

ADVISORY

May, 1984

NEWS OF INTEREST TO THE PVC AND VCM INDUSTRIES

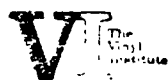
PROPOSED REGULATION OF PVC FOR FOOD CONTACT APPLICATIONS TARGETED FOR OCTOBER RELEASE

Office of Management and Budget personnel have stated that the long-awaited proposed regulation of PVC for food contact applications "barring further complications will be issued on or before...October 1984." According to Food Chemical News, OMB Administrator for Information and Regulatory Affairs Christopher DeMuth has responded to an April 26 letter from Mr. Frank Harris of Aim Packaging inquiring as to the status of the FDA proposed regulation. Mr. DeMuth stated that it is OMB's "...understanding that this regulation is completing the final stages of review at FDA..." and that "the unanticipated delay was the result of allowing time for the FDA scientists to investigate a recent study which linked PVC exposure to cancer."

Mr. Harris has been working for many years to clarify the status of PVC liquor bottles. In a March 29, 1984 letter to Mr. Harris, Mr. Sanford Miller (Director of the FDA's Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition), stated that FDA had made "substantial progress" in resolving the PVC liquor bottle situation. The letter states that FDA is in the process of preparing proposed regulations concerning all uses of PVC and anticipates development of a "proposal by October of 1984." The letter further states that "the proposed regulations are expected to set very low residual vinyl chloride monomer levels for PVC resins and may also set limits on the use of certain PVC resins." As part of the process of developing the proposed regulations, FDA is now working on the preparation of its required Economic Impact Assessment.

VI RESEARCH PROJECT HIGHLIGHTED AT U.S. GOVERNMENT SEMINAR

The results of the first phase of a Vinyl Institute sponsored research project on pipe permeation conducted at Battelle Columbus Laboratories was highlighted this month during a seminar conducted in Cincinnati, Ohio by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The intent of the May 16-17 seminar, "Plumbing Materials and Drinking Water Quality," was to review drinking water quality problems related to plumbing materials and to identify alternative solutions for dealing with these problems. The targeted audience included federal, state and local officials, public water supply personnel, manufacturers, and consultants who are involved in the selection and application of various plumbing materials used to convey potable water.



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Donald Goodman, Manager of Polymer R&D/Tenneco Polymers, Inc. and James Pfau, Battelle Columbus Laboratories discussed the VI sponsored research project. Goodman served as chairman of the Technical Committee's task group responsible for project execution and monitoring. The first phase of the project involved constructing gasketed piping systems out of three commonly used materials -- ductile iron, asbestos-cement and polyvinyl chloride -- and exposing them to solvent saturated soil conditions for six of weeks. Pipes of the same materials, but without joints, were exposed to identical conditions. After six weeks exposure, solvents had permeated the gasketed pipes in all but one test situation while ungasketed pipe showed slower permeation or no permeation.

**VI TRADE SHOW BOOTH
EXHIBITED AT NFPA
ANNUAL MEETING**

The Vinyl Institute trade show exhibit booth will appear this month at the National Fire Protection Association's Annual Meeting May 21-23 in New Orleans, Louisiana. The booth was used initially at the March 18-20 Fire Department Instructor's Conference held in Cincinnati, Ohio which was sponsored by the International Society of Fire Service Instructors. The VI cooperated with the ISFSI in the production of two audio visual presentations. The first, "Vinyl in Today's Fire Environment," is a slide/tape training program now being distributed by the ISFSI to all 50 state fire training directors, 50 state fire marshalls as well as to the fire chiefs in 83 major metropolitan cities. The slide/tape presentation is currently part of the exhibit booth. The second production, "Vinyl: Trial by Fire," which premiered before an audience of 2000 attendees of the Fire Department Instructors Conference, is a video presentation of the fire burn demonstrations conducted in Lisle, Illinois during the preparation of the slide/tape program.

**VI HOLDS SECOND
ANNUAL MEETING**

Vinyl Institute Executive Director Dr. Roy T. Gottesman highlighted the significant activities and accomplishments of the VI during the past year at the Institute's April 24 Second Annual Meeting held in Washington D.C. Dr. Gottesman reported that during the last year "...more has been done than ever before to forcefully address the consistent problems of misinformation that have plagued the vinyl industry. In this short period of time, a well-focused program has been developed...and the Institute has established itself as the 'one voice' of the industry. It is indeed the focal point of contact with the communications media, governmental agencies and legislators." An annual report will be formally issued at the close of the fiscal year May 31, 1984.

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BF Goodrich Chemical President Dr. Bart A. DiLiddo, chairman of the Institute's Executive Board, welcomed to the meeting representatives of domestic and foreign PVC producers who are not currently members of the VI. Dr. DiLiddo urged those invited to join the Institute and to share with the current members their commitment to promote and protect the continued growth of the polyvinyl chloride and vinyl chloride monomer industries.

**JOHNSON & JOHNSON
USING PVC FOR
PACKAGING BREAKTHROUGH**

The April 1984 Plastic Bottle Reporter featured a story on the use by Johnson & Johnson of a PVC container for its ACT fluoride dental rinse. The container features a Squeeze Meter affixed to the top of the bottle that was designed to hold a dose of the rinse predetermined by research to be the optimal amount for cavity prevention. Because the concept would only work with a flexible container, the selection of PVC bottles enabled Johnson & Johnson to create an innovative packaging design.

**NEW EQUIPMENT INTRODUCED
FOR BLOW MOLDING PVC
BOTTLES WITH IMPROVED
ECONOMICS**

Hoover Universal has recently introduced a new twin-screw blow molder that will improve production rates for large PVC bottles (up to half-gallon) and be as cost-efficient as stretch blowing PVC processes. The new Uniloy twin-screw blow molder, has a PVC output capacity of 400 lb/hr, compared to 250 lb/hr for single-screw equipment. Because it will allow bottles to be run on a 3-parison/6-cavity system, bottle output will be increased by an estimated 50 percent. Because its operating temperature is lower than single-screw equipment, the new machine will improve operating stability, reduce odor and taste, and increase the capability to run lower stabilized compounds and powder.

To obtain additional copies of AdVisory, or to add your name to the mailing list, contact Jean M. Dzurillay, The Vinyl Institute, 355 Lexington Avenue, 6th floor, New York City 10017.

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