Identifying Lead in the Workplace

Note: The following lists are provided to help you identify common sources of lead or lead-containing materials at a worksite. This is not a complete list by any means; other sources may also be identified. You are responsible for conducting a complete review of the premises, materials (including product Material Safety Data Sheets), and processes involved in your business operation.

Processes that may involve lead:	Materials that may contain lead:
Processes that may involve lead: Manufacturing: Lead acid batteries Paint*, glazes, pigments, inks, dyes Ceramics, tile, porcelain Leaded glass, crystal, stained glass Cable, wire products, solder Rubber or plastics Aircraft, aircraft parts, shipbuilding Automobiles, trucks, automotive radiators Firearms, bullets, explosives Adhesives, sealants, lubricants Metal Working (with lead-containing metals): Smelting, refining, processing scrap metal Recycling lead, batteries, cable, etc. Foundry work, casting, forging Grinding, polishing, deburring, machining Soldering, brazing, tinning Galvanizing operations, plating/electroplating Heat treating, quenching, annealing Fabricating sheet metal products (e.g., HVAC, gutters) Repair: Automotive radiator repair, auto body, ship repair Welding, cutting, sanding, grinding of lead alloys or lead-coated surfaces Soldering, electronics repair Repair work that disturbs lead paint Construction: Painting or paint removal (sanding, abrasive blasting, scraping, torching, stripping, heat gun applications)* Wrecking, dem	Materials that may contain lead: Note: for product-specific information, refer to Material Safety Data Sheets provided by the product manufacturer Pigments: Painted surfaces*Assume lead-containing paint to be present on buildings built before 1978, or on painted metal surfaces (painted in any year) Glazes, frits Dyes, colorants Inks Alloys and metal products: Lead Brass Bronze Pewter "White metal" Cast iron Lead-plated materials (e.g., steel strapping) Plumbing fittings Lead sheeting and pipe Scrap metal-lead alloys, materials with lead coatings Some steel and aluminum alloys Repair materials: Solder Lead caulking Lead caulking Lead caulking Lead stillers in auto body work Cable coverings Other: Electric storage batteries Armunition Explosives Lead stabilizers and plasticizers in plastics Lead driers in paints Chemical additives
Industrial cleaning operations Telecommunications cable removal Fishing weights and lures manufacturing	

* Many people incorrectly believe that lead in paints is no longer a problem. In 1977, the Consumer Product Safety Commission severely limited the lead content in paint used for residences or on toys. Older painted surfaces frequently contain significant quantities of lead. Lead pigments are still used in some paint applications, often to prevent corrosion on metal surfaces.