

Article 22 of the Constitution of the ILO
Report for the period from 1 June 2010 to 31 May 2015
made by the Government of Finland
on the
WHITE LEAD (PAINTING) CONVENTION, 1921 (No. 13)
(ratification registered 5 April 1929)

Direct request 2010***Part V of the report form. Application in practice.***

According to an exemption of REACH regulation (1907/2006 EEC), white lead is used in low quantities in professional maintenance and restoration work, where exposure to the substance is not likely to be substantial. In other respects, the authorities have not discovered any cases, where a worker would have been exposed to white lead or lead sulfochromate for example while stripping old paint from a building.

According to the biomonitoring results measured by the Finnish Institute of Occupational Health, painters are not significantly exposed to lead white or lead sulfochromate. There was a total of 4,161 biomonitoring results on the lead concentrations in blood between 1.6.2010 and 11.5.2015. Of this total, 42 samples had painter, painting, paint etc. mentioned under job description and/or exposure agent. No sample has a mention of lead white. Of the samples concerning painting, 24/42 exceeded the reference value of 0,09 µmol/l for the non-exposed (the reference value for the non-exposed is a level of concentration that 95% of the Finns that are not exposed in their work do not exceed.) The highest concentration was about 40% of the biomonitoring action level of 1,4 µmol/l (the biomonitoring action level is a concentration that, when exceeded, requires the employer to take action to reduce exposure).

I-V

Nothing new to report

VI

A copy of this report has been sent to the following labour market organisations:

The Confederation of Finnish Industries (EK)
The Central Organization of Finnish Trade Unions (SAK)
The Finnish Confederation of Professionals (STTK)
The Confederation of Unions for Professional and Managerial Staff in Finland (AKAVA)
The Commission for Local Authority Employers (KT)
The State Employer's Office (VTML)
The Federation of Finnish enterprises