

### NATIONAL REPORT

## LEAD IN NEW ENAMEL HOUSEHOLD PAINTS IN THE PHILIPPINES

November 2013



Ec Waste Coalition





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Prepared by:

Manny C. Calonzo Jeiel G. Guarino Moresa John Rome S. Tolibas Aileen G. Lucero Dr. Sara Brosché Dr. Scott Clark, Professor Emeritus Valerie Denney Jack Weinberg

#### **National Report**

Lead in New Enamel Household Paints in the Philippines

November 2013 Produced as part of the Asian Lead Paint Elimination Project Supported by the European Union's SWITCH Asia Programme

#### Disclaimer

While this publication has been produced with the assistance of the European Union, the contents of the publication are the sole responsibility of the EcoWaste Coalition together with IPEN and can in no way be taken to reflect the views of the European Union. In addition, this document was produced with financial contributions from the Swedish Environment Protection Agency, Swedish public development co-operation aid through the Swedish Society for Nature Conservation (SSNC). The views herein shall not necessarily be taken to reflect the official opinion of any of these donors, including SSNC or its donors.

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### Abbreviations

#### **Organizations and Other Entities**

| AIHA  | American Industrial Hygiene Association                    |
|-------|--|
| BHDT  | Philippine Bureau of Health Devices and Technology         |
| CDC   | United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention   |
| CPSC  | United States Consumer Product Safety Commission           |
| DENR  | Philippine Department of Environment and Natural Resources |
| DOH   | Philippine Department of Health                            |
| DTI   | Philippine Department of Trade and Industry                |
| EFSA  | European Food Safety Authority                             |
| EMB   | Philippine Environmental Management Bureau                 |
| EPA   | United States Environmental Protection Agency              |
| EU    | European Union   |
| GAELP | Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead Paint                    |
| ICCM  | International Conference on Chemicals Management           |
| IPEN  | International POPs Elimination Network                     |
| NGO   | Non-Governmental Organization                              |
| NSO   | Philippine National Statistics Office                      |
| PAPM  | Philippine Association of Paint Manufacturers, Inc.        |
| SPIK  | Samahan sa Pilipinas ng mga Industriyang Kimika            |
| SSNC  | Swedish Society for Nature Conservation                    |
| UNEP  | United Nations Environmental Programme                     |
| WHO   | World Health Organization                                  |
|       |  |

#### **Technical Terms**

| AO                            | Administrative Order   |
|-------------------------------|--|
| CCO                           | Chemical Control Order   |
| СРН                           | Census of Population and Housing                               |
| ELPAT                         | Environmental Lead Proficiency Analytical Testing              |
| HNO <sub>3</sub>              | Nitric Acid  |
| H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> | Hydrogen Peroxide  |
| ICP-AES                       | Inductively Coupled Plasma – Atomic Emission Spectrophotometer |
| LTO                           | License to Operate   |
| PCL                           | Priority Chemical List   |
| PNS                           | Philippine National Standards                                  |
| ppm                           | part per million   |
| XRF                           | X-ray Fluorescence   |

# Lead in New Enamel Household Paints in the Philippines

#### **Foreword**

This report presents new data on the lead content of household enamel paints that are offered for sale in the Philippine market. This is the third time that the Ecological Waste Coalition of the Philippines, Inc. (EcoWaste Coalition) has analyzed paints sold in the Philippines for their lead content. Previous studies were conducted in 2008 (25 samples, including 15 enamel paints) and 2010 (35 samples, of which 26 were enamel paints), representing a total of over 15 brands. The studies were conducted to determine the extent of lead paints in local commerce, and determine whether or not policy initiatives to eliminate lead paint are needed. By "lead paint," we mean a product where lead or lead compounds have been added to create a desired color, to make the paint dry fast, or to allow the paint to reduce corrosion on metal surfaces.

In this report, we present and discuss the findings from our latest and most extensive analysis of household enamel paints for lead content and compare these latest results with those from the previous studies. The report describes global efforts to eliminate lead paint, as well as parallel efforts by the Government of the Philippines, local industry and civil society to establish an effective regulation banning or restricting the manufacture, importation, distribution, sale and use of lead paints.

The report presents background information on why the present and former use of household enamel paints with high lead content is a source of serious concern, especially to children's health. It also proposes action steps by different stakeholders to protect children and others from lead paint and lead dust.

The report was prepared by the EcoWaste Coalition with support and assistance from the Asian Lead Paint Elimination Project, which was established to eliminate lead in paint and raise widespread awareness among business entrepreneurs and consumers about the adverse human health impacts of lead-based household enamel paints, particularly on the health of children under six years old.

The Asian Lead Paint Elimination Project is being implemented by IPEN over a period of three years in seven countries (Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Nepal, Philippines, Sri Lanka and Thailand) with funding from the European Union (EU) totaling €1.4 million. While this publication has been produced with the assistance of the European Union, the contents of the publication are the sole responsibility of the EcoWaste Coalition together with IPEN and can in no way be taken to reflect the views of the European Union. In addition, this document was produced with financial contributions from the Swedish Environment Protection Agency, Swedish public development co-operation aid through the Swedish Society for Nature Conservation (SSNC). The views herein shall not necessarily be taken to reflect the official opinion of any of these donors, including SSNC or its donors.

### **Executive Summary**

The Philippine paint manufacturing business is a booming industry, producing some 250 million liters of various paint products per year and enjoying at least a 5 percent growth rate as the nation's economy steadily flourishes. With an overall economic growth rate greater than 7 percent during the last four quarters, Philippine demand for coatings and paints is sure to grow as residential and commercial construction projects continue to expand.

As part of the seven-country European Union-funded Asian Lead Paint Elimination Project, the EcoWaste Coalition, from November 2012 to January 2013, bought 122 cans of enamel decorative paints from retailers in Metro Manila, Cebu City and Davao City and had them analyzed for total lead content by Certottica Scarls, an independent, private laboratory in Italy.

This sampling of enamel paints commonly used in homes and other places frequented by young children is the third and most extensive study of lead in paint conducted by the EcoWaste Coalition. As part of its advocacy for chemical safety, clean production and zero waste, EcoWaste Coalition has conducted three studies of lead in paint (2008, 2010 and 2013) in collaboration with IPEN and other public interest groups in order to determine the availability of lead paint in the domestic market and examine the need for an expedited phase out of lead paint.

#### **Childhood Lead Exposure**

A complete phase out of lead paint would protect millions of Filipino children from a highly preventable source of childhood lead exposure. According to the latest data from the Census of Population and Housing (CPH), there are over 10 million Filipino children aged 0-5 years old and another 10 million children aged 5-9 years old (NSO, 2012). As explained in the Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead Paint (GAELP) brochure, "children can be severely affected by eating lead-based paint chips, chewing on objects, including toys painted with lead-based paint, or from exposure to dust or soil that contains lead from paint."

Lead poisoning, described by the World Health Organization (WHO) in its report "Childhood Lead Poisoning" as a "scourge to human health for millennia," is known to cause adverse health impacts to developing fetuses and young children that are "irreversible and untreatable by modern medicine," (WHO, 2010).

According to the WHO, "at high levels of acute exposure, lead attacks the brain and central nervous system to cause coma, convulsions and even death," and that "children who survive acute lead poisoning are typically left with grossly obvious mental retardation and behavioral disruption," (WHO, 2010).

.....

"At lower levels of exposure that cause no obvious symptoms and that previously were considered safe, lead is now known to produce a spectrum of injury that causes loss of cognition, shortening of attention span, alteration of behavior, dyslexia, attention deficit disorder, hypertension, renal impairment, immunotoxicity and toxicity to the reproductive organs," the WHO further said (WHO, 2010).

EcoWaste Coalition is a national network of more than 150 public interest groups working on waste, climate, chemical, social justice and development issues. It envisages a zero waste and toxics-free Philippines and strives to attain such a vision by fostering and supporting activism around priority concerns in line with the people's constitutional rights to health and to a balanced and healthful ecology.

IPEN is an international NGO network of over 700 health and environmental organizations from all regions of the world in which the EcoWaste Coalition participates. IPEN is a leading global organization working to establish and implement safe chemicals policies and practices to protect human health and the environment. Its mission is a toxics-free future for all. IPEN helps build the capacity of its member organizations to implement on-the-ground activities, learn from each other's work, and work at the international level to set priorities and achieve new policies.

The European Union is made up of 28 Member States who have decided to gradually link together their know-how, resources and destinies. Together, during a period of enlargement of 50 years, they have built a zone of stability, democracy and sustainable development, while maintaining cultural diversity, tolerance and individual freedom. The European Union is committed to sharing its achievements and its values with countries and people beyond its borders.

