

OCT 6 1976

## Firm to Phase Out Risky Chemical

ST. LOUIS (UPI) — Monsanto Co., the nation's leading supplier of polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB), used as an electric insulator, said Tuesday it will stop producing the chemical by Oct. 31, 1977, because of possible hazardous effects on humans.

Monsanto said the phasing out of production would give time for manufacturers to find substitutes for PCB. Substitutes developed by the electrical industry are being tested, although they may not prove as effective in resisting fire as PCB.

THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION Agency, which called PCB a "significant hazard to human health and the environment," welcomed Monsanto's decision.

"The Monsanto decision is a significant step in dealing with the total problem of PCB contamination," said Administrator Russell Train.

"Environmental contamination will continue to be a problem due to the millions of PCBs already in landfills, soils, river and lake sediments, in our air and water and in wildlife and human tissue. This contamination will be there for years — moving into life systems, including humans."

Monsanto said last January it would stop production of PCB but no date was set. PCB has been used since about

1930 as fire-resistant fluids and electric insulating in capacitors and transformers.

Monsanto once made as much as 85 million pounds of PCB a year, but that production has dropped to about 27,000 pounds in recent years as fears about environmental damage mounted.

Monsanto's American production of PCB was handled by about 20 employees at the firm's plant in Saugat, Ill., across the Mississippi River from St. Louis, and the firm said probably no employees would lose jobs because of phasing out of PCB. The plant employs 1,300. Monsanto said sales of PCB amounted to less than half of 1 per cent of Monsanto's business.

MONSANTO ALSO MAKES PCB at a plant in England, and production there also will be phased out, although no timetable has been set.

PCB-filled transformers are used in high-rise buildings, hospitals and schools and in electrically powered urban commuter trains. Their function is to either increase or reduce voltage or change the current in the system. Capacitors containing PCB are used to control voltage and reduce power losses in fluorescent and mercury lights, AC motors, air-conditioning compressors and television receivers.

8-5 BEAUTY FASHION  
MO. 17,000

SEP 1976

CLIPPED BY  
SACONS

### FIRMENICH

Appointment: Hans Buring, to sales representative, fragrance division, Eastern U.S.

### FELTON INTERNATIONAL

Appointment: Charles J. DiGiovanni to sales account executive. He was formerly sales representative, Neumann, Buslee & Wolfe, Inc.

### MONSANTO

Appointment: Harvey S. Schnur, to supervisor, cosmetic and allied application laboratories of Monsanto Flavor/Essence, Inc., a subsidiary of Monsanto.

The Standard Star  
NEW ROCHELLE, N. Y.  
(NEW YORK CITY MARKET AREA)  
D. 17,030

OCT 6 1976

## Kepones fines

Allied Chemical Corp. has been fined \$13.2 million for dumping the pesticide Kepone and other highly toxic chemicals into Virginia's James River. It was believed to be the largest fine ever levied for pollution of the nation's waterways. In another environmental action, Monsanto Industrial Chemicals Co. of St. Louis announced it plans to halt production of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs). Monsanto is the only maker of PCB fluids in the U.S. It was PCBs which polluted the Hudson River from an upstate General Electric plant.