

John P. Emery, who has been vice president of Fluor Minerals, Fluor Corp., since 1970.

Alcohol Facility Direct Hydration

Partial Chemicals Company is updating conversion alcohol facility at Tuscola, Ill., to conventional sulfuric acid route to direct hydration.

The plant raises capacity from the 100,000-gallon range to 65 million a year, solves a local problem of sulfuric acid pollution and will lower plant costs, according to the National Chemical Corporation.

Plant turns out an ethyl ether but the cumbersome by-product of converting sulfuric acid to phosphoric acid has been eliminated.

Partial Chemicals of the new plant to be determined under actual conditions over the next few years, says a source. The new plant will have an average capacity of 100,000 gallons a year. Lower prices are not a result.

The \$10 million facility involves a new plant and associated facilities, but the existing plant has been retained for sulfuric acid.

Partial Chemicals is the owner of the plant. The plant is being offered for licensing on a 10-year basis. Selling points of the plant include extensive computerization.

Diabetic Therapy: Restrict Claims

The Drug Administration was told last week to be about ready to act on claims of the oral diabetic drugs of the effectiveness of the drugs. Action along this line has been reviewed for the past eighteen months. Studies conducted for the drug showed the value of the drugs.

The drugs are expected to affect and "Tolamine," products of the company, "Diabinese," marketed by the company, made by Eli Lilly, "DGL" by Ciba-Geigy and "Mellitin" 80, by Revlon.

The effectiveness of the drugs has raised serious questions about the drugs, and FDA earlier had advised the company to stop marketing the drugs.

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Coaters Happy About '71 as They Rip Through '72

The industry countered the trend of a dull 1971 with a 14 percent increase in sales and are predicting a 16 percent increase in 1972.

Coil Coaters Association, Inc., estimates that 3,948 million pounds of metal were pre-painted and coated in North America in 1971, up from 3,374 million pounds in 1970. The total for 1972 is expected to be a 5 percent increase in the use of pre-painted metal in the appliance and

Under separate contracts, Olin and PPG currently receive 76 million and 37 million cubic feet of gas daily, respectively. The Olin contract expires in 1984 and that of PPG in 1987.

Additional Suppliers Requested

Conoco says that because of proposed plant expansions, Olin and PPG have requested an additional 8.5 million and 3.5 million cubic feet daily in partial fulfillment of additional contractual commitments at existing prices.

Prices under the Olin contract are 10 cents per thousand cubic feet, while the PPG price is 24 cents per Mcf. The wellhead price for new gas in the Los Angeles area is reportedly running at 28 cents per thousand.

Conoco states that it has fully performed the two contracts to date and that it will continue to meet delivery terms to the extent practicable. However, the company adds, it has become impossible to meet all of the Olin and PPG demands either through existing reserves or purchase from other suppliers.

Continued performance at existing, let alone increased, rates have become commercially impracticable, Conoco claims. The company estimates that even without expanded demands from Olin and PPG or any other increases in contractual demands, Conoco's reserves of approximately 450 million cubic feet would fall short of delivery requirements of all customers by about 625 billion cubic feet.

Conoco says that a "fundamental and drastic change" has occurred in the gas market.

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PCB Crackdown Is Urged By Gov't Study Committee

A government task force on polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) last week recommended that the use of the chemicals, except use in electrical capacitors and transformers, be discontinued.

The study concluded that current environmental levels do not constitute an imminent hazard to health but that the effects of long-term exposure to PCBs are largely unknown. In connection with the report, the government also announced several actions on PCBs:

Environmental Protection Agency will restrict the discharge of all industrial effluents of the chemical from users into water, so that levels in rivers or lakes do not exceed 0.01 part per million.

Food & Drug Administration is considering new regulations including new and more stringent curbs for PCBs in foods and feeds, including steps to bar the chemical from food packaging.

Stauffer Set Up in Westport

Stauffer Chemical Company has officially opened its new headquarters in Westport, Conn. Three buildings on a 15-acre site face a four-acre courtyard with two large fountains, a pond, and landscaped gardens.

A 5 percent gain in containers and packaging.

The amount of pre-coated aluminum jumped 30 percent, from 1,100 million pounds in 1970 to 1,333 million pounds in 1971.

With new capacity that has come on stream recently, in addition to that which is in the works, coil coaters can face the future with enthusiasm and optimism, says NCCA president Peter F. Connor, of Inland Steel Company.

Substantial growth has been achieved in

*OPD 5/17/72
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FREEPORT DIRECTOR: John G. Hall, who has been elected a director of Freeport Minerals Company. Mr. Hall became executive vice-president of Freeport last year (ENR's Chemical Engineering, 1/3/72, p. 31).

Propylene Oxide Plant On Stream in Europe

A direct oxidation propylene oxide plant with a design capacity of 340 million pounds a year has come on stream in the Bolkac area of Rotterdam, Netherlands. The \$40-million facility is described by the two American owners—Atlantic Richfield Company and Halcon International, Inc.—as Europe's largest propylene oxide plant.

It is operated by Onirane Chemie (Netherlands) which is owned equally by subsidiaries of the parent companies, both headquartered in New York.

The technology employed is a first in Europe. Onirane maintains, and was developed by Arco Chemical Company and Halcon. The process is similar to that used at the Onirane Chemical Company plant at Bayport, Tex., which manufactures propylene oxide through direct oxidation.

The Dutch plant incorporates numerous technological improvements developed by Onirane.

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Selas Will Build Furnaces For Amoco's Ethylene Plant

Selas Corporation of America has been awarded a contract of nearly \$5 million to provide ethylene furnaces for the new ethylene plant being constructed for Amoco Chemical Corporation at Chocoma Bay, Tex.

The contract was awarded by C. F. Braun & Co., Alhambra, Calif., which a week earlier was named prime contractor for the Amoco ethylene plant.

This new contract brings to more than \$8 million the contract awards announced thus far this year for Selas' Fluid Processing Division.

Rip Through '72

economy of purchasing pre-coated metal. Mr. Connor maintains.

The big market for coated coil continues to be building products, which include residential, industrial, commercial, and rural structures and interiors, portable buildings, modular and component housing and mobile homes.

Pre-coated steel is estimated to have accounted for 1.2 million pounds of total production in 1971, up from 1.1 million pounds in 1970.

the conversion of a ton in a ton which would cost \$100,000 of the cost of the ton would be according to Selas Mines.

Reverses

If the reversal of a long ton of the coal-fired would amount in

The Wankel engine will run according to the US oil company for "hang-on" according to L. W. Search & Development

its emissions of well within specification, several labor facility in maintaining clean with special to inexperience in of engine.

The Ethyl told the meeting, built long-lasting chambers that over of much higher

Spokesman for / stated that it's in industry will be a

Continued

Trichloroethylene Goes to Japan

An inquiry for trichloroethylene to U.S. has been received by United City Chemical Company.

The inquiry was the trading company the American principal in Tokyo for the Japanese chemical industry is heavily concerned with the source of the material.

In another development, the makers of perchloroacetate and Kanto K—have cleared a joint ship 6 million pounds Europe. This followed order of 4 million

EXXON: It's No Long

What is an Exxon? It is a model, an example, a source of the new primary trucker of Hunking Company.

The Standard (Jersey) subsidiaries planned with left in "East" and "hence the search for the E2

Beginning in N. will change signs service stations, C. methacrylate in sheeting brand name

the new