

CPSC

CPSC Members

M. E. Schmiederer

D/5428

3/2/78

MINUTES OF CPSC MEETING, MARCH 1, 1978

Present: WCB/ENF/DLK/DK/JPM/RDS/MES/RLS/ES

Absent: RBD/NGD/FEK/JFM

1. FDA/PVC -- FDA has been having technical discussions with Ethyl Corp., relative to PVC blow-molded bottles. Ethyl Corp. and SPI will be formally submitting an experimental protocol for testing the extent of VC migration from bottle walls. VC migration is not detectable in low RVCM compound bottles. Verification of the test method by other PVC bottle producers, including BFG, may be required. Some sources report that FDA now regards their acrylonitrile bottle ban as a poor decision and is seeking a way out.
2. EPA Cancer Policy -- EPA has called a public meeting for March 23 to discuss the present EPA Cancer Policy which incorporates risk/benefit analysis and use of best available control technology. The Environmental Defense Fund has proposed a policy which calls for technology forcing regulation of carcinogens, without risk/benefit considerations. The SPI PVC Safety Group will carry the AIHC banner, with John Barr of Air Products as the principle spokesman, supported by an AIHC representative of the non PVC industry. The thrust of the testimony will be to support the present EPA policy and to address the eight issues for which EPA requested comments. BFG will be submitting written comments.
3. Acrylonitrile (AN) -- The Emergency Temporary Standard has been stayed, thereby postponing labeling requirements. BFG has submitted written comments on the proposed permanent standard, supporting a 5 ppm level as safe. We feel that a 0.2 ppm level is not economically feasible. A general letter, describing the AN standard, was sent to all customers of products containing AN, on February 3. A latex customer letter, sent last Friday, described which latex products would probably be labeled. It will take at least 30 days before we have enough data to send a comparable letter for AN elastomers. There is some concern as to how to warn new customers of the presence of AN in non-labeled AN products. Ed Faber will explore our "duty to warn" with the AN Task Force.
4. Benzene -- The permanent OSHA benzene standard goes into effect on March 13, 1978, unless stayed by legal action of the American Petroleum Institute or the Manufacturing Chemists Association. ((Late breaking news -- BFG and other tire manufacturers will move to stay the standard)). Primary Chemical Division concern is the need to label all products containing any amount of benzene. The Tire Division concern centers around worker skin contact in using a benzene containing solvent, for tire building.

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5. NBS Combustion Product Toxicity -- SPI feels that the present NBS test protocol will not meet its main purpose -- screening out supertoxicants. Instead, it appears that the greatest emphasis and negative impact will be on the plastics industry. However, John Lyons (NBS) has agreed to send out a cover letter which emphasizes that the test method is only a screening/research tool, not to be used for regulatory purposes.
6. Combustibility Films -- Dan Kent will circulate John Davidson's final scripts to CPSC members.
7. Medical Requests -- From time to time, doctors have asked us for an ingredient listing of our products. Because of the product liability implications, Ed Faber will coordinate all Chemical Division responses.

The date of the next CPSC meeting has been changed. The next meeting will be on Thursday, March 30, 1978, at 9:00 a.m. in 3B.

Matic Schmiederer

MES/tp

cc: W. C. Becker/R. B. Downey/N. G. Duke/D. L. Kent/F. E. Krause/J. F. Malone/
D. Kuharik/J. P. Morrill/R. D. Savage/ M. E. Schmiederer/R. L. Steller/
E. N. Faber/E. Schor

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