

March 31, 1995

To: All Personnel

IARC Reclassification of Perchloroethylene and Trichloroethylene

The International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) has recently (February 14, 1995) revised the cancer classifications of trichloroethylene from category 3 ("not classifiable as to carcinogenicity in humans") to category 2A ("probably carcinogenic to humans"). **Perchloroethylene was revised from category 2B ("possibly carcinogenic to humans") to category 2A ("probably carcinogenic to humans").** In addition, the dry-cleaning occupation was also classified by IARC as category 2B.

Publication of the IARC proceedings is expected to take 6 to 9 months and may lead to changes on labels and MSDS for perchloroethylene and trichloroethylene-containing products.

The Global Product Stewardship Working Group for Chlorinated Organics is developing a strategy to communicate these changes within Dow and with customers. Plant supervision may already be aware of these changes from earlier communications to BMTs.

Any comments or questions can be referred to Bill Hayes, Chief Product Steward (517-636-2664), Jan Wilmer, H&ES Horgen (41-1-728-2996) or Mike Dupuis, Midland Industrial Hygiene Business Support (517-636-9272).

Mike Dupuis

Note: This message was received on March 30th. It is expected that little or no changes will take place in the day-to-day operation of the plant. It is likely that some additional training will be conducted to cover this change. Further information (as to the affect of this change in classification on Solvents/EDC 1 employees) will be communicated as soon as it is available.

Mike Brown

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