Manila, Philippines, November 2013

Manny C. Calonzo Regional Specialist Asian Lead Paint Elimination Project

The term "decorative paint," as used in this report, refers to paints that are produced for use on the inside or outside walls and surfaces of homes, schools, commercial buildings and similar structures. Decorative paints are frequently used on fixtures such as doors, gates and windows, and to

repaint household furniture such as cribs, playpens, tables and chairs. The term "enamel," as used in this report, refers to oil-based paints.

#### **Study Results**

Out of the 122 paints, 75 products (61 percent) were found to contain lead above the recommended regulatory limit of 90 parts per million (ppm, dry weight), and if exported would be illegal to sell in the U.S. and in other developed economies. The highest recorded lead content from all the sampled paints was 156,000 ppm, while the average lead content for all 122 paint samples was 18,500 ppm.

On the other hand, 47 paint products (39 percent) had low levels of lead and were compliant with the proposed 90 ppm limit for lead in paint. Twenty-three of these samples were white enamel paints with three of the white paints registering the lowest amount of lead at less than 8 ppm.

Other salient findings include:

- Out of the 75 paint samples with lead content higher than 90 ppm, 48 products (64 percent) were found to have dangerously high lead levels exceeding 10,000 ppm.
- Of the 73 bright-colored paints, 57 (78 percent) yellow, red and orange-colored paints had lead levels greater than 90 ppm.

With respect to product labeling, the study showed that current labeling practices are inconsistent and insufficient to help consumers make informed purchasing decisions with essential information such as lead content and lead dust hazards lacking on most labels.

Comparing the results from the 2013 paint sampling with those conducted in 2008 and 2010 showed that lead content in paints sold in the Philippines has not dramatically changed since 2008, and that significant concentrations of lead are still commonly added to these products. In all three studies, approximately 60 to 70 percent of samples had lead content above 90 ppm (Table 1).

Table 1. Comparison of Results from Paint Analyses Performed in 2013, 2010 and 2008.

| Year | No. of Paints<br>Analyzed | No. of Paints with<br>Lead Levels Over<br>90 ppm | No. of Paints with<br>Lead Levels Over<br>600 ppm | No. of Paints with<br>Lead Levels Over<br>10,000 ppm | Highest<br>Lead Level<br>Detected |
|------|---------------------------|--|---|--|-----------------------------------|
| 2013 | 122 enamel paints         | 75 (61%)   | 63 (52%)  | 48 (39%)   | 156,000                           |
| 2010 | 35 enamel paints          | 24 (69%)   | 23 (66%)  | 17 (49%)   | 161,700 <sup>1</sup>              |
| 2008 | 15 enamel paints          | 10 (67%)   | 9 (60%)   | 6 (40%)  | 189,163.5²                        |

<sup>1</sup> EcoWaste Coalition, 2010. PH Paint Samples Tested Positive for High Lead Content.

<sup>2</sup> Kumar, 2009. Lead in New Decorative Paints, p. 17-20.

#### **Conclusions and Recommendations**

As no level of lead exposure is considered safe for children - a fact that Department of Health (DOH) Secretary Enrique T. Ona himself confirmed through his letter to the EcoWaste Coalition on 24 October 2011 the high percentage of paints with lead exceeding the 90 ppm limit at 61 percent is undeniably disturbing.

However, the fact that samples from 39 percent of the paints, mostly locally manufactured, had lead content below 90 ppm, indicates that producing paints with no or low levels of lead is economically viable, technically feasible and practically achievable.

To stop the current practice of adding lead or lead compounds to paint products, support an industry shift to non-lead paint formulations, and ultimately protect the health of children, women of child-bearing age, workers and the environment at large, the EcoWaste Coalition recommends the following:

- consumer products not compliant with lead restrictions.
- minimize occupational exposures to lead paint."
- products with no lead added.
- health and occupational health risks linked with lead paints and lead dust.
- environment.



· For the government and relevant agencies: Fast track the approval and enforcement of a strong regulation that will ban the manufacture, importation, distribution, sale and use of household paint products with total lead content (dry weight) above 90 parts per million (ppm). Provide incentives for paint companies to swiftly transition from lead to non-lead paint production. Require standard paint container labeling on lead content and lead dust hazards. Strengthen enforcement mechanisms to prevent the entry of paints, toys and other

· For the paint industry: Discontinue the use of lead as driers or pigments and other purposes in paint formulations, shift to non-lead substitutes and commit to an expedited switch to non-lead paint products, starting with enamel decorative paints, to "prevent children's exposure to paints containing lead and to

· For individual, household and institutional consumers: Seek out and buy unleaded paints for safer homes and facilities, adopt lead-safe procurement policies and contribute to increasing market demand for paint

For doctors and other health professionals: Support policy measures that will reduce, if not eliminate, childhood lead exposure from all sources, and join the ongoing efforts to inform the public about childhood

· For all stakeholders: Cooperate in establishing a reliable third-party certification program to ensure that paints sold in the market meet the proposed regulatory standard of 90 ppm. Support the Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead Paint (GAELP) and strengthen the national partnership among stakeholders to phase out lead paints and subsequently eradicate the risks that such products present to human health and the

### Introduction and Background to the Lead Paint Issue



Lead is a toxic metal, which can be found in paints when a paint manufacturer intentionally adds one or more lead compounds to the paint for some purpose. The lead compounds most commonly added to paint are pigments that give the paint its color. Lead compounds commonly used as paint pigments include: lead chromates, lead oxides, lead molybdates and lead sulfates. These are added to produce bright colors such as yellow, red, orange and green. Lead compounds may also be added to paint to serve as drying agents and catalysts in oil-based paints. These make the paint dry faster and more evenly. Lead-based corrosion resistance agents are sometimes added to paints that are used on metal surfaces in order to inhibit rust and corrosion. The most common of these is lead tetroxide, sometimes called red lead or minium.

Good, cost-effective substitutes for all the lead

compounds that are used in making household enamel paints have been widely available since the 1980s and even before. Paint manufacturers that currently produce household enamel paints with added lead compounds could easily reformulate their paints using these substitutes with very little, if any, impact on the characteristics and prices of the paints they produce. There is no good reason for paint manufacturers to continue producing paints with added lead compounds, especially since the childhood health hazards associated with lead paint are very serious and welldocumented.

When a paint manufacturer does not intentionally add lead compounds in the formulation of his paints, the lead content of the paint will be very low - almost always less than 90 ppm (total lead, dry weight). If a paint manufacturer cautiously selects ingredients without lead as a contaminant, the lead content of the paint will often be as low as 10 ppm or less.

EcoWaste Coalition and IPEN suggest 90 ppm as a realistic and achievable international standard for lead in paint. Although several health experts worldwide have not determined a level of lead exposure that is deemed safe, 90 ppm total lead is the existing standard for household paints in the U.S. and Canada, and is currently being adopted by other countries as well.

In almost all cases where recent studies have been made, water-based paints (also called latex or acrylic paints) do not contain added lead. On the other hand, in most developing countries and countries with transitional economies where paints have recently been analyzed for their lead content, many of the oil-based paints (also called enamel paints) contain high lead content. For this reason, the current study, Lead in New Enamel Household Paints in the Philippines, selected only oil-based paints for total lead content analysis.

### Lead Exposure to Children and Its Health Effects

Children are not generally exposed to lead from paint while the paint is still in the can or even when the paint is being newly applied to a previously unpainted or uncoated surface. Rather, the lead exposure generally occurs after the lead paint has already dried on the wall or on the article that has been painted.

Painted surfaces age, weather, and chip with time. Any lead that is in the paint then enters indoor and outdoor dusts and soils in and around the painted home or building. Children have an innate curiosity to explore their world and engage in developmentally appropriate hand-to-mouth behavior. When playing in lead-contaminated environments, the dust and soil that they ingest will carry lead. Children six years and under are especially the group most easily harmed by exposure to lead. For example, a typical one to six year old child ingests approximately 100 milligrams of house dust and soil each day (WHO, 2010).

Ingesting paint chips can be especially harmful since their lead content can be much higher than what is typically found in dust and soils. In some cases, children may pick up paint chips and put them into their mouth. In addition, when toys or other articles are painted with lead paint, children may chew on them and directly ingest the leadcontaminated dried paint. However, the most common way in which children ingest lead is through lead-containing dust.

Children and workers are especially at risk when surfaces that were previously painted with lead paint are repainted or disturbed by construction or other activities. Workmen may sand, dry scrape, grind, or in other ways, disturb the old painted surface and produce large quantities of dust with very high lead content.

Exposure to lead is much more harmful to children than adults, and the health effects are generally irreversible and can have a lifelong impact (WHO, 2010). The younger the child, the more harmful lead exposure can be. The human fetus is the most vulnerable and a pregnant woman can transfer lead that has accumulated in her body to that of her developing child. That means that lead can poison several generations, and not only one person during active exposure.

Children are more biologically susceptible to lead exposure than adults for several reasons including:

- untreatable:
- associated increased risk of disease later in life: and
- even more increased rate.

