

UNION
CARBIDE

INTERNAL CORRESPONDENCE

CHEMICALS AND PLASTICS

P. O. BOX 471, TEXAS CITY, TEXAS 77860

TO (NAME) See Attached Distribution DATE January 21, 1975
COMPANY
LOCATION

COPY TO SUBJECT Vinyl Chloride
Respiratory Equipment

Gentlemen:

Based on the proposed permanent standard (which is under study by the courts) our fresh air respiratory equipment needs upgrading as follows:

1. Emergency self-contained breathing apparatus, demand type (rated up to 100 ppm VCM) should be upgraded to pressure demand type (rated for unknown concentrations and above 3600 ppm). Estimated cost is \$60 per unit.
2. Air line respirator Type C, demand, one-half face piece (rated up to 10 ppm VCM) should be upgraded to either:
 - (a) Combination Type C, pressure demand, auxiliary egress cylinder, full face piece (rated up to 3600 ppm VCM). Estimated cost per unit is \$315.
 - OR-
 - (b) Type C, continuous flow, one-half face piece (rated up to 1000 ppm). Piped in air supply is required for continuous flow.
3. Additionally, four-hour canister gas masks which provide mobility are needed for concentrations up to 25 ppm VCM. The M-S-A® GMA Canister, part number 461480, has NIOSH approval TC-14-G-84. Bulk cost is \$11.50 each. Complete mask part number is 461483.

The proposed schedule is consistent with regulations for other carcinogens. Rationale precludes contamination caused by poor fit coupled with negative pressure. Therefore, all respiratory equipment rated for above 100 ppm VCM is either continuous flow or pressure demand type. Presently, no

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Vinyl Chloride
Respiratory Equip.

-2-

January 21, 1975

approval has granted the use of a half-face piece with pressure demand.

We recommend the immediate implementation of the three types of respiratory protection listed above in the Vinylite Area. Secondly, a long range plan should be formulated to upgrade the emergency SCBA demand type to pressure demand on a plant-wide basis.

Please contact us if there are additional questions.

Very truly yours,



D. E. Deese
Industrial Hygiene Director

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Attachment

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VCM RESPIRATORS

PPM VCM	TYPE	MODE	AUX.	FACE PIECE
Unknown, 3600	SCBA	Press. Dem.		Full \$60
→ 3600	Comb. Type C Comb. Type C	Press. Dem. Cont. Flow	Aux. Aux.	Full or 1/2* \$315 Full or 1/2
→ 1000	Type C (MINIMUM DESIRABLE AIR LINE PROTECTION LEVEL)	Cont. Flow		Full, 1/2, Helmet, Hood
→ 100	Comb. Type C SCBA** Type C	Dem. Dem. Dem.	Aux.	Full Full Full
→ 25	Respirator 4-Hr. Can. Gas Mask*** 4-Hr. Can.	Powered Front or Back		Full, 1/2, Helmet, Hood
→ 10	Comb. Type C Type C** Respirator 1-Hr. Cart.	Dem. Dem.	Aux.	1/2 1/2

*1/2-No Approval.

**Used At Texas City.

***M-S-A[®] GMA Canister - NIOSH TC-14-G-84, Pt. No. 461480 (\$11.49).
Complete Mask Pt. No. 461483

→ Desired At Texas City.

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D I S T R I B U T I O N

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