

"The study carried out by Environmental Health Associates on behalf of the U.S. Chemical Manufacturers Association is the largest and most informative investigation thus far undertaken."

Sir Richard Doll
Scand J Work Environ Health 1988;
14:61-78

BENEFITS OF UPDATING INTER-INDUSTRY STUDY OF VINYL CHLORIDE WORKERS

- *Product Stewardship*
Goodwill
 - Demonstrates to workers, community residents, customers, and other audiences our collective commitment to characterize any ^{cancer} health risks posed by operating VCM/PVC processes. *associated with employment in*
- Scientific Knowledge
 - Refines the estimate of the number of cases of human angiosarcoma of the liver (ASL) *in N.A.* associated with operating VCM plants in the pre-1972 era. *in North America.*
 - Contributes ASL cases to the international registry.
 - Helps to resolve unanswered questions about alleged links to cancers of the brain, lung, and hematopoietic system as well as address *non-cancer* other causes of death such as emphysema.
- Litigation Defense
 - VCM/PVC manufacturers continue to face toxic tort litigation alleging ^{that} numerous ^{other} types *(non-ASL)* of cancer are related to VCM/PVC employment. This type of research is useful in defending such litigation.

BENEFITS OF UPDATING INTER-INDUSTRY STUDY OF VINYL CHLORIDE WORKERS

(cont.)

- Chlorine Issue
 - VCM/PVC continue to be a part of the general debate on health and environmental impacts of chlorinated organics. This type of research serves a valuable role in helping to debate the issues on the basis of good science.

FUTURE VCM/PVC RESEARCH OPTIONS

- OK • What has been the impact of the 1974 PEL reduction on the incidence of ASL and other cancers among VCM/PVC industry workers?
- OK • Are there biomarkers of VCM exposure which could be used to better quantify worker exposures for future research into dose-response relationships?
- maybe
Penney
likes this • Besides cancer, are there other health effects one should be concerned about (i.e., fertility reproductive and developmental effects, endocrine effects, immune system, nervous system, other)?
- no • With recent allegations of dioxin formation in the EDC/VCM process, are there additional health research studies needed?