October 11, 1971

Mr. George E. Johnson
Specialist-Manufacturing Engineering
Bldg. 51-135
General Electric Company
100 Woodlawn Avenue
Pittsfield, Mass. 01201

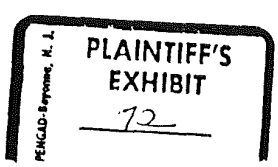
Dear Mr. Johnson:

Thank you for your letter concerning Santovac 2. You indicated that you are aware of the ecological problems but I would like to emphasize our current position.

As indicated on their labels, Santovac 1 and Santovac 2 contain polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) of various types. As you are aware, PCBs have increasingly come under the scrutiny of various governmental agencies and scientific laboratories. In some studies, certain PCBs have been found to be persistent, an environmental contaminant and possibly injurious to certain forms of bird, aquatic and animal life. Accordingly, it is important that PCBs be kept out of the food chain.

We want to remind your firm of the extreme care that must be taken by users of Santovac 1 and Santovac 2 fluids to prevent any entry into the environment through spills, leakage, use, disposal, vaporization or otherwise. Some specific applications where these fluids should definitely not be used are in vacuum systems involving food or food-related products, animal feeds, pharmaceutical products, packaging materials involving any of such items and buildings where any of these items are manufactured or stored.

If your vacuum system involves any of the mentioned applications, or if your system is such that entry into the environemtn cannot be prevented, you should replace Santovac 1 and 2 with non-PCB fluids immediately. Please contact your pump supplier for his recommended replacement product.



IDS 002671

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Used Santovac 1 and 2 should be returned to Monsanto Company, W. G. Krummrich Plant, Sauget, Illinois 62201, Attention: Supervisor Dept. 246 for proper disposal. This service is performed at cost, which is $0.03 per pound.

Your letter asks about #2554 fluid referenced by Mr. Eric Johnson of Stokes. This number is not familiar to me and I have not been able to trace it to anyone here who works with fluids. Studies are continuing on chlorine containing polyphenyls concerning biogradability. If these are successful, we will evaluate the most promising as vacuum pump fluids.

Thank you for your interest in Monsanto fluids.

Very truly yours,

R. E. Hatton
Technical Manager
Hydraulics and Lubricants

/pep

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