Evidence of reduced intelligence caused by childhood exposure to lead has led the World Health Organization (WHO) to list "lead caused mental retardation" as a recognized disease. WHO also lists it as one of the top ten diseases whose health burden among children is due to modifiable environmental factors (WHO, 2006).

In recent years, medical researchers have been documenting significant health impacts on children from lower lead exposures (Needleman, 2004). In response, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and other authorities have concluded that there is no known acceptable lead exposure level for children (EFSA, 2010).

 A child's brain undergoes very rapid growth, development and differentiation and lead interferes with this process. Brain damage caused by chronic, low-level exposure to lead during early years is irreversible and

Exposure to lead early in life can re-program genes, which can lead to altered gene expression and an

Gastrointestinal absorption of lead is enhanced in childhood. Up to 50 percent of ingested lead is absorbed by children, as compared with 10 percent in adults. (Pregnant women may also absorb more ingested lead than other adults). In those children who suffer from nutritional deficiencies, ingested lead is absorbed at an

### Global Lead Paint Elimination Efforts

The use of lead in household enamel paints is a matter of global concern. At an International Conference on Chemicals Management (ICCM) held in 2009, lead paints were identified by consensus to be international priority issues of concern. Representatives of the Government of the Philippines, particularly from the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, participated in this conference and its decisions.

In response to the ICCM decision, the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP) and the WHO jointly initiated a global partnership to eliminate the use of lead compounds in paints in order to protect public health and the environment. This partnership is called the Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead Paint (GAELP), and its overall goal is to prevent children's exposure to lead via paints containing lead and to minimize occupational exposures to lead in paint. GAELP's broad objective is to phase out the manufacture and sale of paints containing lead and. eventually, to eliminate the risks from such paints.



At the third ICCM assembly in 2012, conference participants and representatives from various governments including that of the Philippines agreed by consensus to call upon governments, civil society organizations, and the private sector to support GAELP's objectives by:

- Raising awareness about lead in paint's toxicity to human health including young children, paint users and the workers in paint production facilities;
- Filling information gaps by analyzing paints for their total lead content in countries where little or no data is available:
- Promoting national regulatory frameworks, as appropriate, to stop the manufacture, import, export, sale and use of lead paints and products coated with lead paints;
- Encouraging paint manufacturing companies to substitute lead compounds added to paint with safer alternatives; and
- Establishing prevention programs to reduce exposure in and around housing, childcare facilities, schools and other buildings where lead paint has been used in the past.

### Philippines' Framework for Eliminating Lead Paint

#### **Regulations**

During the 1970's and 1980's, most highly industrialized countries enacted laws, regulations or mandatory standards on lead in paint to protect the health of their people. These policies generally prohibit the manufacture, import, sale or use of lead paint for interiors or exteriors of homes, schools and commercial buildings. In recent years, these regulations have become increasingly stringent. The standard adopted by the United States imposes an upper limit of 90 ppm on total lead (dry weight) for household enamel paints, as well as other types of paints. Other countries have adopted mandatory limits in the range of 90 to 600 ppm total lead (dry weight). The EcoWaste Coalition and other NGOs associated with the IPEN network generally promote a standard threshold of 90 ppm total lead (dry weight) as one that is totally achievable and significantly important in reducing toxic exposure.

For decades, highly industrialized countries have already turned to safer alternatives to lead compounds in their production of household enamel paints. However, this is not the case in developing countries like the Philippines where many small and medium-sized paint companies still manufacture and sell household enamel paints with lead compounds as pigments and drying agents.

The lack of a specific regulation that bans or restricts the use of lead paint is putting millions of Filipino children at risk for lead exposure and poisoning. According to the 2010 Census of Population and Housing (CPH), the Philippine household population reached over 92 million, of which there are over 10 million Filipino children (11 percent) in their golden years of development (0-5 years old) and another 10 million (11 percent) children aged 5-9 years old (NSO, 2012).

Recognizing the problem, the Philippine government through the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) has put lead and its compounds in the country's First Priority Chemicals List. These are chemicals that the DENR has determined to "potentially pose unreasonable risk to public health, workplace and the environment."

Efforts to craft a Chemical Control Order (CCO) on lead and lead compounds began in 2007, but did not move forward until the EcoWaste Coalition drew the attention of the media, industry leaders and lawmakers to the issue with its studies on lead paint in the local market.

Starting in 2011, the EcoWaste Coalition also discovered and publicized outrageous levels of lead in toys and other children's articles, playground equipment, vinyl flooring materials, beverage and food containers, cosmetics, and seasonal products such as Chinese New Year lucky charms, Christmas lights, candles, fireworks, and election campaign materials, which all contributed to amplifying the problem with lead in paint and consumer products.

In 2011 and 2012, the Environmental Management Bureau (EMB) responded to the clamor from public interest groups for a strong health-based policy and called for a series of stakeholders' meetings, which resuscitated the dormant process of crafting a CCO for lead and lead compounds.

In its letter to the DENR-EMB in February 2013, the EcoWaste Coalition pointed out that the nation will suffer the dire consequences of having no effective policy to curb lead exposure. The group warned that the country will:

- behavioral problems caused by lead exposure;"
- pregnant women;"

· "End up with more people, especially young children, women of child-bearing age and workers, unsuspectingly exposed to lead and falling victims to the often irreversible neurological, reproductive, developmental and

"End up with more lead-tainted homes, day care centers, schools, playgrounds and other facilities frequented by children that will require costly remediation to make these facilities safe, especially for young children and

- "End up with more lead-containing consumer products such as toys and cosmetics entering our ports and markets without restraint, and thereby making our nation a dumping ground for unsafe goods;" and
- "End up with more hazardous lead-contaminated waste stream, making waste collection, recycling and disposal more risky for waste workers and recyclers."

In September 2013, the DENR-EMB developed a final version of the CCO for lead and lead compounds that is now awaiting final approval. The scope and coverage of the CCO will apply to the importation, distribution, manufacture and use of lead and lead compounds, as well as the storage, transport and disposal of its wastes.

Once the CCO is approved, it will specifically prohibit lead compounds in all types of paints regardless of whether they are used as pigments, drying agents or for some other intentional uses beyond the allowable limit of 90 ppm. In addition, the CCO proposes different phase-out periods for lead-containing household and industrial paints. For architectural and decorative household paints, the phase-out period will be three years, while for automotive, aviation and industrial paints, the phase-out period will be six years upon the approval and issuance of the CCO.

Table 2 shows the existing relevant regulations and policies associated with lead and lead compounds. These regulations, however, cover a wide array of applications of lead paint and are not specific to the use of lead compounds in the production of paints.

Table 2. Philippine Regulations and Policies on Lead and Lead Compounds.

| Regulations and Policies   | Description  |
|--|--|
| DENR Administrative Order (AO) No. 1998-58 or the<br>"Priority Chemical List (PCL)"  | Recognizes lead compounds as one of the priority chemicals that<br>needs regulation<br>Requires users, importers, distributors and manufacturers of lead<br>compounds to comply with specific requirements before the issuance<br>of the PCL compliance certificate  |
| DENR AO No. 2007-23 "Prescribing Additional<br>Requirements for the Issuance of the PCL<br>Compliance Certificate"   | Redefines procedural guidelines and requirements to be followed in securing the PCL certification for lead compounds<br>Guides the DENR in monitoring the importation, handling, use, distribution and disposal of toxic lead compounds  |
| Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) – Philippine<br>National Standard (PNS) 1408-3:1998 / IDT:ISO<br>8124-3:1997(E) – Safety of Toys – Migration of<br>Certain Elements – Specification   | Sets an allowable limit of 90 ppm for lead compounds in toys   |
| Department of Health (DOH) – Bureau of Health<br>Devices and Technology (BHDT) AO No. 2007-0032<br>or the "Regulations on the Issuance of a License<br>to Operate (LTO) to Companies that Manufacture,<br>Import or Distribute Toys for the Philippine Market" | Requires establishments engaged in the manufacture of toys to<br>secure an LTO and to register their products in compliance with the<br>DTI-PNS for Safety of Toys<br>Requires all toys in the market to bear correct information labeling<br>such as the duly registered business name and address of the<br>manufacturer and/or distributor; place, country, and date of<br>manufacture; LTO number; warning and/or precautionary indications;<br>and instructions on toy's usage, functions, features, and assembly |
| DOH-BHDT AO No. 2009-0005 or the Revised<br>Policies and Guidelines on AO No. 2007-0032  | Establishes, innovates and improves the procedures and the health and safety requirements for toys marketed in the Philippines   |
| DOH-BHDT AO No. 2009-0005-B or the Addendum<br>to AO No. 2009-0005   | Includes indoor and outdoor playground toys/equipment such as slides, swings   |

### **The Philippine Paint and Coatings Industry**

The paint manufacturing industry in the Philippines was established in 1911.

