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September 17, 2002

Mr. Bernard P. Orlan
 Director, Environmental Health and Safety
 New York City Department of Education
 28-11 Queens Plaza North
 Long Island City, NY 11101

**Re: Air Sampling for Metals
 P.S. 131M
 ATC Project No. 15-19125-0346**

Dear Mr. Orlan:

ATC Associates, Inc. (ATC) is pleased to provide this letter report of air sampling for metals in airborne dust on August 22, 2002, at the referenced school. The New York City Department of Education (DOE) requested this sampling prior to the resumption of classes to verify that acceptable indoor air quality is being maintained.

Scope of Work

ATC collected three (3) samples for metals at specified locations. Samples were collected for ten (10) hours using 37 mm mixed cellulose ester filter connected to battery-powered sampling pumps at a flow rate of 2 liters per minute. Pumps were calibrated before and after each sampling period. All three samples were collected inside the building. Two blanks for quality control were submitted. The additional blank was included to confirm the levels of any trace contaminants in the filters. The samples were sent to PSC Analytical Services, Inc., an American Industrial Hygiene Association-accredited laboratory in Reading, PA. Analysis was performed by NIOSH Method 7300M. Each sample was analyzed for a panel of twelve (12) metals. The metals were aluminum (Al), cadmium (Cd), chromium (Cr), cobalt (Co), copper (Cu), iron (Fe), lead (Pb), magnesium (Mg), manganese (Mn), molybdenum (Mo), nickel (Ni) and zinc (Zn). A copy of the analytical laboratory report is attached.

The sampling locations were the Main Entrance Lobby, 2nd Floor Hallway by Room 210 and 3rd floor hallway by Room 327.

Wagdi Abdelshahid and Tenzin Namgyal, Industrial Hygienists from ATC's New York City office, conducted the sampling consistent with accepted industrial hygiene practices. The results represent the conditions on the day the samples were collected.

The established regulatory values for metals are intended for industrial workplace exposures and are not generally applicable to office/school settings. *There are no standards for these metals in indoor air in non-industrial situations.*

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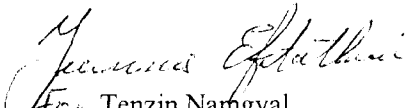
Results

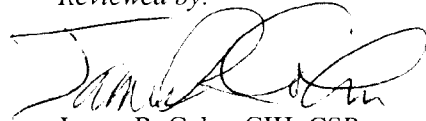
Chromium (Cr) was the only metal that was detected in the samples, including the blanks. Blank-correcting (blank average: 0.754 micrograms per filter) the samples lowers the Cr concentrations to below the limits of detection for the analysis. The results indicate that Cr is a trace contaminant of the filter medium and is not present in the ambient air.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has set a screening level for hexavalent chromium (the more toxic form) in air of 0.6 ug/m^3 , this assumes a continuous exposure for one year. These samples were analyzed for total chromium (trivalent and hexavalent). All Cr concentrations were well *below* the EPA screening level.

ATC appreciates the opportunity to provide this indoor air quality service to the DOE. Please call (212) 353-8280 extension 212 or 370 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,
ATC Associates, Inc.


For Tenzin Namgyal
Industrial Hygienist

Reviewed by:

James R. Cohn, CIH, CSP
Regional Manager
Industrial Hygiene Division

Attachment