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Date: October 25, 1974

From: Dr. A. B. Steele

Subject: Vinyl Resin Operations
Flash Report

Vinyl Chloride Monomer

The new OSHA standard for vinyl chloride indicates wholehearted commitment by OSHA to the principle that absolute worker safety must be proven by animal studies before a material is acceptable. The application of this principle to all materials in the chemical industry will cause serious disruptions in the future.

Dispersion Resins

Production was on plan for the week. Work is continuing on the vacuum stripping of the latex in the autoclave. The work, if successful, will probably reduce capacity but will permit operation at lower VCM emission levels. Engineering work on the autoclave ventilation project was suspended in favor of studying autoclave solvent washing via General Tire's technology.

Suspension Resins

Production continues to be limited by VCM availability but improved over last week. The week was 79.6% of plan, currently producing at 11.5 MM pound rate. The East line was shut down for three days.

The North line made good quality VSKK-10 all week with no production problems.

The South line produced QSAN-7, as did the East line for four days. The quality was, as last week, very good.

Non-Solvent Resins

The VYNW run was terminated on October 15 after production of 2,490 M pounds. ~~The monthly rate is 1.6 MM pounds.~~

The procedure to control the vinyl acetate of VYNW was changed to eliminate operator exposure during sampling of the feed. A laboratory analysis of the resin for PVC content is now being used. The PVC was high during part of the week as the changeover to the new procedure was made.

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