FIRE RESISTANT HEAT TRANSFER FLUIDS

Liquid phase heating, as opposed to vapor phase or direct fire heating, has been in use for many years. The two original fluids for this heating method were water and petroleum oil--but water was limited to 212°F. and oil was and still is the cause of and the fuel for many a devastating fire. So, in the mid-1940's, some users turned to PCB fluids for extremely hazardous situations, such as chemical reactors where there was open flame heating, flammable solvents and enclosed buildings. PCB systems were few and occasional for the next 15 years, but in the 1960's with increased social consciousness and concern for safety, the number of users began to multiply.

Recognizing the potential hazard of PCB's in food, we have terminated sale of PCB fluids into all known food cooking systems. Subsequently, we have stopped selling into systems involving packaging materials, pharmaceutical manufacture, animal feed, and, in fact, have now terminated sales into all <u>new</u> heating systems of any type.

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We will continue to sell into existing systems, excepting the type mentioned above, where protection of life and property are dominant considerations and where the systems are well designed and accidental leakage is contained. Examples of industries where there are such systems are large chemical processing; resin polymerization; drying and curing textiles, particle board and plywood; plastics and rubber; ore drying; carbon anode production; offshore gas dehydration systems; barge heating; space heating; autoclaves; and waste heat recovery from incinerators. In these systems where we continue selling makeup PCB fluids, there is no satisfactory replacement product. The PCB's are the only commercial fire resistant heat transfer fluids. In a system designed around these fluids, safety considerations are entirely different. An example is an offshore gas dehydrating system where they used to install the heating system on an entirely separate platform for fire safety. To withdraw PCB's from these systems would almost certainly, sooner or later, mean a major disaster involving people on one of these isolated platforms.

To summarize our position in heat transfer systems, this fluid, with good housekeeping, can be kept from finding its way into the environment. And to remove it would create unacceptably hazardous working conditions for thousands of people. Therefore, though we will not sell fluid for new systems, we will sell as makeup for old systems that are not involved in any way with the food chain, that are well designed, and where accidental spills are contained.