NYC 9/11 Public Portal Document

ATC ASSOCIATES INC.

104 East 25th St., 10th
New York, New York 100
www.atc-enviro.c
212.353.82
Fax 212.353.83

September 19, 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
Murray Bergtraum High School (M520)
ATC Project No. 15-19125-0351

Dear Mr. Orlan:

ATC Associates Inc. (ATC) is pleased to provide this report of air sampling for metals in airborne dust conducted on September 11, 2002, in the referenced school building. The New York City Department of Education (DOE) requested this sampling 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 a minimum of eight (8) hours using 37 mm mixed cellulose ester filters 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 samples were collected inside the building. Two sample blanks were also submitted. 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.

Tenzin Namgyal, Industrial Hygienist and Sonny Ramlal, Environmental Technician of ATC's New York City office, collected the samples consistent with generally accepted industrial hygiene practices. As with all such sampling, there were inherent limitations created by constraints of time, operational and work practice variability, variations in air contaminant concentrations and sampling and analytical accuracy. The results of the sampling represent conditions found on the date the samples were collected.

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The sampling locations were: 1st Floor Lobby, 3rd Floor Hallway by Room 339 and 5th Floor Hallway by Room 518.

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.*

RESULTS

Aluminum (Al) and iron (Fe) were the only two metals that were detected. Both were detected in the sample collected from the 3rd floor hallway by Room 339. Al was detected at 0.000853 milligrams per cubic meter of air (mg/m^3) and Fe was detected at 0.00368 mg/m^3.

Chromium (Cr) was detected in one of the blanks.

There are no EPA screening levels or standards available for Al and Fe in ambient air.

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

Sincerely,
ATC Associates, Inc.

Reviewed by:

Tenzin Namgyal
Industrial Hygienist

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

Attachment

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