

Government News Business

Advisory inspections and employer self-inspections, two new programs initiated by OSHA, are hoped to lead a more comprehensive national job safety and health program. OSHA boss, John H. Stender, told the Industrial Safety Equipment Association that early criticism of OSHA's program centered on the fact that, unlike many pre-existing state programs, OSHA did not have any provisions for inspection without citation. He said that self-inspections not only can help employers improve job safety and health conditions in their workplaces, "they also improve employee morale, contribute to productivity, reduce on-the-job injuries, lower insurance costs and provide many other benefits that more than pay for the time, effort and cost involved."

EPA and the Experimental Technology Incentives Program of the National Bureau of Standards have awarded a joint \$300,000 contract to A. D. Little, Inc., Cambridge, Massachusetts to investigate Federal incentives for stimulating private industry research into new pest control techniques. Incentives to be studied include codified registration standards, Federal financial support, improved use of Federal laboratories, Federal insurance and other possible steps.

The Treasury Department has ruled that some electric golf cars imported into the U.S. from Poland have been sold at "less than fair value." The cars have been imported by Melex, U.S.A., Inc., Raleigh, N.C. David Bender, a U.S. Customs Service official, said the case now goes to the International Trade Commission (ITC). The ITC will conduct a three-month investigation to determine what injury, if any, has been suffered by the domestic golf car industry. A decision is expected by September 14, 1975. Clem W. Sharek, executive vice president of Melex, said the decision in no way means the cars will cease to be imported into the country, and that it is still up to the ITC to determine if dumping does exist. The investigation stems from a complaint filed March 14, 1974 by Cushman Motors Div., OMC Corp., Lincoln, Neb., manufacturers of Cushman golf cars.

Internal Revenue Service has been petitioned to change regulations regarding casualty loss of landscape trees and specimen plants by several Green Industry associations. Present regulations limit amount of loss to "before" and "after" value of entire property. Petition asks that value of loss of landscape trees or specimen plants of a size or type that cannot be economically replaced be determined by qualified plantsmen based on established evaluation formulas.

EPA says "case closed" on aldrin/dieldrin. Judge Perlman's "Accelerated Decision" on May 27, 1975, states that U.S. Court of Appeals for District of Columbia has found "imminent hazard" in use of these pesticides; therefore, these registrations will be cancelled immediately. However, sale and/or use of aldrin and dieldrin formulated into products on or before August 2, 1974, is still permissible.

A free pamphlet describing EPA's pesticide laboratory services open to other Federal, state and local government agencies is available from EPA. The 12-page pamphlet, entitled "Pesticide Examination Services" lists the biological and chemical test capabilities of EPA labs and field operations in Beltsville, Md., Corvallis, Ore., and Bay St. Louis, Miss. Copies of the pamphlet may be obtained from EPA's Information Center, Washington, D.C. 20460 or from any of EPA's ten regional offices.