NYC 9/11 Public Portal Document

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SUBJECT:
Moisture cure urethane - TDI - VOC results

Results are in, levels of xylene and ethyl benzene in the common areas ranged from 44-53 and 30-35 parts per million respectively. These numbers are in rough agreement with the values we obtained for total VOC's during the survey (~70 ppm). Levels in the 3rd floor bedroom were 3 ppm xylene and 2 ppm ethyl benzene. Rooftop values were less than 30 parts per billion.

TDI was not detected in the bedroom or rooftop sample. The levels in common areas ranged from 0.24 - 0.85 part per billion. The isomer found was almost entirely 2,6 TDI (the can listed 2,4 TDI as the ingredient and the manufacturer did not even list TDI in their MSDS, they said the label on the can was old and they don't use it in the product anymore!). Note: sampling for TDI in common areas took place during heavy ventilation of the hallways for about half the sampling time.

The only acute MRL value we have for comparison is for xylene (MRL 1ppm). This level was exceeded in all indoor locations. Intermediate and chronic exposure values for indoor environments were exceeded at all locations (except the 3rd floor bedroom for TDI).

It is very likely that levels exceeded ACGIH and NIOSH recommended Short Term Exposure Levels for occupational exposures in the work area. Since work was of a short duration, about 2 hours, it does not seem likely that 8-hour PELs were exceeded in this case. Nor does it seem likely that the ceiling level for TDI was exceeded. Due to the cooperative nature of this investigation we were not permitted to sample in the work areas.

At this time it is not clear, how persistent these levels would be. I think it is important to visit a site a couple/several days after application to determine this. As a routine method, a PID could do the job in the field.

I will put together a report, we have had several requests for one.

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