



DOW CHEMICAL U.S.A.

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TEXAS OPERATIONS
FREEPORT TEXAS 77541

November 3, 1986

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C. Barroso, Brazil
L. Bauml, Texas
C. Brannan, LA
J. Dahle, Stade
D. Doerfler, Texas
P. Duncan, Ft Sask
P. Fraser, Ft Sask
M. Gambrell, Texas
K. Huff, Texas

R. Ionita, Sarnia
E. Kotis, Texas
W. Kozyra, Stade
D. Mohrmann, Stade
J. Muller, LA
R. Peebles, LA
S. Richardson, Russellville
J. Sweetman, Sarnia
D. Smith, Western
J. Wade, Texas

cc: J. Berner, Brazil
R. Daniels, Ft Sask
J. Diamond, Russellville
R. Gaska, LA
B. Groot, Stade

B. Knee, Texas
E. Rainwater, Midland
D. Rausch, Midland
G. Werezak, Sarnia
R. Woods, Western

REACTIVE CHEMICALS INCIDENTS INVOLVING CHLORINE

During this year there has been a significant increase in the number of reactive chemicals incidents. The purpose of this letter is to request that you give reactive chemicals hazards some special emphasis to reverse this trend.

I am attaching a letter from Doug Rausch that discusses the reactive chemicals incidents involving chlorine. At the time that his letter was written, there had been 9 reactive chemicals incidents involving chlorine since May, and 3 of these 9 were in Chlor-Alkali plants. However, in the last few weeks, we in Chlor-Alkali have experienced two additional reactive chemicals incidents involving chlorine and another one which did not involve chlorine. One of these three incidents involved a titanium/dry chlorine reaction, another was a hydrogen/chlorine reaction, while the other was a hydrogen/air reaction.

In reviewing your reactive chemicals program, please consider the following questions.

1. Are all titanium parts and fittings tagged and identified as being titanium?
2. Is a separate storage area provided for titanium parts?
3. Are your operating procedures and controls adequate to prevent low brine levels in the cells?

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4. Have reactive chemicals incidents been reviewed with operations personnel?
5. Are maintenance personnel adequately trained in the reactive chemicals hazards in Chlor-Alkali plants?

As you can see in reviewing the incidents in the attached list, a great many of them are due to iron/chlorine, titanium/chlorine, oil/chlorine, or hydrogen/chlorine reactions.

Thanks for your help in this very important area.

Charlie Golden

C. E. Golden
Chlor-Alkali Technology Center

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Attach

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