

APR 4 1975

Firestone Plastics Company

DIVISION OF THE FIRESTONE TIRE & RUBBER COMPANY

HARVEY S. FIRESTONE - FOUNDER

GENERAL OFFICES
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April 1, 1975

Mr. Milton Freifeld
Project Manager
Manufacturing Chemists Association
1825 Connecticut Avenue, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20009

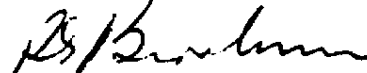
Dear Milt:

The reason I did not send you the summary of VCM regulations I promised is due to the fact that action in the various countries throughout the world continues to change on a regular basis.

However, I have attached information that we were able to obtain in early November 1974 that we believe to be accurate of that date.

If you have any questions, please call.

Cordially,



R. S. Brookman, Manager
Research, Development
and Technical Service

RSB:djs
Attachment
cc: Mr. R. A. Park

RSV 0001316

November 1974

JAPAN

No angiosarcoma deaths reported to date. Three non-VCM deaths by angiosarcoma are recorded. It is estimated that ten deaths (non-VCM related) have occurred in Japan during the last twenty years.

The equivalent of the Japanese Dept. of Labor feels that chromosome abnormalities may be a problem, based on conversations with Dr. Selikoff of Mt. Sinai School of Medicine.

A VCM standard may be set at about 10 ppm (no TWA). Japan uses the term MAC (maximum atmospheric concentration) since there are only two closed (in) plants in Japan. A maximum of 1 ppm may be established. New drafts (of standards) such as above must be approved by all other interested agencies in Japan, i.e., Marine Labor force, DOT, etc. It usually takes about six months for this to occur.

Currently MITI requested 300 ppm maximum VCM in low molecular weight resins; less than 100 ppm maximum VCM (high molecular weight resins). Work has been started to lower residual VCM in their resins.

STANDARDS CURRENTLY IN EFFECT:

United Kingdom: 50 ppm maximum; 25 TWA (based on agreement among government, PVC associations, labor).

West Germany: 1973 standard was 100 ppm maximum.
1974 standard was under chemical substances, Category B (cancer through animal test).

Netherlands: 1973 standard was 200 ppm.
1974 standard was 50 ppm average; 100 ppm maximum.
Now standard is 25 ppm average; 50 ppm maximum.
Soon to be issued is 10 ppm average; 25 ppm maximum for 15 minutes. (Labor feels this is too mild.)

France: No government regulation.
Producers use as standard 100 ppm maximum; 50 ppm normal.
1975 standard is 50 ppm maximum; 25 ppm normal.
France usually disagrees with USA.

Belgium: No government regulation.
25 ppm TWA; 50 ppm "action level".

Sweden: 1974 standard was 25 ppm TWA; 50 ppm maximum.
1975 will follow OSHA standard.
Will scrap old plant and build new one.

Norway: October 10, 1974 - Working on new standard. Plant currently shutdown until a decision is made.

Finland: Same as Sweden.

Italy: Not regulated but active producers use 50/25 (TWA).
Most Scandinavian countries will follow OSHA due to the strong labor unions.

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