

1427 Tenth Ave.
Grinnell, Iowa. 50112
June 5, 1967

The Matheson Company, Inc.
Gas Division
P.O. Box 850
East Rutherford, N.J. 07073

Dear Sirs:

I am in the process of revising a manuscript covering, among other things, laboratory techniques and safety practices. In this I make the statement, commonly used in publications relating to the use of compressed oxygen that: "Equipment used with compressed oxygen should never be oiled". The publisher's reviewer feels that an explanation of the reasons behind this statement should be included. Frankly, I am not certain of these reasons. Is it because the oxygen, reacting with the oil will gum the action of regulators, or is there is fire or perhaps explosion hazard? Perhaps other reasons are behind this caution.

I would appreciate it very much if one of your laboratory or safety people will reply at once giving me specific reasons for the above precautionary statement.

Sincerely yours,

W. C. Oelke