The Philippine Association of Paint Manufacturers, Inc. (PAPM), a privately operated, non-stock, non-profit, nonsectarian, and non-political organization formed in 1961, is currently composed of 72 companies, of which 21 are paint manufacturers and 51 are suppliers and associates (PAPM 2012).

The majority of Philippine paint manufacturers have offices and plant facilities located within metropolitan Manila and nearby provinces where construction and industrial activities are centered and where there is good access to raw materials and developed systems of power, transport and communication facilities (SPIK, 2010).

According to the PAPM, 50 percent of coatings consumed in the Philippines are oil-based, 48 percent are waterbased, and the remaining 2 percent are other types of coatings. The country's paint manufacturers, based on PAPM's calculations, are capable of producing approximately the equivalent of 250 million liters of finished products per annum. An annual growth rate of 5 percent is predicted for architectural coatings as building activity expands and the economy grows at a modest rate (PAPM, 2012).

Leading the pack is Pacific Paint (Boysen) Philippines, Inc. Founded in 1953, Boysen claims a 70 percent market share and is the largest domestic exporter of architectural paints in South East Asia. With the biggest and most modern paint production plant in the region, Boysen is the only local paint manufacturer capable of producing its own raw materials (Boysen Paints, 2013). Boysen announced that all paint products coming out of its factories, whether water or oil-based, are lead free and voluntarily phased out its lead-containing products starting in 2007 (Murao and Ono, 2012).

In its July 2013 issue, Coatings World ranked Pacific Paint (Boysen) Philippines, Inc. as the 52nd largest paint company in the world with an estimate income of \$230 million in 2012. It is also the second highest Southeast Asian paint company in terms of annual revenue, next only to Thailand's TOA Group (ranked 45th), which recorded an estimate sales of \$290 million last year (Pianoforte, 2013).

A paint market survey conducted by the EcoWaste Coalition of various retail paint outlets in the country identified 50 types of oil-based paints from 29 paint manufacturers. Among the major paint brands are Boysen and Nation (Pacific Paint (Boysen) Philippines, Inc.); Davies, Coat Saver and E-Z Coat (Charter Chemical and Coating Corp.); Dutch Boy (United Paints, Inc.); and Welcoat (Asian Coatings Philippines, Inc.).

Other paint brands in the market include Olympic (Century Chemical Corp.); A-Plus (FH Colors and Coatings Corp.); Canadian, Manor and Sphero (Globesco, Inc.); Universal and Popular (H-Chem Industries, Inc.); Challenger (Mayon Industrial Corp.); Triton, Rosco and Lotus (Roosevelt Chemical Industries, Inc.); Domino (Super Globe, Inc.); Minnesota (Sycwin Coating and Wires, Inc.); Master and Weiser (Times Paint Corp.); and Island (Treasure Island Industrial Corp.).

Larger paint companies such as Charter Chemical and Coating Corp. and Pacific Paint (Boysen) Philippines, Inc., with an estimated combined market share of about 80 percent, have voluntarily eliminated the use of lead-based raw materials. Many smaller paint companies, according to the PAPM, have also stopped using lead as drying agents.

Guided by the theme "Technological Innovations for a More Environmentally Sustainable Paint Industry," the PAPM has participated in policy consultations for the phase out of lead paints and conducted technical courses and activities in line with its "green" initiatives.

The PAPM has likewise collaborated with the EcoWaste Coalition and IPEN to raise awareness of its corporate members about the hazards of lead, build knowledge and transfer skills on lead paint abatement and remediation, and create consensus for a third-party certification program for no lead added paint.



### Materials and Methods of Paint Analysis

From November 2012 to January 2013, the EcoWaste Coalition, with help and support from its staff and volunteers, purchased 122 cans of enamel decorative paints and 17 repacked enamel paints from various stores in Metro Manila, Cebu City and Davao City. These paints from 34 different brands were produced by 24 manufacturers. In most cases, the EcoWaste Coalition selected one white paint and another bright-colored paint such as red, orange or yellow. The availability of these paints in retail establishments suggested that they were intended to be used within home environments. Excluded were automotive and industrial paints that are not typically used for domestic housing applications or for painting toys.

Paint sampling preparation kits containing individually numbered, untreated wood pieces, single-use paintbrushes and stirring utensils made from untreated wood sticks were assembled and shipped to the EcoWaste Coalition by the staff of the IPEN partner NGO, Arnika, in the Czech Republic.

Each can of paint was thoroughly stirred and was subsequently applied onto individually numbered triplicates of untreated wood pieces using different unused single-use paintbrushes by the staff of the EcoWaste Coalition as shown in Figure 1.



Figure 1. Preparation of Paint Samples.

Each stirring utensil and paintbrush was used only once, and extra caution was taken to avoid cross contamination. All samples were then allowed to dry at room temperature for five to six days. After drying, the painted wood pieces were placed in individual resealable plastic bags and shipped to the Certottica Laboratory in Italy for analysis.

Certottica is accredited by ACCREDIA - the Italian Accreditation System, which is the Italian National Accreditation Body appointed by the State. This laboratory participates in the Environmental Lead Proficiency Analytical Testing (ELPAT) program operated by the AIHA under a program established by the US EPA.

The laboratory removed a quantity of paint off the wood pieces by abrasion. The paint chips were then weighed into a hot block digestion tube and were subsequently digested according to the test method CPSC-CH-E1003-09.1, which is the standard operating procedure for determining lead in paint and other similar surface coatings (US CPSC, 2011).

The process of digestion began as scraped paint chips were placed in a borosilicate glass beaker, in which 3 mL of HNO3 and 1 mL of 30 percent H2O2 were added. The beaker was first covered with a watch glass and was subsequently heated on a hotplate (from an initial temperature of 85 °C, the surface temperature gradually increases until it reaches approximately 140 °C) until most of the acid evaporated. This treatment was repeated twice. The beaker containing the sample was removed from the hotplate and was allowed to cool to room temperature.

The watch glass was then rinsed with approximately 3 to 5 mL of 10 percent HNO<sub>3</sub> and the solution was subjected to low heat to ensure slow evaporation and prevent complete vaporization of the solution. The digested solution was then allowed to cool to room temperature, after which 1 mL of HNO3 was added to the residue, to dissolve any remaining soluble species. The walls of the beaker and the bottom of the watch glass were rinsed with deionized water and the resulting solution was transferred into a volumetric flask and was brought to volume using deionized water.

Lead in the digestates was analyzed by an Inductively Coupled Plasma - Atomic Emission Spectrophotometer (ICP-AES), Thermo Scientific iCAP 6000 Series, using yttrium (2 mg/L) as an internal standard.

The laboratory's lower limit of detection for the lead concentration in the paint samples is dependent on the amount of paint in the samples. Generally, for 100 mg of paint scraped off the wood pieces the lowest detection limit is 8 ppm, but for a smaller amount of paint the detection limit increases. Therefore, the lead content in the samples from three of the paints is reported as below 8 ppm and below 9 ppm in samples from seven of the paints.

### **Results and Discussion**

#### **Summary of Results**

75 household enamel paints (61 percent) contained lead above 90 ppm. putting young children and pregnant women at risk of lead poisoning. All of these paints will not be permitted for sale in most of the international markets.

48 household enamel paints (39 percent) had dangerously high lead content greater than 10,000 ppm, and can be considered a particular problem.

47 household enamel paints (39 percent) contained lead below 90 ppm, 23 of which were white enamel paints.

times the draft CCO threshold limit of 90 ppm.

The average lead concentration of the sampled household enamel paints is 18,500 ppm, 206 times greater than the recommended standard limit of 90 ppm.

lead levels greater than 90 ppm.

Paint labels were found to contain insufficient information as product ingredients, including whether the product contained lead, were not fully disclosed, manufacturing and expiration dates were not explicitly displayed, and warning signs indicating that lead dust are hazardous to children and pregnant women were not specified.

There is no conclusive correlation between the price of household enamel paints and the amount of lead in them. The highest-priced paint - 1 L white-colored basecoat paint - costs PhP 769.82 and contained only 9 ppm of lead. On the other hand, one of the two lowest-priced paints - 60 mL vellowcolored quick-dry enamel paint - costs PhP 15.00 and contained 89,000 ppm of lead. The 60 mL orangecolored tinting paint which registered the highest lead content of 156,000 ppm costs PhP 55.00.

The top 10 new enamel household paints with the highest amounts of lead are summarized in Table 3.

