VERMONT HOUSING & CONSERVATION BOARD
LEAD-BASED PAINT HAZARD REDUCTION PROGRAM

Chemically Stripped Building Components ,Window Sashes, and Glazing

All contractors should be aware that lead painted building components must continued to be handled in a lead safe manner even after the components have been chemically dipped or stripped. Lead dissolved in the chemical solutions used for removal can penetrate deeply into the pores of the wood. There have been a few instances of workers sanding wood components after chemical removal without proper protective gear that have resulted in elevated blood lead levels. A chemically stripped component with no visible lead paint should be considered hazardous until fully primed. All preparation for priming should be performed using lead safe work practices with proper personal hygiene and respiratory protection.

Contractors should ensure that off site chemical dipping companies properly neutralize the chemicals being utilized and that all chemical residue is washed off. Components stripped with alkaline compounds should be neutralized to a pH of 7. Gel-based stripping compounds must be cleaned with the proper surfactant to remove all traces of the compound. Methylene chloride strippers are not to be utilized. Contractors must be prepared to supply product information about any chemical being used for removal. Contractors must have MSDS's available for all chemicals utilized on-site. All components must be allowed to dry to a moisture level of 12% or less before priming and painting. All building components must pass a visual inspection by VHCB lead program staff before priming and painting.

Chemically stripped or dipped window sashes should have all surfaces primed before glazing. Oil based primers are to be used under oil based glazing. Oil based primers may be top coated with latex however keep in mind it is recommended that any oil based glazing should also be covered with oil based primer before a latex top coat and that the glazing must be allowed to skin over before priming.