The Role of Industry in the Elimination of Lead in Paint

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Despite the known risks lead paint has been used by painters throughout the centuries.

Dong Shou (冬壽), Anak Tomb No. 3, North Korea, 357 A.D.

White lead from the workshop of Albrecht Dürer, Nürnberg, Germany

Portrait of the mother, Albrecht Dürer, around 1490 (with x-ray)
Today, globally some 67 countries have “legally binding controls” on lead in paint (restricting use in more than 90% of production)

Source: WHO
The Different Roles of Industry

1. **Raise awareness** within the paint and coatings industry so that manufactures and their associations engage in the discussion in particular in countries and regions where no restrictions are in place.

2. **Promote lead-use restrictions** based on the UN Model Law in countries where there are no restrictions.

3. **Safeguard implementation** of restrictions where necessary by voluntary measures, like code of conducts and other self-imposed commitments.
The paint industry supports the Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead Paint

The IPPIC-Network:
The paint industry supports the elimination of lead paint globally

In 2018, IPPIC reaffirmed its 2009 policy statement:

“IPPIC notes the long-standing effectiveness of lead-use restrictions that are already in place in many jurisdictions around the world and recommends their widespread adoption by authorities not currently regulating the use of lead in paint and printing ink.

To this end, IPPIC supports the UN’s Lead Paint Alliance “Model Law”, as a useful starting point for both government and industry to collaborate on developing restrictions that ensure widespread and verifiable compliance.”
National Paint Associations Support

Example: German Paint Association VdL’s commitment:

- “All member companies of the VdL, in their conduct of their business, do not add lead to residential paint, thereby complying with the complete ban of lead compounds in decorative paints in Germany. In 1984, VdL had already publicly signed a voluntary agreement on the reduction of lead pigments in all coatings.

- Members of the German Paint and Printing Ink Association will not export decorative paint containing lead to countries where there is no legislative control on such.”
Ongoing industry support for the UN Lead Paint Alliance

- Developing updated **INDUSTRY MODULE** for the UN Toolkit on the GAELP/LPA web site

- Continuing **DIRECT ENGAGEMENT** with GOVERNMENTS, NGO’s and UN Agencies to put in place lead paint restrictions
  - PAST EXPERIENCE hosting industry workshops in Colombia (2017) with UNIDO and NGO participation
  - COMMITTED SUPPORT for the pending GEF-funded project

- Expanding **IMPLEMENTATION SUPPORT** when legal restrictions are in-place
  - ENGAGE the Supply Chain (expanding availability of alternative materials)
  - ENGAGE the Distribution Chain (educating sales outlets and end-users on compliance requirements, including product selection)
Ongoing industry support for the UN Lead Paint Alliance

• ORGANIZING REGIONAL INDUSTRY CHAMPIONS to advance industry workshops, support for lead paint restrictions and legal compliance:
  
  o In **Asia-Pacific** Region – Build on documented efforts of the Philippine Association of Paint Manufacturers (PAPM) showcased in recent forums
  
  o In **Latin American** Region – Update and translate current industry workshop materials, engage national and regional paint technical societies, and prepare to host additional workshop events in target countries (working with NGO’s and National Governments)
  
  o In **African Region** – Build on documented efforts by the South African Paint Manufacturers Association (SAPMA)