

# Study on Work Environment in the Printing Industry

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Department of Labor and Employment  
**Occupational Safety and Health Center**  
North Avenue corner Agham Road,  
Diliman, Quezon City, Philippines



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## **Abstract**

A fact-finding survey to determine working conditions was conducted on 73 printing industries in Metro Manila. Measurements to determine work environment quality included airborne concentrations of organic solvents and lead, noise, and illumination. Results indicated that no exposure concentrations of n-hexane, methyl ethyl ketone, isopropyl alcohol, methyl isobutyl ketone and toluene in all workareas exceeded their respective threshold limit values; among five organic solvents, exposure concentration of methyl ethyl ketone was the highest and isopropyl alcohol was the least; all lead fume exposure concentrations were still within the TLV; noise level measurements indicated that the bindery and offset section were the noisiest and letterpress and typesetting areas were the least noisy; and illumination levels were mostly below the minimum lighting requirement of the Occupational Safety and Health Standards. Recommendations were given based on the evaluated results of the work environment measurement