

# Manufacturing Chemists' Association, Inc.

(FOUNDED 1878)

1825 Connecticut Avenue, N. W.  
WASHINGTON 9, D. C.

234.

## MINUTES OF MEETING SAFETY AND FIRE PROTECTION COMMITTEE Royal Orleans, New Orleans, La. September 25, 1963

### PRESENT

G. G. Fleming, Chairman  
A. L. Cobb, Vice Chairman  
R. A. Albisser  
L. W. Boulton  
A. H. Christian  
P. C. Folse  
G. L. Gorbell  
J. Guelich

A. L. Kling  
S. M. MacCutcheon  
J. S. Queener  
S. F. Spence  
N. G. White

Celanese Corporation of America  
Eastman Kodak Company  
Merck & Co., Inc.  
Polymer Corporation Limited  
American Viscose Division, FMC Corp.  
Socony Mobil Oil Company, Inc.  
Monsanto Chemical Company  
General Chemical Div., Allied Chemical Corporation  
Olin Mathieson Chemical Corporation  
The Dow Chemical Company  
E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Co., Inc.  
American Cyanamid Company  
Shell Chemical Company

### GUESTS

H. H. McIntyre  
J. Cantrell  
N. D. Griswold  
J. Tecton

The Dow Chemical Company  
Celanese Corporation of America  
The Dow Chemical Company  
Sun Shipbuilding & Dry Dock Co.

### ABSENT

J. A. Hawthorne  
F. E. Macaulay

National Lead Company  
Wyandotte Chemicals Corporation

Chairman G. G. Fleming opened the meeting at 9:30 a.m. He introduced the guests.

The following new members were welcomed to the committee:

|                     |                             |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| Mr. Parker C. Folse | Mobil Chemical Company      |
| Mr. Joseph Guelich  | Allied Chemical Corporation |
| Mr. W. S. Wood      | Sun Oil Company             |

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Mr. W. S. Wood was unable to be present at this meeting.

2. Minutes of June 18-19, 1963 Meeting

The minutes were approved subject to the following correction:

Page 230 under item 8, change "1965" to read "1964".

3. Discussion Arising Out of September 24 Safety Workshop

The Workshop achieved the high standard reached on previous occasions. Attendance was very satisfactory. 186 persons were present at the luncheon. Hotel arrangements were also very satisfactory. The cooperation of Mr. Henri Wolbrette of the Louisiana Chemical Association and Mr. John Sorice of the New Orleans Chemical Industry Council was especially appreciated.

It was agreed that questions submitted prior to the Workshop and which were not answered during the sessions should be answered in writing.

The chairman thanked Mr. A. H. Christian, chairman of the Special Projects subcommittee, for his excellent work in organizing the workshop.

The next Chemical Industry Safety Workshop will be held in New Jersey in 1964.

4. Safety and Health Standards under the Walsh-Healey Act

The secretary reported that copies of new proposals by the Department of Labor for Safety and Health Standards for Federal Supply Contracts will be available shortly and that they will be distributed to committee members on receipt.

There followed considerable discussion as to what MCA policy should be regarding these Standards. Should the Association support the contention that plant safety performance records are sufficient in themselves as indications of safety activities, or should MCA accept the imposition of a specific set of safety standards as the only practicable approach? Some felt that "the states and the federal government cannot police good intentions" and therefore adoption of specific standards is inevitable; that some smaller companies fail to adopt a good voluntary safety program and therefore will benefit if specific standards are adopted; and that since the Department of Labor is setting up a sizable bureau to handle safety inspections it requires "a set of operating rules" to work from. On the other hand, some members argued that even if adoption of specific standards is inevitable, the Association should continue to point to safety performance as the most desirable criterion and to oppose the adoption of specific safety standards.

Most companies represented on the Safety and Fire Protection Committee have experienced Department of Labor inspections and although these inspections have not been over-detailed it is thought that they have been simply "foot in the door" inspections and that more rigid inspections will follow in due course.

It was then resolved to advise the Board of Directors of the Manufacturing Chemists' Association that the Safety and Fire Protection Committee considers the Safety and Health Standards under the Walsh Healey Public Contracts Act to be an economic threat to the industry and that the Committee intends to continue to work with the National Safety Council towards the recognition by the Department of Labor of statistical performance as a measure of safety efficiency in lieu of specific standards.

It was also agreed to be represented at public hearings on the proposed new standards if such hearings are called.

