

**30th
Anniversary**

Letter from the President

Joe Muchow

In this newsletter, you'll find information on the diverse topics of Mercury Amalgam poisoning and building your house safely. As consumer's become more aware of the chemicals and materials present in their daily lives, organizations and companies from all areas of industry work to address the concerns. Environmental and chemical sensitivity is now something professionals have to address as doctors, corporate agencies, government lobbyists, homebuilders, and so on. As we continue to celebrate the 30th Anniversary of E.L. Foust, we continue to look for products that help people in their home and work to breathe cleaner air, drink cleaner water, and live healthier lives.

Sometimes it's easier not to know what something is made of or how it affects the environment we live in, but in most cases there are simple alternatives that decrease the risks of living around even the mildest toxic substances. We work closely with third party agencies that test our products effectiveness against the various elements that can be present in air and water, and the test results are readily available on our website by clicking on the "Education" tab. If you think you may have contaminants in your home or office environment, please don't hesitate to give us a call and discuss what you can do to find out! Best wishes for an enjoyable summer!

As always, any comments or suggestions are welcomed by the staff here at E.L. Foust! Comments can be sent via post or email.

Please also visit www.foustco.com!



What's In Your Mouth?

The following notice appears as part of the State of California's Proposition 65, an effort to make dental patients aware of the risks of mercury poisoning.

NOTICE TO PATIENTS

PROPOSITION 65 WARNING: Dental Amalgam, used in many dental fillings, causes exposure to mercury, a chemical known to the state of California to cause birth defects or other reproductive harm.

Root canal treatments and restorations, including fillings, crowns and bridges, use chemicals known to the State of California to cause cancer.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has studied the situation and approved for use all dental restorative materials. Consult your dentist to determine which materials are appropriate for your treatment.

Dental amalgam tends to be used because it is inexpensive, and is therefore popular for fillings and other dental restorative work. The mixture is created from mercury in its elemental form and an alloy powder comprised of tin, silver, and copper. Mercury emits minute amounts of vapor that have been studied for their possible toxicity.

Today, there are no official restrictions from the FDA on the use of dental amalgam. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), and the World Health Organization have all researched the safety of amalgam and generally concluded that except in the case of allergy, it poses no significant risks to patients. However, there are dentists and scientists out there who question the safety of mercury for patient use, particularly in the case of pregnant women and dental workers who are continually exposed to mercury vapors.

To learn more, visit these websites and the excellent links they provide:

- "The Facts About Fillings"
<http://www.dbc.ca.gov/pdf/dmfs2004.pdf>
- <http://www.toxicteeth.org/>
- <http://www.iaomt.org/>

Healthy Summer Home Repairs

Many of us use the warm summer months to make home repairs. E.L. Foust carries a number of products that can make the projects safe and healthy for you and your family. All products can be used in the home or office; for construction purposes or to replace existing materials that may have strong outgassing.



AFM Safecoat Paints and Sealants:

- **SafeCoat Primers** have a very low VOC content, and unlike typical paints, the VOC's used are considered neither toxic nor hazardous.
- **SafeCoat Paints** have a very low VOC content, and unlike typical paints, the VOC's used are considered neither toxic nor hazardous. Exterior paints are also available and are durable, have weather resistant finishes and superior film formation properties. We can tint to any pastel shade, please allow extra time for tinting.
- **SafeCoat Zero VOC Paints** contain none of the ammonia, acetone, formaldehyde, crystalline silica or masking agents commonly found in the zero VOC paints offered by the large national paint companies. Can be tinted to any pastel shade.
- **SafeCoat Hard Clear Finishes** cure without emitting toxic fumes like those from conventional lacquers. Excellent for wood, galvanized or properly primed metal, vinyl and other plastic surfaces.
- **SafeCoat Adhesives & Coatings** can be used in many different applications such as carpet, ceramic, or vinyl. They also include safe alternatives for driveway and deck sealers.
- **SafeCoat Protective Sealers** include chemically safe versions of polyurethane and other sealers for a variety of surfaces such as masonry, brick, concrete, and other porous surfaces. Like all other AFM products, they contain no hazardous chemicals or toxins.
- **Phenoseal® Caulks & Sealants:** "Does It All" Adhesive Caulk will bond, caulk, or seal all common building materials, providing a tough-yet flexible material for a thousand different jobs. "Does It All" is mildew and rust resistant, paintable, nontoxic, and nonflammable. It resists mild acids, alkalis, salt water, oil, gasoline, and many other solvents. "Does It All" comes in a wide range of colors - each color has dozens of potential applications. It sticks to all common building materials: tile to metal, fiberglass to wood, concrete to stone, metal to glass, wood to foam insulation, etc. It also sticks to itself, while silicone does not. Nontoxic and nonflammable

