



Smithsonian

National Air and Space Museum

Cellulose Acetate Manufacture and Acetate Dope Airplane Coating Report

2006

National Air and Space Museum Archives
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Collection Overview

Repository:	National Air and Space Museum Archives
Title:	Cellulose Acetate Manufacture and Acetate Dope Airplane Coating Report
Date:	(bulk 1916-1918)
Identifier:	NASM.XXXX.0765
Creator:	Worden, Edward C.
Extent:	0.36 Cubic feet ((1 box))
Language:	English .
Summary:	This collection consists of one onion skin copy of Edward C. Worden's Report No. 10086.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Unknown

Processing Information

Updated by Patti Williams, 2023.

Preferred Citation

Cellulose Acetate Manufacture and Acetate Dope Airplane Coating Report, NASM.XXXX.0765, National Air and Space Museum, Smithsonian Institution.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

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Biographical / Historical

Henri and Camille Dreyfus, brothers from Switzerland, set up several factories devoted to the manufacture of cellulose acetate in the early 1900s. One of the uses of cellulose acetate was as aircraft dope to waterproof and harden the fabric covering airplane wings. At the onset of World War I, aircraft dope was in great demand. The Dreyfus brothers soon focused their efforts solely on the manufacture of aircraft dope and in 1917 agreed to build a factory in Cumberland, Maryland. This factory, however, was not completed until after the end of World War I.

Scope and Contents

This collection consists of one onion skin copy of Edward C. Worden's Report No. 10086. This report was initially given to the Director of Aircraft Production and the United States Aircraft Board, and covered the topics of Cellulose Acetate Manufacture and Acetate Dope Airplane Coating in England and France. This copy consisting of 1050 sheets was given to Henry Lockhart, Jr. on June 28, 1918. The report is split into sixteen sections, the first two of which include two Breguet French patents (numbers 10170 and 10552), and reports on various topics including the following: cellulose acetate recovery, recovery of volatile solvents, and manufacture of cordite. The third section features information on the British Doping Practice while the fourth focuses on various specifications. Sections 10 and 16 contain information on the standardization of dope, the 12th section discusses the permeability of airship fabric, and the 13th section centers on the contraction of fabric. Other sections contain various reports and correspondence.

Arrangement

No arrangement as this is just one item.

Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

- Aeronautics
- Aircraft industry
- Cellulose Acetate