

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION CONCERNING  
HEXAVALENT CHROMIUM (Cr VI) SAMPLING**

To our valued customers,

Our records show that you have submitted hexavalent chromium (Cr VI) samples to our laboratory for analysis in the recent past. OSHA's Cr VI Method ID-215 requires that samples collected in certain types of operations be processed differently and within certain time frames.

**Welding Operations**

The presence of large amounts of iron on samples collected at welding operations can slowly convert Cr VI to Cr III. OSHA has determined that **samples collected in welding operations must be analyzed within 8 days of being collected.** Samples analyzed after 8 days may underestimate the true Cr VI exposures by more than 10%.

**Plating Operations**

The presence of acids on samples collected at plating operations can slowly convert Cr VI to Cr III. OSHA has determined that **samples collected in plating operations must be analyzed within 6 days of being collected.** Samples analyzed after 6 days may underestimate the true Cr VI exposures by more than 10%.

**Spray Paint Operations**

The complex matrices of paint sprays make the extraction of Cr VI more difficult than from other matrices. OSHA requires that **samples collected in paint spray operations be processed through a dual extraction procedure** in order to recover all of the Cr VI collected on the sample.

**Summary**

To assure that your Cr VI samples are processed appropriately, we are asking that you provide the following information on your sample submittal documents:

- the date the samples were collected
- the type of operation; welding, plating, spray painting etc.

In addition, you should ship the samples to the lab for next business day delivery as soon as possible after the samples have been collected.

In order to provide you with the best results possible, the lab will automatically expedite the analysis of the samples where possible in order to meet the analysis time frames outlined above. To accommodate this expedited processing, effective immediately the lab will charge a rush preparation fee of \$25.00 per Cr VI sample **IF**:

- samples from a welding operation are not received by the laboratory within 5 days of the date collected.
- samples from a plating operation are not received by the laboratory within 3 days of the date collected.

Thank you for using choosing the Travelers Industrial Hygiene laboratory.

Sincerely,

*Thomas Surveski*  
QA Manager

*Marcel F Baril*  
Laboratory Director