-temperature (WBGT), an index of temperature-comfort conditions, were measured.

Carbon monoxide was present at approximately 7 ppm which is roughly in the range of typical street concentrations in the area. (NIOSH recommends a 35 ppm/10 hour time-weighted-average exposure level). Formaldehyde, if present, was at concentrations lower than 0.5 ppm. A gas-chromatographic mass spectrographic scan did not detect any non-specific volatile organics. The average office temperature was 73°F; the humidity 29%; the WBGT 72°F.

The American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists (ACGIH) recommends that the WBGT, an index of heat stress, for a continuous work regimen under a light work load not exceed 86°F. General dilution ventilation appeared adequate. Smoke tube inspection of the intake and exhaust vents showed them to be working properly.

On the basis of the environmental sampling conducted at Mazza Gallerie, no health hazard could be identified at the time of the survey.

KEYWORDS: SIC 5310, Department Stores, office environment

II. AUTHORSHIP AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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III. DISTRIBUTION AND AVAILABILITY OF REPORT

Copies of this report are currently available upon request from NIOSH, Division of Standards Development and Technology Transfer, 4676 Columbia Parkway, Cincinnati, Ohio 45226. After 90 days, the report will be available through the National Technical Information Service (NTIS), 5285 Port Royal, Springfield, Virginia 22161. Information regarding its availability through NTIS can be obtained from NIOSH Publications Office at the Cincinnati address. Copies of this report have been sent to:

1. Mazza Gallerie! Productions, Washington, D.C.
2. NIOSH, Region III
3. OSHA, Region III

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

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