#### Table 3. Top Ten Household Enamel Paints with the Highest Lead Concentrations.

| Rank Brand C | ount |
|--------------|------|
| 1 B-30       | Ph   |
| 2 B-01       | Ph   |
| 3 B-15       | Ph   |
| 4 B-15       | Ph   |
| 5 B-13       | Ph   |
| 6 B-13       | Ph   |
| 7 B-22       | Ph   |
| 8 B-30       | Ph   |
| 9 B-11       | Ph   |
| 10 B-22      | Ph   |

#### An orange-colored tinting paint showed the highest total lead concentration of 156,000 ppm, 1,730

#### 57 out of 73 bright-colored paints (78 percent) such as red, orange and yellow were found to have

ry of Origin Color Lead Content (ppm) 156,000 ilippines Orange ilippines Lemon Yellow 126,000 114,000 Yellow ilippines 103.000 ilippines Lemon Yellow 94.000 ilippines Yellow Yellow 89,000 ilippines Lemon Yellow 84.000 ilippines ilippines Red 83.000 ilippines Yellow 77.000 Lemon Yellow 68,000 ilippines

### **Results and Discussion**

#### **Total Lead Content Analysis**

The majority of paints analyzed had a total lead content above 90 ppm and could not be sold in most industrialized countries.

A total of 122 cans of household enamel paints representing 34 different brands by 24 manufacturers were purchased in the Philippines. Appendix 1 shows the complete sampling details of these household paints clustered and ranked according to their total lead content.

- 75 or 61 percent of the 122 household enamel paints were found to have a total lead content greater than 90 ppm. The remaining 47 household enamel paints (39 percent) had a lead content below the 90 ppm recommended limit. The total lead content distribution of household enamel paints is shown in Figure 2.
- The average concentration of all analyzed paints was 18,500 ppm or 206 times greater than the recommended standard limit of 90 ppm. An orange-colored tinting paint



Total Lead Content (dry weight) > 90 ppm

Figure 2. Total Lead Content Distribution of Household Enamel Paints.Range.

showed the highest total lead concentration of 156,000 ppm. On the other hand, one white and one delftblue guick-dry enamel paints, as well as a white-colored flat wall enamel paint registered the lowest total lead concentration of <8 ppm. The distribution of household enamel paints grouped according to their lead concentration range is shown in Table 4.

More than a third of paints (48 samples, or 39 percent of 122 samples) analyzed had extremely high lead ٠ concentrations above 10,000 ppm. High lead concentrations from 600 ppm to 10,000 ppm were detected in 15 paint samples (12 percent) and moderately high lead concentrations from 90 ppm to 600 ppm were identified in 12 paint samples (10 percent). In total, 75 household enamel paints contained lead above 90 ppm, which may render young children and pregnant women at risk of lead poisoning. If exported, these paints will not qualify for sale in the US and in other developed countries. On the other hand, 47 paint samples (39 percent) had low lead concentrations below the recommended standard limit of 90 ppm.

Table 4. Distribution of Household Enamel Paints According to Lead Concentration Range.

| Concentration Range       | Concentration<br>Level | No. of<br>Samples | Lowest<br>Lead<br>Content<br>(ppm) | Highest Lead<br>Content<br>(ppm) | Average<br>Lead Content<br>(ppm) |
|---------------------------|------------------------|-------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| x* ≤ 90 ppm               | Low                    | 47 (38%)          | <8                                 | 81                               | 27                               |
| 90 ppm < x* ≤ 600 ppm     | Moderately High        | 12 (10%)          | 113                                | 510                              | 258                              |
| 600 ppm < x* ≤ 10,000 ppm | High                   | 15 (12%)          | 680                                | 6,000                            | 2,662                            |
| x* > 10,000 ppm           | Extremely High         | 48 (39%)          | 10,600                             | 156,000                          | 46,115                           |

\*"x" pertains to the total lead concentration (dry weight) of household enamel paints.

### **Results and Discussion**

#### Lead Concentration by Brand

More than three quarters of paint brands sampled sell paints with lead content above 90 ppm. Lead above 90 ppm was detected in paints from 26 out of the 34 analyzed paint brands. An enamel paint, B-30, registered the highest total lead concentration of 156,000 ppm. The distribution of lead concentration by brand is summarized in Table 5.

| Brand | No. of<br>Samples | No. of<br>Samples<br>Below 90<br>ppm | No. of<br>Samples<br>Above 90<br>ppm | No. of<br>Samples<br>Above 600<br>ppm | No. of<br>Samples<br>Above 10,000<br>ppm | Minimum<br>Lead Conc.<br>(ppm) | Maximum Lead<br>Conc. (ppm) |
|-------|-------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| B-01  | 2                 | 0                                    | 2                                    | 1                                     | 1  | 380                            | 126,000                     |
| B-02  | 9                 | 8                                    | 1                                    | 0                                     | 0  | <8                             | 113                         |
| B-03  | 2                 | 1                                    | 1                                    | 1                                     | 0  | 28                             | 720                         |
| B-04  | 4                 | 2                                    | 2                                    | 2                                     | 2  | 17                             | 40,000                      |
| B-05  | 3                 | 3                                    | 0                                    | 0                                     | 0  | 10                             | 39                          |
| B-06  | 3                 | 3                                    | 0                                    | 0                                     | 0  | 19                             | 55                          |
| B-07  | 6                 | 4                                    | 2                                    | 2                                     | 0  | 19                             | 4,600                       |
| B-08  | 2                 | 1                                    | 1                                    | 1                                     | 1  | 75                             | 57,000                      |
| B-09  | 7                 | 4                                    | 3                                    | 1                                     | 1  | <8                             | 11,000                      |
| B-10  | 1                 | 1                                    | 0                                    | 0                                     | 0  | 60                             | 60                          |
| B-11  | 5                 | 1                                    | 4                                    | 4                                     | 4  | 13                             | 77,000                      |
| B-12  | 9                 | 0                                    | 9                                    | 7                                     | 3  | 230                            | 39,000                      |
| B-13  | 4                 | 0                                    | 4                                    | 4                                     | 3  | 740                            | 94,000                      |
| B-14  | 5                 | 3                                    | 2                                    | 1                                     | 1  | 25                             | 18,000                      |
| B-15  | 6                 | 0                                    | 6                                    | 5                                     | 5  | 169                            | 114,000                     |
| B-16  | 1                 | 1                                    | 0                                    | 0                                     | 0  | 17                             | 17                          |
| B-17  | 1                 | 0                                    | 1                                    | 1                                     | 1  | 23,000                         | 23,000                      |
| B-18  | 4                 | 1                                    | 3                                    | 3                                     | 2  | 42                             | 29,000                      |
| B-19  | 7                 | 3                                    | 4                                    | 4                                     | 4  | 13                             | 32,000                      |
| B-20  | 2                 | 0                                    | 2                                    | 2                                     | 2  | 17,500                         | 27,000                      |
| B-21  | 1                 | 0                                    | 1                                    | 1                                     | 1  | 21,000                         | 21,000                      |
| B-22  | 4                 | 0                                    | 4                                    | 4                                     | 3  | 950                            | 84,000                      |
| B-23  | 4                 | 4                                    | 0                                    | 0                                     | 0  | <9                             | 14                          |
| B-24  | 1                 | 1                                    | 0                                    | 0                                     | 0  | <9                             | <9                          |
| B-25  | 1                 | 1                                    | 0                                    | 0                                     | 0  | <9                             | <9                          |
| B-26  | 4                 | 3                                    | 1                                    | 1                                     | 1  | 24                             | 49,000                      |
| B-27  | 4                 | 1                                    | 3                                    | 3                                     | 3  | 12                             | 49,000                      |
| B-28  | 1                 | 0                                    | 1                                    | 0                                     | 0  | 186                            | 186                         |
| B-29  | 1                 | 0                                    | 1                                    | 0                                     | 0  | 460                            | 460                         |
| B-30  | 8                 | 0                                    | 8                                    | 6                                     | 5  | 135                            | 156,000                     |
| B-31  | 1                 | 1                                    | 0                                    | 0                                     | 0  | 27                             | 27                          |
| B-32  | 1                 | 0                                    | 1                                    | 1                                     | 1  | 34,000                         | 34,000                      |
| B-33  | 1                 | 0                                    | 1                                    | 1                                     | 0  | 4,000                          | 4,000                       |
| B-34  | 7                 | 0                                    | 7                                    | 7                                     | 4  | 3,500                          | 24,000                      |

Table 5. Distribution of Lead Concentration by Brand of Household Enamel Paints Purchased in the Philippines.

### **Results and Discussion**

- 12 of the 26 paint brands with lead levels above 90 ppm included paints that contained lead below 90 ppm, suggesting that these brands have the capability to produce paints with lead content below 90 ppm.
- A majority of sampled brands had paints that are above and below the proposed 90 ppm lead limit.

