

MONSANTO CHEMICAL COMPANY

Location: Texas City, Texas

Date : February 7, 1961

Subject : Agenda for the Plant Manager's Safety Board
February 13, 1961

The following is the agenda for the Plant Manager's Safety Board for the meeting to be held on February 13, 1961, at 3:00 p.m., in the Cafeteria Conference Room.

OLD BUSINESS1. Procedure Bulletins

The following procedure bulletins are attached for the Board members to review:

- P-0123 - Blocking Relief Devices
- P-0120 - Addendum-A--Electrical Instrument Devices
- P-0124 - Fire Protection Equipment
- P-04__ - Pipe Rack Signs.

All of these bulletins have been reviewed by the Board before. Revisions have been made based on the comments received; and notes are attached to indicate the changes and reasons. The incorporation of an Addendum to P-0120, covering instrument servicing, is proposed rather than having a separate bulletin on this. It is suggested that it be done this way because the proposed procedure covers the preparation of an electrical device prior to work, and could appropriately fit within the lockout procedure. The subsequent revision of P-0120 could then include the Addendum as part of the main body of the bulletin.

It would be appreciated if the Board members could clear these bulletins for final typing and distribution.

2. Plant Nitrogen System

In accordance with Mr. Chamberlin's request, this item is placed on the agenda to permit each superintendent to give a status report on the existing nitrogen installations within his area. Please refer to the minutes of the January 13 meeting, Item 4, under "Old Business."

3. Plant Traffic

In answer to the Hourly Safety Committee's suggestion, the sub-committee, consisting of Messrs. Wood, Chamberlin, and Gilmore, have prepared a recommended program. Mr. Wood will report on this at the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS1. Color Code - J. E. Fox

The color code as setup in the "Safety Guide" and on the "Hazard Boards" in the various areas, does not differentiate between potable water and sanitary river water; both now carry a code of a green base color with no stripe.

2. Hourly Safety Committee

The following items were discussed in the January 31 meeting of this Committee.

- A. The lights on the way to and in the west parking lot are burned out and need replacement. This need has existed for some time.
- B. The lighting procedure for converters in department 18-C is hazardous and a portable ladder is suggested.
- C. There are four solid metal doors in Power 2 which the Committee feels should be equipped with safety glass windows.
- D. On the VCM rack, tank car domes are filled with water to check for leaks. At night this is done with the use of a flash light. It is suggested that lighting be improved.
- E. Sometime ago a temporary loading spout was installed on the west end of the styrene loading rack. The use of this rack has been greatly increased recently, and men working on top of the tanks without platforms or handrails creates a hazard. It is suggested that, if this use is to continue, permanent installation be made.
- F. During loading operations of AN barges, employees are required to look into the hatches to check the level--fumes are quite strong. It is suggested that fresh air masks be used.
- G. During the unloading of ammonia, a man is stationed at the barge dock and another at the storage tank. Temporary communication is relied on to setup the filling operations. Some difficulty has been experienced in maintaining this communication, and a more positive means was requested.

- H. Piping is now used to hook up chlorine barges and these fittings wear each time they are used. The hazard exists in the possibility of an employee falling off the tank when he is using pipe extensions to tighten the connection. The Committee feels that flexible hose could be used instead of piping and solve this problem.
- I. The Committee called attention to the fact that Romax and extension cords are being used at the new dock instead of non-explosion fixtures and conduits. Also, a temporary eyebath and shower are still used although water is now available at the dock. It is suggested that Standards used at our other docks also be used at this dock.
- J. Employees are entering the piperack by climbing piping in the middle of the blocks when ladders are provided at each end of the block. It was suggested that the item be a subject of a safety meeting, calling the attention of the employees to the importance of using the ladders rather than taking unnecessary risk of climbing the pipes.
- K. The Committee noted that Curry Electric Company truck was exceeding the speed limit and the Crescent Electric Company employees were not wearing safety hats while performing work in the plant.
- M. The scaffolding used in styrene tanks to remove the polymer from the inside walls is not stable. It was suggested that a scaffold be tied-off to improve the stability.
- N. Instances were cited where insulators were forced to use long bladed knives where short bladed knives should have been used, but were not available.

These items will be handled with local supervision through the Safety Director. Two additional items were discussed and are submitted to the Board:

- O. Rainsuits and boots furnished by the Company are apparently trading hands. The Committee suggested that all rain gear be stenciled with employee's name. A procedure that was done some years back.

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P. The Committee has noted that webbing is being removed from hard hats by some individuals in the plant. Although they did not have a suggestion of what could be done, they feel that this practice should be forcibly discouraged. The Safety Director has brought this matter to supervision's attention on two different occasions and suggests that supervision take direct action through inspection of this equipment. It also might be effective for the Hourly Safety Committee to use this for the subject of a safety bulletin board notice, if the Board would approve of such action.

3. Visiting Nurse

The visiting nurse service is now in effect, and our experience has resulted in some problems. We are visiting some of the people that should be visited, and some of the employees who are visited are already back at work because our records are lagging. The first could be helped if supervision would call the dispensary--say between 9:00 and 10:00 a.m.--and tell the nurse who the employee is that they would like to have visited. The second can be improved, if supervision will insist on conformance with Procedure Bulletin P-11 (Return to Work--Sick Leave or Injury), which requires that an employee who is absent due to illness, report through the dispensary prior to returning to work.

4. Plant Safety Program -- J. M. Chamberlin

gil

C. L. Gilmore

CLG:lt

Attachments:

1. Letter from Hourly Safety Committee
2. Addendum to P-0120
3. P-0123
4. P-0124
5. P-04 _____

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