5. Development of 35mm Slides on Miscellaneous Safety Subjects

It was resolved that sample slides and accompanying scripts will be prepared for review by the Committee at the next meeting when a decision will be made to publish them through MCA or through the National Safety Council. The sample series will cover subjects such as:

- a) Tank entry procedure
- b) Handling of flammable liquids
- c) Flammable liquid tank car unloading
- d) Lock-out procedure

Messrs. A. L. Kling, A. L. Cobb and A. H. Christian undertook to prepare sample slides and scripts. Mr. R. H. Albisser offered to assist in providing slides on tank entry procedure.

6. Chemical Safety Data Sheets

- a) SD-20 Sulfuric Acid (revised) including information hitherto contained in TC-1 was published in September 1963.
- b) Phenol - Draft for revised edition which will include material from TC-6 has been circulated for review. Attention was drawn to two fatalities resulting from extensive phenol splashes. It was thought that the Medical Advisory Committee might wish to reconsider the 'medical management' sections in the light of this new information. It was also thought that the present draft over-emphasizes the fire hazard of phenol. Mr. Gorbell agreed to consider this criticism.

c) Other sheets in preparationNew sheets

Methyl Chloroform - S. M. MacCutcheon  
 Paranitroaniline - G. L. Gorbell

Revisions

SD-13 Ammonia Aqua - A. L. Cobb  
 SD-18 Ethylene Dichloride - A. L. Kling  
 SD-21 Nitrobenzene - S. F. Spence  
 SD-22 Methanol - G. G. Fleming  
 SD-23 Calcium Carbide - S. F. Spence  
 SD-24 Perchloroethylene - S. M. MacCutcheon  
 SD-26 Phosphorus Oxychloride - G. L. Gorbell  
 SD-27 Phosphorus Trichloride - G. L. Gorbell  
 SD-28 Phosphoric Anhydride - G. L. Gorbell  
 SD-29 Ethyl Ether (Technical sections have been received from H. Bell )  
 SD-30 Sodium Cyanide - J. S. Queener  
 SD-31 Acrylonitrile (Technical Sections have been received from S. F. Spence)

7. Safety Guides

SG-15 Training of Process Operators (being printed)

Other drafts on hand

Liquid Chemicals, Sampling of Tank Car and Tank Truck Shipments - G. G. Fleming  
 Identification and Transfer of Materials - J. S. Queener  
 Controlling Chemical Process Reactions - G. L. Gorbell

In Preparation

Fire Protection in the Chemical Industry (Mr. A. L. Cobb agreed to add an engineering check list to his original draft)  
 Electrical Equipment in Hazardous Areas - A. L. Cobb  
 Electrical Grounding - F. E. Macaulay  
 Instrumentation for Safety - G. L. Gorbell  
 Safety Inspection in the Chemical Plant - A. H. Christian  
 Safety Evaluation of New Processes - R. H. Albisser  
 Procedure for Routine Maintenance of Chemical Equipment - R. H. Albisser  
 Hazardous Chemical Reactions - All members were requested to forward additional material to Mr. Gorbell. It was agreed that the publication should contain a list of references.

## 8. Activities of External Committees

Mr. J. S. Queener reported on a meeting of the NFPA Committee on Fire Hazards of Materials held on September 20, 1963. Pamphlet 325 will include degrees for the three hazard categories for each of the 1000 hazardous chemicals listed. The newly adopted NFPA classification of flammable and combustible liquids will be applied.

Mr. R. H. Albisser reported on an ASA meeting in Washington at which arrangements were made for the revision of Z16.1 - 1954.

## 9. Film "Safety in the Chemical Laboratory"

The secretary reported that from March 1962 to September 1963 sales of the film totaled 111 and rentals 439.

A print of the film will be made available without charge for a six month period to Mr. Z. A. Prust of Arizona State University for use in a research project on college laboratory safety.

## 10. Volume "Guide for Safety in the Chemical Laboratory"

Mr. A. H. Christian reported on comments received from some committee members on various chapters of the current edition. Members who have not commented were urged to do so as soon as possible.

On a vote it was then unanimously resolved to prepare a second edition of "Guide for Safety in the Chemical Laboratory". The new edition will contain a section on "hazardous reactions" similar to that published as a "safety guide".

The chairman then appointed the following subcommittee to prepare the new edition:

Mr. A. H. Christian, Chairman  
Mr. L. W. Boulton  
Mr. Parker Folse  
Mr. W. S. Wood

## 11. Subcommittee on Accident Case Histories

Mr. J. Guelich was appointed chairman of the Subcommittee on Accident Case Histories.

## 12. Stability Tests

The committee discussed the need for adequate tests for reaction chemicals. It was agreed to invite Dr. Robert W. Van Dolah, U. S. Bureau of Mines, 4400 Forbes Street, Pittsburgh, Pa. to attend the next meeting to explain the problem and say what further research is required.

## 13. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held in New York City on November 25, 1963.

Minutes subject to approval

FGS:cm  
10/23/63