Table 6. Top Ten Brands with the Highest Lead Concentrations.

| Rank | Brand | Country of Origin        | Color              | Lead Content (ppm) |
|------|-------|--------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| 1    | B-30  | Philippines              | Orange             | 156,000            |
| 2    | B-01  | Philippines              | Lemon Yellow       | 126,000            |
| 3    | B-15  | Philippines              | Yellow             | 114,000            |
| 4    | B-13  | Philippines              | Philippines Yellow |                    |
| 5    | B-22  | Philippines Lemon Yellow |                    | 84,000             |
| 6    | B-11  | Philippines Yellow       |                    | 77,000             |
| 7    | B-08  | Philippines Lemon Yellow |                    | 57,000             |
| 8    | B-26  | Philippines Lemon Yellow |                    | 49,000             |
| 9    | B-27  | Philippines Yellow       |                    | 49,000             |
| 10   | B-04  | Philippines              | Lemon Yellow       | 40,000             |

The top 10 brands with paints containing the highest amounts of lead are listed in Table 6, while the top 10 brands with the lowest amounts of lead are enumerated in Table 7.

Tables 6 and 7 show that brands B-04, B-11 and B-27 included paints with both extremely high and relatively low concentrations of lead.

#### Table 7. Top Ten Brands with the Lowest Lead Concentrations.

| Rank | Brand | Country of Origin Color |             | Lead Content (ppm) |
|------|-------|-------------------------|-------------|--------------------|
| 1    | B-09  | Philippines             | White       | <8                 |
| 2    | B-02  | Philippines             | White       | <8                 |
| 3    | B-23  | USA                     | Ultra White | <9                 |
| 4    | B-24  | Philippines             | White       | <9                 |
| 5    | B-25  | Malaysia                | White       | <9                 |
| 6    | B-05  | USA                     | White       | 10                 |
| 7    | B-27  | Philippines             | White       | 12                 |
| 8    | B-19  | Philippines             | White       | 13                 |
| 9    | B-11  | Philippines             | White       | 13                 |
| 10   | B-04  | Philippines             | White       | 17                 |

### **Results and Discussion**

#### Lead Concentration by Color

#### The vast majority of orange and yellow paints had high lead levels, and a majority had extremely dangerous levels of lead, while white paints had the lowest levels.

Among the 122 analyzed household enamel paints were 46 yellow-colored paints, 33 white-colored paints, 16 redcolored paints, 11 orange-colored paints, 6 green-colored paints, as well as 10 other paints of assorted colors such as aluminum, black, blue, brown, clover honey, gray, ivory and raw sienna.

- ppm standard.
- of lead beyond 10,000 ppm as illustrated in Figure 3.
- all the top 10 brands with the lowest concentrations of lead as presented in Table 7.

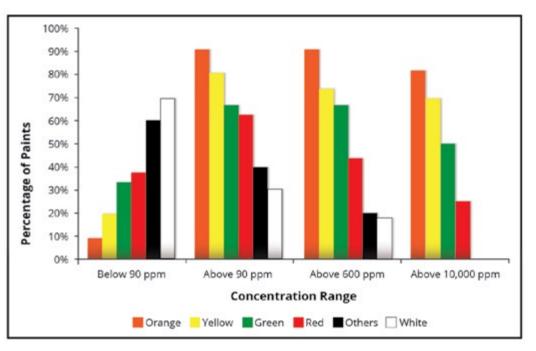


Figure 3. Lead Concentrations in Analyzed Household Enamel Paints Arranged According to Color.

91 percent of orange-colored paints and 80 percent of yellow-colored paints exceeded the recommended 90

82 percent of orange-colored paints and 70 percent of yellow-colored paints had extremely high concentrations

Moreover, an orange-colored paint had the highest amount of lead with 156,000 ppm, while 8 of the top 10 paints with the highest lead content were yellow in color as shown in Table 3. In general, white-colored paints contain the lowest amounts of lead. Indeed, 70 percent of white-colored paints contained lead below 90 ppm, including

### Results and Discussion

The distribution of lead concentration by color is summarized in Table 8.

| Color               | No. of<br>Samples | Average<br>Lead Conc.<br>(ppm) | No. of<br>Samples<br>Below 90<br>ppm | No. of<br>Samples<br>Above 90<br>ppm | No. of<br>Samples<br>Above 600<br>ppm | No. of<br>Samples<br>Above 10,000<br>ppm | Minimum<br>Lead Conc.<br>(ppm) | Maximum<br>Lead Conc.<br>(ppm) |
|---------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Green               | 6                 | 9,600                          | 2                                    | 4                                    | 4                                     | 3  | 14                             | 25,000                         |
| Orange              | 11                | 30,700                         | 1                                    | 10                                   | 10                                    | 9  | 16                             | 156,000                        |
| Red                 | 16                | 10,800                         | 6                                    | 10                                   | 7                                     | 4  | 27                             | 83,000                         |
| White               | 33                | 455                            | 23                                   | 10                                   | 6                                     | 0  | <8                             | 4,700                          |
| Yellow              | 46                | 45,700                         | 9                                    | 37                                   | 34                                    | 32                                       | <9                             | 126,000                        |
| Others <sup>1</sup> | 10                | 1,060                          | 6                                    | 4                                    | 2                                     | 0  | <8 <sup>2</sup>                | 6,000 <sup>3</sup>             |

Table 8. Distribution of Lead Concentration by Color of Household Enamel Paints Purchased in the Philippines.

<sup>1</sup>Other colors include aluminum, black, blue, brown, clover honey, gray, ivory and raw sienna.

```
<sup>2</sup>Delft Blue
```

<sup>3</sup>lvory

#### **Labeling**

Most of the sampled paints do not contain adequate information on their labels to help consumers identify and distinguish paints with lead levels below 90 ppm and paints with high lead levels. Only the cans for 43 of the 122 paint samples describe the product composition. In cases where the product composition is described, the specific product ingredients are not listed. For example, some labels indicate the percentage of pigment present on a product, but not the particular pigment used.

Moreover, most product labels do not contain clear and understandable manufacturing codes that could also assist consumers in making



informed choices. While most paint cans contain information on proper application and basic personal protection, no precautionary warning is stated that would have alerted consumers about the hazards of lead dust that is produced when surface paints deteriorate or are disturbed.

Of the 122 paint samples, 85 had manufacturing codes, 43 had product composition descriptions, and only 11 had precautionary warning labels pertaining to lead – seven of which stated that these paints had "No Added Lead."

The seven paint samples with "No Added Lead" information on the labels were found to have lead levels ranging from <9 ppm to 39 ppm.

### Results and Discussion

### Comparative Analysis of the 2013, 2010 and 2008 Paint Sampling Studies

In comparing results in the studies conducted in 2013, 2010 and 2008, it is clear that lead paint is still widely available in the Philippines despite the commercial availability of good substitutes for lead driers and pigments.

Comparing the results from the 2013 paint sampling with those conducted in 2008 and 2010 showed that lead content in paints sold in the Philippines has not dramatically changed since 2008, and that significant concentrations of lead are still commonly added to these products. In all three studies, approximately 60 to 70 percent of samples had lead content above 90 ppm.

#### **Repacked Paints**

On top of the 122 sampled paints, 17 repacked paints were also procured and sent to Italy for laboratory analysis. Repacked paints as shown in Figure 4 are paints originally stored in bigger volumes (4 L cans) that are transferred into smaller containers such as tin cans or glass bottles for retail. Consumers usually go for repacked paints when their paints of choice are not available in smaller quantities.



Figure 4. Repacked Household Enamel Paints Purchased in the Philippines.

Out of the 17 repacked household enamel paints, nine samples contained amounts of lead greater than 90 ppm. Both a yellow-colored epoxy enamel paint and a lemon yellow-colored quick-dry enamel paint contained the highest total lead concentration of 83,000 ppm. On the other hand, a white-colored epoxy enamel paint contained the lowest total lead concentration of <8 ppm.

The average lead concentration of the analyzed repacked paints was 21,800 ppm or 242 times greater than the recommended standard limit of 90 ppm. Since these paints were transferred into unlabeled containers, some important information such as the manufacturer's name and contact details, manufacturing date, manufacturing codes and country of origin were unavailable. Please see Appendix 2 for pertinent details.



### Conclusions and Recommendations

As no level of lead exposure is considered safe for children - a fact that Department of Health (DOH) Secretary Enrique T. Ona himself confirmed through his letter to the EcoWaste Coalition on 24 October 2011 - the high percentage of paints with lead exceeding the recommended 90 ppm limit at 61 percent is undeniably disturbing.

However, the fact that samples from 39 percent of the paints, mostly locally manufactured, had lead content below 90 ppm indicates that producing paints with no or low levels of lead is economically viable, technically feasible and practically achievable.

To stop the current practices of adding lead or lead compounds to paint products, support industry shift to nonlead paint formulations and ultimately protect the health of children, women of child-bearing age, workers and the environment at large, the EcoWaste Coalition recommends the following:

- products not compliant with lead restrictions.
- and to minimize occupational exposures to lead paint."
- no lead added.
- occupational health risks linked with lead paints and lead dust.
- subsequently eradicate the risks that such products present to human health and the environment.

