

ETHYL CORPORATION

INTER-OFFICE

To D. F. Couvillion/H. G. Olson Address BRP

FROM T. J. Harbourt Address BRP

SUBJECT VCl Monitoring DATE February 15, 1983

In January, personnel samples for vinyl chloride monomer (VCM) were collected for jobs on the 1983 annual schedule. A total of 36 jobs were monitored, 20 in the PVC unit and 16 in the VCl process of the hydrocarbon area. The attached tables show the results of all jobs monitored. The OSHA permissible exposure limit (PEL) for VCM is 1 ppm as a time weighted average.

In the PVC area, two of the 20 jobs monitored exceeded the PEL of 1 ppm. The reactor foreman had an exposure of 1.7 ppm. His exposure occurred while supervising the repair of a plugged vent line on a slurry stripper and a leaking valve on B-16 autoclave. He wore a negative pressure respirator during these activities. The cleaner operator had an exposure of 7.3 ppm. His exposure occurred while cleaning inside four of the large GJ6 autoclaves. VCM readings were taken at three different levels inside each autoclave using the H-Nu analyzer before entry for cleaning was made. The readings in ppm VCM were as follows:

Autoclave No.	Top	Middle	Bottom
18	180	200	210
17	120	130	140
19	90	90	100
18	120	130	130

The levels inside the autoclaves must be below 1,000 ppm before they can be entered for cleaning. If the levels exceed 1,000 ppm, the autoclaves must be water purged or evacuated using the auto-vac until the VCM level is below 1,000 ppm. Air supplied respirators are used at all times while inside autoclaves.

In the VCl (hydrocarbon) area, two of the 16 jobs monitored exceeded 1 ppm. The compressor house operator had an exposure of 1.6 ppm. His exposure most likely occurred while in the area of a pipefitter changing a safety relief valve. An air supplied respirator was used. The tower operator had an exposure of 1.9 ppm. He was involved in the changing of a scrubber on the C-5 feed. No obvious exposure and no alarms were noted during the shift. No respiratory protection was used.

The overall low exposures found during this monitoring period show the continued effectiveness of engineering and work practice controls of vinyl chloride exposures in the PVC and VCl areas.



T. J. Harbourt

TJH:bto
Attachments

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File: IH (PC) Baton Rouge Plant (Vinyl Chloride)

VINYL CHLORIDE PERSONNEL MONITORING

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DATE	AREA	NAME	BADGE #	JOB	PPM EXPOSURE	COMMENTS
1/14/83	PVC	Hopkins	8769	Finishing Area Supervisor	0.06	
1/14/83	PVC	Mehl	7729	Reactor Area Supervisor	0.08	
1/14/83	PVC	Ballard	7404	Reactor Foreman	1.7	B-16 autoclave leaking. Plugged vent line on slurry stripper. Wore regular pressure respirator.
1/14/83	PVC	Lee	8994	Maintenance Supervisor	N.D.	
1/14/83	PVC	Borne	412	Maintenance Foreman	0.06	
1/14/83	PVC	Lemoine	6241	E&I	0.14	
1/14/83	PVC	Kralemann	7539	General Foreman	.07	
1/19/83	PVC	Guillory	1164	Charger	0.2	
1/10/83	PVC	Vicknair	1207	Cleaner	7.3	Cleaned 4 large autoclaves, wore supplied air respirator
1/19/83	PVC	Newchurch	6232	P/F	0.2	
1/19/83	PVC	Lande	533	Utility	0.3	
1/19/83	PVC	McCoy	843	1st Floor Operator	0.4	
1/19/83	PVC	Hunt	844	Dryer	0.1	
1/19/83	PVC	Guerin	523	Warehouse	0.1	
1/21/83	PVC	Humphrey	984	Mechnaic	0.07	
1/21/83	PVC	Olinde	3600	Hygiene Utility	0.1	
1/21/83	PVC	Gaines	1206	Finishing	0.07	

NOTE: All exposures represent full shift samples unless otherwise noted.

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