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UDEX AND PLATFORMING OPERATING MANUALS
PROPOSED SAFETY SECTION

At your request, I have summarized my thoughts concerning a proposed safety section for Udex and Platforming Process Units.

UOP has some degree of responsibility to call attention to the safety hazards involved in operation of the processes it licenses and designs for its customers. The extent of this responsibility is for others to decide, but it behooves those responsible for educating customers to use whatever means are necessary to warn of the hazards and to call attention to accepted, authoritative standards and codes of safe practice. Further, if accepted standards of safe practice are not used by a customer in the operation of UOP processes, this point should be called to the attention of the customer in writing.

In my opinion, the most dangerous industrial hazard is not the obvious and dramatic fires and toxic chemicals, but those subtle and hidden hazards which act slowly and less dramatically and hence permit a false sense of security to exist. In the case of Udex and Platforming, I am referring to exposure to aromatics and, particularly, to benzene. Well documented evidence exists that fatalities have resulted in workers exposed to benzene years after withdrawal from exposure with no external symptoms evident during the intervening time. It is particularly important that we call attention to the insidious nature of these materials in our Operating Manuals on these processes and that our "Start-Up" personnel give this subject particular attention, from carefully prepared source material, when training the customer's employees.

A suggested "Safety Section" for Udex and Platforming Processes is attached. Suggestions of Dr. Jacobson are incorporated. Before this proposal is incorporated in the operating manuals, it should be given very careful study and approval by both Dr. R. A. Jacobson and our Legal Department.



K. M. Brown

KMB/ddp
Enc.

CC: DWH/MPV RESu JGWoods Dr. R. A. Jacobson BJF KMB CF