· For the government and relevant agencies: Fast track the approval and enforcement of a strong regulation that will ban the manufacture, importation, distribution, sale and use of household paint products with total lead content (dry weight) above the maximum limit of 90 ppm. Provide incentives for paint companies to swiftly transition from lead to non-lead paint production. Require a standard paint container labeling on lead content and lead dust hazards. Strengthen enforcement mechanisms to prevent the entry of paints, toys and other consumer

For the paint industry: Discontinue the use of lead as driers or pigments and other purposes in paint formulations, shift to non-lead substitutes and commit to an expedited switch to producing paint products with lead content below 90 ppm, starting with enamel decorative paints, to "prevent children's exposure to paints containing lead

For individual, household and institutional consumers: Seek and patronize unleaded paints for safer homes and facilities, adopt lead-safe procurement policy and contribute to increasing market demand for paint products with

· For doctors and other health professionals: Support policy measures that will reduce, if not eliminate, childhood lead exposure from all sources, and join the ongoing efforts to inform the public about childhood health and

For all stakeholders: Cooperate in establishing a reliable third-party certification program to ensure that paints sold in the market meet the proposed regulatory standard of 90 ppm. Support the Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead Paint (GAELP) and strengthen the national partnership among stakeholders to phase out lead paints and



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## Appendices

Appendix 1. Details of Household Enamel Paints Purchased in the Philippines.

Table 9. Household Enamel Paints with Low Lead Content (≤90 ppm).

| Rank | Sample No. | Country of<br>Origin | Туре                 | Color             | Volume (mL) | Price (PhP) | Lead Content<br>(ppm) |
|------|------------|----------------------|----------------------|-------------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------------|
| 1    | PLP-144    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel     | White             | 250         | 55.20       | <8                    |
| 2    | PLP-217    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel     | Delft Blue        | 250         | 40.00       | <8                    |
| 3    | PLP-111    | Philippines          | Flat Wall Enamel     | White             | 1,000       | 169.75      | <8                    |
| 4    | PLP-214    | USA                  | Enamel               | Clover Honey      | 1,000       | 550.00      | <9                    |
| 5    | PLP-211    | USA                  | Enamel               | Ultra White       | 1,000       | 650.00      | <9                    |
| 6    | PLP-215    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel     | White             | 1,000       | 113.00      | <9                    |
| 7    | PLP-109    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel     | Yellow            | 1,000       | 168.00      | <9                    |
| 8    | PLP-216    | Malaysia             | Oil-based Basecoat   | White             | 1,000       | 769.82      | <9                    |
| 9    | PLP-108    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel     | Lemon Yellow      | 250         | 75.00       | <9                    |
| 10   | PLP-141    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel     | Lemon Yellow      | 250         | 40.00       | <9                    |
| 11   | PLP-212    | USA                  | Enamel               | Yellow Blast      | 1,000       | 550.00      | 9                     |
| 12   | PLP-125    | USA                  | High Gloss Oil-based | White             | 1,000       | 695.00      | 10                    |
| 13   | PLP-224    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel     | White             | 80          | 23.00       | 12                    |
| 14   | PLP-188    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel     | White             | 250         | 55.00       | 13                    |
| 15   | PLP-148    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel     | White             | 250         | 79.75       | 13                    |
| 16   | PLP-213    | USA                  | Enamel               | Ultra White       | 1,000       | 550.00      | 14                    |
| 17   | PLP-140    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel     | Green             | 250         | 49.00       | 14                    |
| 18   | PLP-115    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel     | Orange            | 1,000       | 235.00      | 16                    |
| 19   | PLP-122    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel     | White             | 80          | 25.00       | 17                    |
| 20   | PLP-176    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel     | White             | 4,000       | 400.00      | 17                    |
| 21   | PLP-135    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel     | White             | 1,000       | 182.50      | 19                    |
| 22   | PLP-128    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel     | White             | 250         | 40.00       | 19                    |
| 23   | PLP-114    | Philippines          | Flat Wall Enamel     | White             | 1,000       | 175.00      | 19                    |
| 24   | PLP-189    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel     | White             | 1,000       | 120.00      | 19                    |
| 25   | PLP-126    | USA                  | High Gloss Oil-based | Yellow Blast      | 1,000       | 695.00      | 19                    |
| 26   | PLP-107    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel     | Lemon Yellow      | 250         | 65.00       | 21                    |
| 27   | PLP-221    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel     | Gray              | 1,000       | 188.50      | 24                    |
| 28   | PLP-167    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel     | White             | 250         | 45.00       | 25                    |
| 29   | PLP-166    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel     | White             | 250         | 50.00       | 25                    |
| 30   | PLP-121    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel     | White             | 80          | 25.00       | 26                    |
| 31   | PLP-238    | Philippines          | Rubber Base Coating  | Red               | 1,000       | 345.00      | 27                    |
| 32   | PLP-118    | Philippines          | Enamel               | Aluminum          | 4,000       | 446.00      | 28                    |
| 33   | PLP-136    | Philippines          | Red Oxide Primer     | Red               | 1,000       | 114.00      | 29                    |
| 34   | PLP-219    | Philippines          | Tinting Color        | Thalo Green       | 250         | 144.74      | 30                    |
| 35   | PLP-218    | Philippines          | Color in Oil         | Raw Sienna        | 250         | 94.75       | 35                    |
| 36   | PLP-201    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel     | Yellow            | 250         | 50.00       | 39                    |
| 37   | PLP-124    | USA                  | High Gloss Enamel    | Lemon Zest Yellow | 1,000       | 695.00      | 39                    |
| 38   | PLP-127    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel     | Brown             | 250         | 44.75       | 40                    |
| 39   | PLP-187    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel     | White             | 250         | 55.00       | 40                    |
| 40   | PLP-181    | Philippines          | Red Oxide Primer     | Red               | 1,000       | 92.31       | 42                    |
| 41   | PLP-133    | Philippines          | Red Oxide Primer     | Red               | 1,000       | 129.75      | 55                    |
| 42   | PLP-199    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel     | White             | 250         | 55.00       | 55                    |
| 43   | PLP-146    | Philippines          | Red Oxide Primer     | Red               | 1,000       | 83.00       | 60                    |
| 44   | PLP-116    | Philippines          | Red Oxide Primer     | Red               | 1,000       | 145.00      | 72                    |
| 45   | PLP-139    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel     | White             | 1,000       | 130.00      | 75                    |
| 46   | PLP-134    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel     | Lemon Yellow      | 1,000       | 185.00      | 77                    |
| 47   | PLP-106    | Philippines          | Flat Wall Enamel     | White             | 1,000       | 150.00      | 81                    |

Table 10. Household Enamel Paints with Moderately High Lead Content (91 - 600 ppm).

| Rank | Sample No. | Country of<br>Origin | Туре             | Color              | Volume (mL) | Price (PhP) | Lead Content<br>(ppm) |
|------|------------|----------------------|------------------|--------------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------------|
| 48   | PLP-110    | Philippines          | Red Oxide Primer | Red                | 1,000       | 120.00      | 113                   |
| 49   | PLP-235    | Philippines          | Tinting Color    | Hanza Yellow       | 60          | 55.00       | 135                   |
| 50   | PLP-168    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel | Yellow             | 1,000       | 140.00      | 148                   |
| 51   | PLP-173    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel | White              | 250         | 100.00      | 169                   |
| 52   | PLP-228    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel | Caterpillar Yellow | 4,000       | 445.00      | 186                   |
| 53   | PLP-143    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel | Royal Blue         | 250         | 50.00       | 190                   |
| 54   | PLP-151    | Philippines          | Marine Coating   | Black              | 1,000       | 114.00      | 230                   |
| 55   | PLP-157    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel | White              | 1,000       | 179.75      | 280                   |
| 56   | PLP-145    | Philippines          | Red Oxide Primer | Red                | 1,000       | 106.60      | 300                   |
| 57   | PLP-103    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel | White              | 1,000       | 168.75      | 380                   |
| 58   | PLP-229    | Philippines          | Flat Wall Enamel | White              | 4,000       | 420.00      | 460                   |
| 59   | PLP-237    | Philippines          | Red Oxide Primer | Red                | 250         | 50.00       | 510                   |

