

Significant lead fumes are only released when the lead approaches its boiling point, over 1000°F (537.8°C) which is well above the temperature used in babbitting operations, around 400°F (204.4°C). Adequate ventilation shall also be provided. Chronic overexposure to lead may cause damage to the blood-forming, nervous, urinary and reproductive systems of the body. Symptoms include loss of appetite, metallic taste in the mouth, excessive tiredness, constipation, nausea, nervous irritability, joint pain, tremors, weakness and dizziness.

- (a) Use wedge shackles when ever possible.
- (b) Protective face shields and gloves shall be worn while pouring babbit.
- (c) Preheat the bearing housing or shackle to be poured to be sure that it is dry. The presence of moisture will form captured steam and the hot babbit will explode.
- (d) Avoid breathing fumes. Melt and pour babbit in well-ventilated areas.
- (e) Wash hands prior to eating or smoking after handling babbit.
- (f) Do not use cutting torches to melt babbit. An electric melting pot shall be used, as it will not allow babbit temperatures to exceed a safe level.
- (g) Care shall be taken when using resins for socketing. Use only Company-approved heaters for curing. Do not allow the material to come into contact with exposed skin. Do not store the material in direct sunlight.

## **14.5 Painting**

- (a) Some paints contain solvents that can be combustible or flammable. Some spray containers have flammable propellants. Some paints have undesirable odors.
- (b) Use spray paint only in well ventilated areas.
- (c) Field employees shall only use paints approved by their company. Follow the training you have been given and