

Manufacturing Chemists Association

PLASTICS COMMITTEE

Minutes of Meeting

Baltusrol Golf Club Springfield, N. J.

May 5, 1977

Mr. Grant presided and convened the meeting at 9:30 AM.
The record of attendance is as follows:

MEMBERS PRESENT

C. A. Grant, Vice Chairman	Hercules Incorporated
J. S. Oostermeyer	Shell Chemical Company
C. B. Pyle	Rohm and Haas Company
(for S. J. Talucci)	
E. W. Rogers	The Dow Chemical Company
(for T. A. Sparta)	
C. R. Scott	Phillips Chemical Company
W. G. Simeral	E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Company
H. J. Singer	General Electric Company
(for D. E. Debacher)	
P. I. Spagnoli	ARCO/Polymers, Inc.
(for P. A. McKim)	
C. S. Stryker	Reichhold Chemicals, Inc.
A. C. Clark, Secretary	MCA Staff

MEMBERS ABSENT

A. R. Adams	Air Products and Chemicals, Inc.
W. P. Bussart	Eastman Chemical Products, Inc.
W. E. Kennel	Amoco Chemicals Corporation
M. J. Rhoad	The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company
R. C. Schroeder	Celanese Plastics Company

1. Minutes of November 22, 1976 Meeting

The minutes were approved as distributed.

2. Membership

The secretary reviewed the status of membership. With regard to the next membership term beginning June 1, 1977, those whose terms end May 31 are R. C. Baxter (resigned), D. E. Debacher, C. A. Grant, and C. S. Stryker. Mr. Grant's term was extended to May 31, 1978.

The new members will be L. A. Cohn (Monsanto), R. L. Yohe (Hooker), and J. J. Young (Owens-Corning).

3. Plastics Financial Package - Secretary

The financial statement was presented as follows:

	<u>Fiscal Year 1976-77</u>	
	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Expenditures</u> <u>(thru 4/30/77)</u>
Administrative	\$ 250	\$ 205
Travel & Meetings	700	-0-
Memberships	50	35
ASCE Project--Design Manual for Structural Components	12,000 ^{1/}	12,000
Research		
a) MCA/SPI Combustion Products & Their Toxicity (UM)	24,670 ^{2/}	24,110
b) MCA Combustion Products & Their Toxicity (UM)	20,500 ^{3/}	14,500
c) SRI Key-Sort Deck	11,600 ^{2/}	-0-
d) D&R Solid Waste Management Update	6,500 ^{2/}	5,636
Project Reports--Publication	<u>3,000</u>	<u>374</u>
	\$79,270	\$56,860

^{1/} Approved by Board of Directors 11/22/76

^{2/} " " " " " 6/ 9/76

^{3/} " " " " " 10/12/76

ASCE - American Society of Civil Engineers
 SPI - The Society of the Plastics Industry
 UM - The University of Michigan
 SRI - Stanford Research Institute
 D&R - DeBell & Richardson, Inc.

The secretary also briefly reviewed the proposed budget for fiscal year 1977-78, indicating that of the \$72,000 budgeted, about \$41,000 is listed as unallocated reserve for additional projects to be determined.

4. Sponsored Projects

Mr. Grant summarized the status of current projects.

4.1 "Flammability Testing of Polymers" (SRI)

The revised final report on the SRI study, "Flammability Testing of Polymers", was submitted by SRI at the end of January. After review, SRI was requested to modify two tables and make certain other minor editorial changes. These are now complete and the secretary will proceed to determine printing costs.

4.2 "Analysis and Toxicity of the Combustion Products of Natural and Synthetic Materials" (UM)

The University of Michigan has completed construction and operational checkout of a four-animal roto rod. In comparing animal test results between the roto rod and the shuttle box, the data indicate equivalent performance. However, it takes about two weeks to train animals in the shuttle box to 90% avoidance versus two days' training for the roto rod. Thus the roto rod offers considerable advantages as a test device.

The other major accomplishment has been the pyrolysis of actual samples, specifically wood and PVC. The wood data are necessary to show equivalent animal response between the Michigan devices and the commonly used tumble cage. Once the wood burns are completed, the data obtained will be published. The PVC data are somewhat confusing. The highest HCA level was considerably below that anticipated, getting only 10% recovery. More work needs to be done on PVC to determine if the low recovery is due to adsorption or an analytical error. The tests are continuing.

4.3 Plastics Waste Disposal - Update (D&R)

The DeBell & Richardson study is nearing completion and the final report is expected in about six weeks.

5. Distribution of Research Reports

During the discussion of publication of the SRI report on flammability testing, the secretary raised questions regarding the number to be printed and the distribution of the reports. Review of data from the last six reports, published from work financially supported by the MCA Plastics Group since 1970, indicates that after the initial distribution, stocks of the reports and summaries move slowly. Two considerations were discussed:

a) Distribution of the remaining stocks of the six reports (list attached) on a selected basis so that information would be available to those needing it.

b) Possible gratis distribution of the SRI report, particularly to fire marshals of major cities in the U. S., building code organizations, legislators, and universities.

