

National Paint, Varnish, and Lacquer Association

THE National Paint, Varnish, and Lacquer Association is a trade association to speak for the paint industry and its suppliers of materials. The present Association was organized in 1933 but is the successor of national organizations dating back to 1888, when the National Paint, Oil, and Varnish Association was founded.

Unlike many other associations, the N. P. V. L. A. does not have trading rules, nor does it sponsor standard specifications or methods of test, but it has cooperated for many years with organizations, such as the American Oil Chemists' Society, which are engaged in the development of such methods. Since the earliest times members of the Association staff have been active in the American Society of Testing Materials groups, developing standards for drying oils, and ever since the Fat Analysis Committee of the A. O. C. S. entered that field, a member of the Association staff has participated in the work.

The laboratory work of the Association is carried on through the Scientific Section, which was organized in 1907, one of the earliest examples of technical work carried on by a trade association. The work of this section deals with many diverse problems which are of interest and importance to the paint industry, and all its work is made available to all members, without charge. With the exception of occasional jobs undertaken for the Armed Forces, none of the work done in the laboratories is for the specific information or advantage of a single individual or firm.

The work concerns the development of test methods, the development and investigation of new raw materials, studies of new application methods and techniques to extend the uses of the products, and investigation of causes of unsatisfactory performance and premature failure of paint jobs. Recently, engineering studies of manufacturing techniques, with particular emphasis on the problems of dispersion have been undertaken, with extremely interesting and useful results.

OTHER activities of the Scientific Section include publication of an Abstract Review, preparation of indexes of the raw materials available to the industry, with a summation of their properties, and the publication of a synopsis of all government specifications relating to paint products and their raw materials. This last is in the form of a Circular, which is kept up to date by periodic supplements.

All results of investigations are published in the form of Circulars, which are distributed to members of the Association. Some of the publications containing information of general interest are available to non-members.

In addition, the Association conducts many other activities for the benefit of the manufacturers and users of paint products, including an information service dealing with government regulations and orders affecting the industry, the control of unfair competition, the public relations of the industry, and many other activities.

The National Paint, Varnish, and Lacquer Association has a long history of service to its members and continues to serve this important, and growing industry in every way that circumstances indicate. Its operations supplement those of technical societies and make them more effective.

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