

Vista Chemical Company

15990 N. Barker's Landing Rd.
Post Office Box 19029

Houston, Texas 77224
Phone (713) 531-3200

JH: JCL: TGG: RF
XF: Customer Request

January 9, 1985

VISTA

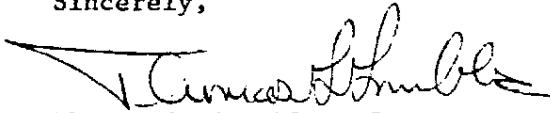
Mr. Richard Atcheson
Plant Superintendent
United Technologies Corporation
2601 South Adams Street
Marion, IN 46952

Dear Mr. Atcheson:

I sent you a letter on December 20 regarding the flammability and explosibility potential of PVC Dust. I discovered an error in the third paragraph. The next to last sentence should read, "particulates (less than 100 microns in size) must be present."

A corrected letter is attached: Please destroy the original.

Sincerely,



Thomas G. Grumbles, CIH
Director, Industrial Hygiene
& Product Safety

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Attachment

cc E. L. Kieschnick
Pat Haugen
Jim Rogers

VVV 000016052

December 20, 1984

VISTA

Mr. Richard Atcheson
Plant Superintendent
United Technologies Corporation
2601 South Adams Street
Marion, IN 46952

Dear Mr. Atcheson:

At the request of Pat Haugen I am responding to your request for information regarding the flammability or explosibility potential of PVC dust.

Vista Chemical has done no testing specific to this issue. However, there is some data available in the technical literature. This information is summarized below.

Pure PVC powders, or resins, can support and propagate flame, but only with extremely high ignition energies. Experiments have shown the energy required to be in the area of 100 joules or greater. Even with this energy of very dense cloud of fine particulates (less than 100 microns in size) must be present. This high of an ignition energy and dust concentrations are certainly atypical in PVC processing plants.

It is generally accepted that equipment handling pure PVC requires no explosion protection and we are not aware of any dust explosions associated with PVC Resin. It should be noted however that the addition of volatile additives, such as plasticizers, can change the explosion characteristics of the dust.

Sincerely,



Thomas G. Grumbles, CIH
Director, Industrial Hygiene
& Product Safety

ajo
005

cc E. L. Kieschnick
Pat Haugen
Jim Rogers

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