Members were asked to consider these proposals and be prepared to discuss them at the forthcoming meeting of the Committee at The Greenbrier on June 8. The secretary was also requested to determine prices of printing the SRI "Flammability Testing of Polymers" report in quantities of 1,000, 2,000, and 5,000 copies, and to develop a recommendation for distribution of the report.

6. New Projects

There were no recommendations to submit at this meeting.

7. Liaison with ANSI Committees Z26 and ISO/TC61 - Secretary

7.1 ANSI Z26 - Safety Glazing Materials

Mr. Bruce M. Donaldson (Du Pont), MCA's representative to sectional committee ANSI Z26, reported that activity during the past year was highlighted by the favorable balloting of an extensive revision of the safety glazing code. A new version has been reprinted to incorporate several addenda generated since the 1966 revision. The new code will be issued soon as Z26.1-1977.

Study continues on development of a laceration index for gauging injury severity. Consideration has also been given to a standard for windshields for snowmobiles. Present

automotive code revisions are under study to accommodate proposals for the use of plastic and plastic-glass combination for glazing in passenger cars to provide safety plus weight-saving in the interest of energy conservation.

7.2 ISO/TC61 - Plastics

Copies of a report by Mr. K. A. Kaufmann (USS Chemicals Division/United States Steel Corporation), MCA's representative to ISO/TC61 - Plastics Committee, were distributed at the meeting. He reported on the activities of working groups on terminology, burning behavior, mechanical strength properties, physical-chemical properties, preparation of test specimens, materials, cellular materials, and semi-finished and finished products. Work is continuing in the development of over 80 documents dealing with nomenclature, test methods and material-designations and specifications.

8. Report of Arrangements Subcommittee - Mr. Simeral (Seaview Conference)

"Critical Issues for Industry and Government in Occupational Health" was chosen as a timely theme for the Annual Seaview Conference on September 7.

Speakers already engaged and the subjects of their talks are:

Dr. Irving Tabershaw - "Technical Issues of
Occupational Health"

Philip J. Harter - "The Economic Issues in
Occupational Health"

Shelly Samuels - "The Public Interest Issue"

The appearance of Mr Grover Wren, Director of Health Standards, OSHA, to discuss "The Regulatory Issue" has not yet been confirmed.

9. National Fire Protection Association National Electrical Code, Standard No. 70

It is understood that an amendment will be proposed at the Annual Meeting of the National Fire Protection Association to restrict the use of rigid non-metallic polyvinyl chloride

conduit in construction. The Society of the Plastics Industry requested MCA's support in opposing the proposed revision for several reasons briefly listed as follows:

- a) There is no evidence from experience that PVC conduit presents a fire hazard when installed in conformance with present code provisions.
- b) Several positive reasons support the continued use of PVC -- cannot corrode, is non-conductive, meets recognized code.
- c) A study conducted under the auspices of NEMA and UL considered the question of PVC insulated wire and PVC electrical conduits in buildings. Their report states that additional research is needed to develop information in several specific areas. Programs are being developed.

ON MOTION, duly made and seconded, the Committee VOTED unanimously to support the SPI position and oppose amendments to the code which would further restrict the use of PVC conduit in construction.

10. Plastics Group

- 10.1 Dinner (The Greenbrier) June 8, 1977
- 10.2 Conference and Outing September 6-8, 1977
(Seaview Country Club)
- 10.3 Dinner (New York Hilton) November 21, 1977

11. Future Committee Meetings

June 8, 1977 - 5:00 PM	White Sulphur Springs, W. Va.
September 6, 1977 - 4:00 PM	Absecon, N. J.
November 21, 1977	New York, N. Y.



A. C. Clark
Secretary

Minutes subject to approval
May 11, 1977

ACC:tp

CMA 079059

PUBLISHED REPORTS
PLASTICS COMMITTEE
1970-1974
AVAILABLE STOCKS

Project Report	Date Printed	Number Printed		Stock 3/1/77	
		Report	Summary	Report	Summary
Solid Waste Management of Plastics	Dec. 1970	2,000	8,000	500	300
Plastics Solid Waste Disposal by Incinera- tion or Landfill	Dec. 1971	1,500	6,500	430	550
Plastics Waste Disposal Practices in Landfill, Incineration, Pyrolysis, and Recycle (Update)	May 1972	1,200	5,000	650	2,435
The Role of Plastics in Resource Recovery	May 1973	1,000	3,500	525	930
Plastics: Resource and Environmental Profile Analyses	June 1974	1,000	3,500	325	2,400
Plastics Waste Manage- ment (Update)	Oct. 1974	1,200	5,000	630	2,900

MCA

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