#### Table 11. Household Enamel Paints with High Lead Content (601 – 10,000 ppm).

| Rank | Sample No. | Country of<br>Origin | Туре             | Color             | Volume (mL) | Price (PhP) | Lead Content<br>(ppm) |
|------|------------|----------------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------------|
| 60   | PLP-232    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel | White             | 250         | 50.00       | 680                   |
| 61   | PLP-119    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel | Lemon Yellow      | 4,000       | 580.00      | 720                   |
| 62   | PLP-163    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel | White             | 60          | 15.00       | 740                   |
| 63   | PLP-206    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel | White             | 250         | 60.00       | 950                   |
| 64   | PLP-130    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel | Dark Green        | 250         | 44.00       | 1,540                 |
| 65   | PLP-154    | Philippines          | Flat Wall Enamel | White             | 1,000       | 155.00      | 1,600                 |
| 66   | PLP-160    | Philippines          | Red Oxide Primer | Red               | 1,000       | 104.75      | 2,000                 |
| 67   | PLP-161    | Philippines          | Red Oxide Primer | Red               | 1,000       | 106.00      | 2,100                 |
| 68   | PLP-152    | Philippines          | Red Oxide Primer | Red               | 1,000       | 107.00      | 2,300                 |
| 69   | PLP-244    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel | California Orange | 1,000       | 195.00      | 3,500                 |
| 70   | PLP-242    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel | Sky Blue          | 1,000       | 155.00      | 4,000                 |
| 71   | PLP-247    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel | White             | 1,000       | 195.00      | 4,500                 |
| 72   | PLP-131    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel | Lemon Yellow      | 250         | 57.00       | 4,600                 |
| 73   | PLP-246    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel | White             | 250         | 58.00       | 4,700                 |
| 74   | PLP-179    | Philippines          | Fast Dry Enamel  | lvory             | 250         | 51.50       | 6,000                 |
| 75   | PLP-147    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel | Orange            | 250         | 79.75       | 10,600                |

Table 12. Household Enamel Paints with Extremely High Lead Content (>10,000 ppm).

| Rank | Sample No. | Country of<br>Origin | Туре             | Color           | Volume (mL) | Price (PhP) | Lead Content<br>(ppm) |
|------|------------|----------------------|------------------|-----------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------------|
| 76   | PLP-142    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel | Nile Green      | 250         | 50.00       | 11,000                |
| 77   | PLP-245    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel | Lemon Yellow    | 250         | 57.00       | 14,800                |
| 78   | PLP-186    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel | Orange          | 250         | 65.00       | 14,900                |
| 79   | PLP-194    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel | Moly Orange     | 1,000       | 130.00      | 17,500                |
| 80   | PLP-184    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel | Lemon Yellow    | 1,000       | 130.00      | 17,800                |
| 81   | PLP-169    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel | Yellow          | 250         | 45.00       | 18,000                |
| 82   | PLP-249    | Philippines          | Red Lead Primer  | Red             | 250         | 65.00       | 19,900                |
| 83   | PLP-230    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel | Nile Green      | 250         | 46.00       | 20,000                |
| 84   | PLP-195    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel | Lemon Yellow    | 4,000       | 480.0       | 21,000                |
| 85   | PLP-197    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel | Lemon Yellow    | 250         | 57.00       | 21,000                |
| 86   | PLP-156    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel | Orange          | 1,000       | 169.75      | 22,000                |
| 87   | PLP-178    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel | Yellow          | 1,000       | 140.00      | 23,000                |
| 88   | PLP-248    | Philippines          | Red Lead Primer  | Red             | 250         | 60.00       | 24,000                |
| 89   | PLP-231    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel | Orange          | 250         | 46.00       | 24,000                |
| 90   | PLP-172    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel | Medium Yellow   | 1,000       | 143.00      | 24,000                |
| 91   | PLP-171    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel | Emerald Green   | 250         | 65.00       | 25,000                |
| 92   | PLP-180    | Philippines          | Fast Dry Enamel  | Sunshine Yellow | 250         | 51.50       | 27,000                |
| 93   | PLP-162    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel | Orange          | 250         | 20.00       | 27,000                |
| 94   | PLP-193    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel | Lemon Yellow    | 1,000       | 130.00      | 27,000                |
| 95   | PLP-183    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel | Lemon Yellow    | 250         | 55.00       | 28,000                |
| 96   | PLP-182    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel | Orange          | 250         | 50.00       | 29,000                |
| 97   | PLP-185    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel | Lemon Yellow    | 1,000       | 120.00      | 32,000                |
| 98   | PLP-158    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel | Yellow          | 1,000       | 154.00      | 33,000                |
| 99   | PLP-223    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel | Moly Orange     | 80          | 25.00       | 33,000                |
| 100  | PLP-239    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel | Lemon Yellow    | 4,000       | 420.00      | 34,000                |
| 101  | PLP-123    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel | Yellow          | 80          | 25.00       | 37,000                |
| 102  | PLP-159    | Philippines          | Red Lead Primer  | Red             | 1,000       | 119.75      | 39,000                |
| 103  | PLP-120    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel | Lemon Yellow    | 80          | 20.00       | 40,000                |
| 104  | PLP-225    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel | Yellow          | 80          | 45.00       | 48,000                |
| 105  | PLP-222    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel | Lemon Yellow    | 80          | 25.00       | 49,000                |
| 106  | PLP-220    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel | Lemon Yellow    | 1,000       | 290.00      | 49,000                |
| 107  | PLP-149    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel | Yellow          | 125         | 29.75       | 51,000                |
| 108  | PLP-233    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel | Lemon Yellow    | 250         | 55.00       | 54,000                |
| 109  | PLP-138    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel | Lemon Yellow    | 1,000       | 130.00      | 57,000                |
| 110  | PLP-175    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel | Yellow          | 80          | 38.00       | 65,000                |
| 111  | PLP-200    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel | Yellow          | 250         | 79.75       | 66,000                |
| 112  | PLP-203    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel | Lemon Yellow    | 1,000       | 140.00      | 66,000                |
| 113  | PLP-205    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel | Lemon Yellow    | 1,000       | 135.00      | 68,000                |
| 114  | PLP-150    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel | Yellow          | 250         | 79.75       | 77,000                |
| 115  | PLP-234    | Philippines          | Red Lead Primer  | Red             | 250         | 75.00       | 83,000                |
| 116  | PLP-204    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel | Lemon Yellow    | 250         | 60.00       | 84,000                |
| 117  | PLP-165    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel | Yellow          | 60          | 15.00       | 89,000                |
| 118  | PLP-164    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel | Yellow          | 80          | 25.00       | 94,000                |
| 119  | PLP-198    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel | Lemon Yellow    | 250         | 48.00       | 103,000               |
| 120  | PLP-174    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel | Yellow          | 250         | 100.00      | 114,000               |
| 121  | PLP-102    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel | Lemon Yellow    | 1,000       | 177.50      | 126,000               |
| 121  | PLP-236    | Philippines          | Tinting Color    | Orange          | 60          | 55.00       | 156,000               |
| 122  | 1 21 -230  |                      |                  |                 |             | 55.00       | 100,000               |

| Rank | Sample No. | Country of<br>Origin | Туре             | Color        | Volume<br>(mL) | Price (PhP) | Lead<br>Content<br>(ppm) |
|------|------------|----------------------|------------------|--------------|----------------|-------------|--------------------------|
| 1    | PLP-191    | Philippines          | Epoxy Enamel     | White        | 250            | 70.00       | <8                       |
| 2    | PLP-177    | Philippines          | Epoxy Enamel     | White        | 250            | 75.00       | 16                       |
| 3    | PLP-227    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel | Brown        | 500            | 50.00       | 27                       |
| 4    | PLP-226    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel | White        | 250            | 50.00       | 27                       |
| 5    | PLP-112    | N/A                  | Quick-Dry Enamel | Green        | 250            | 80.00       | 39                       |
| 6    | PLP-190    | N/A                  | Red Oxide Primer | Red          | 250            | 40.00       | 47                       |
| 7    | PLP-240    | N/A                  | Epoxy Enamel     | White        | 250            | 75.00       | 61                       |
| 8    | PLP-153    | Japan                | Quick-Dry Enamel | Aluminum     | 250            | 100.00      | 90                       |
| 9    | PLP-243    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel | White        | 1,000          | 50.00       | 98                       |
| 10   | PLP-137    | N/A                  | Quick-Dry Enamel | Violet       | 250            | 80.00       | 3,800                    |
| 11   | PLP-132    | N/A                  | Quick-Dry Enamel | Yellow       | 250            | 40.00       | 8,800                    |
| 12   | PLP-196    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel | Yellow       | 250            | 50.00       | 30,000                   |
| 13   | PLP-113    | N/A                  | Quick-Dry Enamel | Yellow       | 250            | 150.00      | 47,000                   |
| 14   | PLP-241    | N/A                  | Epoxy Enamel     | Yellow       | 250            | 80.00       | 55,000                   |
| 15   | PLP-170    | N/A                  | Quick-Dry Enamel | Moly Orange  | 250            | 35.00       | 59,000                   |
| 16   | PLP-155    | Philippines          | Quick-Dry Enamel | Lemon Yellow | 250            | 80.00       | 83,000                   |
| 17   | PLP-192    | Philippines          | Epoxy Enamel     | Yellow       | 250            | 70.00       | 83,000                   |

### Appendix 2. Details of Repacked Paints Purchased in the Philippines Ranked According to Total Lead Content.

NATIONAL REPORT LEAD IN NEW ENAMEL HOUSEHOLD PAINTS IN THE PHILIPPINES

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November 2013