

Anniston, Alabama

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Anniston, Alabama

Arcoelor - Interplant Viscosity Comparison

The attached letter is the latest on the question of differences in viscosity measurements at Anniston and Plant B.

As you know, we have checked the API standard at both locations and the same samples of Arcoelor 1260 have been checked at both places. But as pointed out in my letter of 10/22/51, the data from Plant B on 9/15/51 shows that they attain higher values on the API at 52 seconds (98.9°C) and lower results than we do at 72 seconds (98.9°C) on the same Arcoelor 1260. This same trend is observed on both corrected and uncorrected readings.

To me this reversal of deviation at different viscosity times is incompatible with the idea of using a percentagewise correction factor above and below the calibration time. Plant B agrees that this should be investigated further.

I have suggested that both plants run split samples of the series of Arcoelors, i.e. Arcoelors 1242, 1248, 1254 and 1260. This would tell us if our deviations were all in the same direction over a wide range of viscosities.

The matter of sending an analyst from here to Plant B is one on which you must have the final word. I realize that the first tendency is to let Plant B solve their own problems since their analysis are the ones that do not agree with General Electric. Nevertheless, we need to have agreement between our own company laboratories on the same sample at least. Therefore, I suggest that we continue to cooperate in this matter.

My suggestion is to agree to the sending of samples for analysis at Anniston and compare results with Plant B. Then if no reconciliation is forthcoming, you can make a decision on sending your analyst to Plant B to see if the problem is one of technique.

Please give us of your thoughts on the matter and we will write. However, it might be preferable for you to write directly to Mr. Kulifay.

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