- **Dennyfoil Vapor Barrier** You can save energy and reduce fuel costs with Dennyfoil. Quick, easy application to all types of walls, floors, roofs, and ceilings makes it ideal for commercial use.
- **Shurtape** is a low odor tape made with soft aluminum foil. Recommended by environmental consultants for use with foil vapor barriers such as Dennyfoil. Comes in 2 and 3 inch rolls.

Let us know if you have any questions or need help deciding on the right product for your home or office! 1-800-E.L.Foust

(And remember to always wear a mask when working!)



30th Anniversary Sale!! A Different Product on Sale Every Month, All Year!!



**10% off Desktop
and Auto Air
Purification Units**



**10% off Dennyfoil
and Shurtape**

**Also, 10% off Multi-Pure's 750SB Under the Sink
and 750SC Countertop Water Filters!
While Supplies Last**

UPCOMING CONFERENCES

E.L. Foust makes it a priority to attend relevant conferences and trade shows in order to educate ourselves and consumers.

The International Academy of Oral Medicine and Toxicology (IAOMT):
October 7th - 8th, 2004
Gaylord Opryland Resort and Convention Center
Nashville, Tennessee

American Academy of Environmental Medicine 39th Annual Meeting (AAEM):
October 28th - 31st, 2004
Marriott Beach & Golf Resort
Hilton Head Island, South Carolina

American Academy of Otolaryngic Allergy Annual Meeting (AAOA):
September 17th - 19th, 2004
The Plaza Hotel
New York City, New York

Green Home Show at Prairie Crossing:
October 24th, 2004
Prairie Crossing
Grayslake, Illinois
847-441-3228

American College of Allergy, Asthma, & Immunity Annual Scientific Meeting (AAAAI):
November 12th - 17th, 2004
Boston, Massachusetts

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q: I'd like to use one of your carbon air purification units, but I'm not sure what the right type of carbon is for me. How can I find out what my sensitivities might be to the various types of carbon filters you offer?

A: Finding the right filtration material is very important- if you have a sensitivity to the material in the filter, the purification process will be doing you no good! We carry Coconut Shell, Bituminous, Lignite, Wood, Formaldehyde Control, Mercury Vapor, Zeolite, Purapel, and can also mix any of these together to get the right mix for your needs. We offer a Carbon Test kit that includes small samples of our different types of carbons and particle filters. For a small price, you can get samples of the various materials and see what sensitivities you may have. Some carbons work better on air impurities better than others- just give us a call if you have any questions.

Q: I've noticed that you sell water filters that remove VOC's and Low VOC paints, what are VOC's and how are they harmful?

A: VOC stands for Volatile Organic Compound. These are often used in household products. The EPA's Total Exposure Assessment Methodology studies indicate that while people use products containing organic chemicals, they may expose themselves to very high pollutant levels, and VOC's can stay in the air long after the product has been used. VOC's may cause

eye, nose, and throat irritation; headaches, loss of coordination, and nausea. "The ability of organic chemicals to cause health effects varies greatly from those that are highly toxic, to those with no known health effect." Information taken from <http://www.epa.gov/iaq/voc.html>.

Q: I just installed my window air conditioner for the hot summer months and have noticed that the air quality in that room has suffered because of it. Is there anything I can do to keep the air clean and cool?

A: It sounds like you may need an Alpha-Stat Filter. The Alpha-Stat's ability to capture submicron or breathable particles not only protects equipment but the fragile human lungs. They come in many sizes and are easy to install in a window or wall type air conditioning unit. You may also choose our Sorb-a-Pad filter that removes particulates and odors. The pad is easy to install, you just cut it to size. Also, for those who have central air conditioning, you may need to check your filters and consider installing

Q: Our local water quality is pretty poor. I already have filtration devices for our drinking water, but is there anything to do about our showering and bathing water?

A: The RSF Shower Filter removes harmful chlorine, dirt and odors. This filter fits all showers and is easy to install.

PLEASE EMAIL US YOUR QUESTIONS!