

c: Mr. W. I. Lowe
Mr. J. B. Knowles
Mr. J. A. Pomeroy
Mr. H. L. Burpo

September 8, 1954

Mr. Jesse E. Lewis
Vice President
Air-Shields, Inc.
Hatboro, Pennsylvania

Re: "Vinylite" VU-1900 Clear 01

Dear Mr. Lewis:

Your letter of September first to Mr. W. I. Lowe of the Bakelite Company, a Division of Union Carbide and Carbon Corporation, has been referred to me for answering. This "Vinylite" composition is two-thirds vinyl chloride polymer, around one-third "Flexol" Plasticizer DOP (di-2-ethylhexyl phthalate), and less than 2 per cent organic tin stabilizer. The vinyl chloride resin is extremely inert physiologically, and because of this fact it is commonly used in food packaging. The DOP is a plasticizer commonly used in such compositions also in food packaging. The organic tin stabilizer is a skin irritant in its concentrated form, but we had thirty human subjects patch tested with 1 per cent of this compound on gauze, and no sensitizations occurred.

A formulation similar to this has been used for years in "Vinylite" sheeting and, to our knowledge, has not caused any trouble in the production of dermatitis among users of the same. It is frequently used in articles of clothing, including baby pants.

We would think that the case referred to in the letter from the Premature Center, Charity Hospital of Louisiana, New Orleans, is very unusual. Of course, some individuals develop contact dermatitis to such common materials as wool, silk, wheat flour, etc.

If we may be of any further service, please do not hesitate to let us know.

Very truly yours,

MEDICAL DIRECTOR
INDUSTRIAL MEDICAL AND TOXICOLOGY DEPARTMENT

Thomas W. Hale, M. D.
jl

UCC
063394

Manufacturers of the ISOLETTE® Infant Incubator
and other Medical Equipment

AIR-SHIELDS, INC.

HATBORO, PENNSYLVANIA • TELEPHONE HATBORO 4-112

*Copies - J. B. Knowles
J. H. Pomeroy
H. L. Burgo -
OSBOENE
W. K. Lewis*

September 1, 1954

VD 1900 clear 51

Mr. W. I. Lowe
Bakelite Company
30 East 42nd Street
New York 17, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Lowe:

Please accept my apology for not complying immediately with your request on the telephone on August 25 to furnish details relative to the complaint transmitted to us by one of our hospital customers.

A copy of this letter is enclosed, containing information that we trust will be helpful to you in preparing the answers to the subject problem, which we are anxious to forward to this hospital as soon as we hear from you.

Trusting that this information is complete, and thanking you in advance for your immediate attention, we remain,

Very truly yours,

Jesse E. Lewis

Jesse E. Lewis
Vice President
Production

Enc.
JEL/s

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COPY

from
AIR SHIELDS
INCORPORATED
Hatboro, Penna.

18 August 1954

Air-Shields, Inc.
Hatboro, Pa.

Gentlemen:

In following up on our discussion today, I suspect it may be helpful to you to have the more specific and detailed description of my problem in writing, as follows:

One of the most important head nurses in our Premature Center, a girl who has been working in the unit for almost two years, has been troubled for the past 3-4 months by a serious and persistent "contact dermatitis" involving only her hands and forearms. Her condition has been carefully studied by a competent staff of dermatologists who are now of the opinion that the causative "contact" agent must be "plastic" sleeves of the ISOLETTE incubators to which she exposes the involved areas repeatedly each day. Thorough trial periods have been conducted to exclude several soaps and detergents as well as plain water. Further studies, applying skin tests of various plastic materials, are in progress.

Since the possibility exists that more than one type of plastic material of specific chemical nature has been used in the manufacture of the sleeves we are now using (the most recent supply of sleeves we have received is Order No. 75992 NCH, which was shipped from Hatboro on August 4, 1954), several alternative and complementary steps are suggested as likely and reasonable solutions to this problem, as follows:

1. Supply us with the complete chemical specifications for the plastic material used in the manufacture of all orders of sleeves we have received from you in the past year along with small samples for skin testing and specifications of a completely different plastic material which could be used in future manufacture of sleeves for us.
2. If you have sleeves currently available made of material which we can be assured differs chemically from those ~~we have received~~ in the past, we would appreciate your sending a preliminary order of 40 such sleeves. This would allow us to furnish one side of the 20 ISOLETTES now in use ~~actively~~ in the Premature Center. Purchase order can be arranged later.

UCC
063396

COPY

from
AIR SHIELDS
INCORPORATED
Halboro, Penna.

- 2 -

3. Provide us with information as to how similar problems have been solved elsewhere or any other suggestions you may have.

As you no doubt may surmise from the character of this letter, I consider this to be a very important problem at this time. Your cooperation in finding a solution will be deeply appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

Medical Director, Premature Center
Charity Hospital of Louisiana
New Orleans 12, Louisiana

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063397

Manufacturers of the ISOLETTE Infant Incubator
and other Medical Equipment

AIR-SHIELDS, INC.

Fde

OSborne 5-5200

HATBORO, PENNSYLVANIA • TELEPHONE

September 13, 1954

Thomas W. Nale, M.D.
Medical Director
Industrial Medical and
Toxicology Department
Union Carbide and Carbon Corporation
30 East Forty-Second Street
New York 17, N. Y.

Dear Dr. Nale:

Please forgive my delay in acknowledging your very kind letter of September 8 but, as I have been away for the past week, it was just brought to my attention this morning.

Your cooperation is greatly appreciated and very helpful to us. We have taken the liberty of sending a copy of your letter to Dr. William T. Newsom, Charity Hospital, New Orleans.

Many, many thanks again.

Very sincerely yours,

Jesse E. Lewis
Jesse E. Lewis
Vice President

JEL:l

RECEIVED

SEP 14 1954

INDUSTRIAL MEDICAL &
TOXICOLOGY DEPARTMENT

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063398

COPY

from
AIR SHIELDS
INCORPORATED
Halboro, Penna.

- 2 -

3. Provide us with information as to how similar problems have been solved elsewhere or any other suggestions you may have.

As you no doubt may surmise from the character of this letter, I consider this to be a very important problem at this time. Your cooperation in finding a solution will be deeply appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

Medical Director, Premature Center
Charity Hospital of Louisiana
New Orleans 12, Louisiana

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