

APRIL 17, 1974

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MANAGER
HEALTH, SAFETY & ENVIRONMENTVINYL CHLORIDE -
EMERGENCY TEMPORARY STANDARD

Attached, from the Federal Register of April 5, 1974, is an "Emergency Temporary Standard for Exposure to Vinyl Chloride" issued by the Department of Labor under the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970.

Permissible exposure is set at 50 ppm.

Monitoring is required by "...every employer of an employee working in an area or operation in which vinyl chloride is manufactured, reacted, handled, processed, released, repacked, or stored....". Samples from the worker breathing zone "shall be analyzed by gas chromatography or by any other method which is of equivalent sensitivity". Note that monitoring should commence as soon as possible, but "not later than April 22, 1974".

In case of accidental rupture or spillage, or maintenance or cleaning, employees shall wear air-supplied or self-contained breathing apparatus.

The temporary standard does not require medical surveillance. If the temporary standard should lead to a Carcinogen Standard, a medical surveillance requirement would probably be included as it was for the 14 Carcinogen Standards promulgated on January 29, 1974.

Also, attached is a Material Safety Data Sheet for Vinyl Chloride (revised in April, 1974), which may be further revised in response to the temporary standard.

If we can be of assistance in implementing this emergency temporary standard, for example in monitoring the work area, please advise.

Original Signed By:
_ D. E. GLASS

D. E. GLASS

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Attachments

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bc: Mr. R. J. Shreve