MC
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CALL REPORT

REC'D - 9 MAR 1965

Tox Aroclor
AT 23

Company	Date Called	Date Typed
Satchwell Controls, East Kilbride, West Lothian.	3.3.65.	4.3.65.
	Interviewed	
Other Addresses of Interest	Salesman DW/WB	
Affiliations	Circulated To	Copies To
	JMC CRC RGB TDR WB DVNH	

Personnel	Status	Location
Mr. A. MacDougal Mr. Horwood Mr. Walker ?	Planning Buyer Works Engineer	

GRP/Product
ENG.CHEM.GROUP

AROCLOR

Usage

Satchwell Controls are still carrying fairly high stocks of Aroclor 1248 and will not require further consignments for 2-2½ months. They will, however, be shortly placing with us their new order for 10,000 lbs. to cover requirements after the expiry of their current order.

They are still interested in HB.40 but only at such time as we manufacture in this country and can offer them a more acceptable price. They have asked to be kept informed if we decide to go ahead with manufacture of HB.40.

Toxicity

We have had a certain amount of correspondence recently with Satchwell. They have been worried by an outbreak of pimples on the faces of several of their female workers at the Aroclor processing stage of their thermostat plant.

The capillary tubes for the thermostats are filled at a temperature not excessively above room temperature but there are obviously some fumes about when the impregnation vessel is opened. There is not really adequate ventilation over the top of the impregnation vessel.

MONS 079708

From the impregnation vessel the units are placed in a temperature controlled bath which will affect the final working range of the thermostat. Whilst in this bath they are crimped and then oxy-acetylene closed before going to a final stage for crimping to place the Arodor under pressure inside the capillaries.

They have obviously not taken due consideration of the necessary requirements for ventillating this system. They have a small vent tube from the centre of the temperature controlled baths but this is so placed that it will obviously not collect very much of the vapour given off from the units. Additionally on the stack of this ventilating system are placed some small fans so that any vapour which is escaping the system is immediately dispersed over other workers operating in the area. This is most undesirable. They have localised ventillation where the units are being oxy-acetylene welded but these, it could be seen, were not collecting all the fumes and the workers are operating with their faces in very close proximity to the area of heavy fumed concentration.

On a further line some units are soldered rather than oxy-acetylene welded and here they are placed in a small water bath with again local ventilation behind the water bath which will extract most of the fumes but again there are some free fumes in the area. I recommended to Mr. MacDougal and will back this up in writing, that the cowling over the temperature control baths should be extended over the edge of the bath to pick up much more of the fumes and that the fans immediately above this cowling should be removed altogether since they seem to perform no useful function. They agree that they could put this amendment to the workers in terms of removing hot vapours from the area and making the atmosphere more comfortable for them to work in generally, rather than with dealing with it from a view point of hazard. At the oxy-acetylene welding stage, they want to eliminate the use of goggles by the female workers since they are often adjusting their goggles with Arcolor soaked gloves and this must be considered to be a great contributory factor to the occurrence of facial dermatitic effects. If they extend their localised venting system over the working clamp using a coloured glass they can eliminate the use of goggles, giving the workers more freedom and at the same time solve their problem of more efficient removal of vapours from the area. They agree that they could also consider extending the hoods over the local ventilation on the soldering line. We also recommended that slightly improved ventilation should be placed immediately over the impregnation vessel although this seems to be the least troublesome area at the moment. They appreciated our comments and went so far as to say that they would have to see what they could do about implementing them. I shall emphasize the necessity of improvement in my follow up letter.

Thermostat Failure MONS 079709

From the tests that we recently carried out on small quantities of

Arocolor removed from failed units, it appears that the Arocolor was not to blame for the failure. They have now worked out in their own mind that this is due to poor recovery properties on one of the metal components in the system and are working along this line to try and improve the thermostat. We have been exonerated completely from this complaint which seems to have arisen more as a panic move on their part than from any genuine basis.

D. WOOD