

TO	FIELD POINT OR DEPT. & BLDG. NO.	DATE YOUR LETTER
FROM	FIELD POINT OR DEPT. & BLDG. NO.	DATE THIS LETTER
SUBJECT		

FOURTH QUARTER 1991 INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE SUMMARY - HENRY PLANT

The Henry plant personnel monitoring results for October through December of 1991 are summarized as follows:

- I. NOISE: (BFG Permissible Exposure Limit = 50% dose)
(OSHA Permissible Exposure Limit = 100% dose)

<u>Area</u>	<u>Job Classification</u>	<u>No. of Personnel Monitored</u>	<u>Average % Personnel Exposure</u>
Polymer Chemicals (712)	Bagger	1	45.71
	MBTS Operator	1	16.56
	OBTS Operator (back end)	2	32.15
	X-70 Operator	1	34.87
	Geltrol Operator	1	29.86
A/E Building (725)	BBTS Operator	1	50.73
	Foreman	2	19.36
	Cure Rite 18 Operator	2	47.10
Maintenance	Polymer Chemicals	3	22.46
Crude Building (711)	Crude Bldg. Operator	1	20.64

II. VINYL CHLORIDE (OSHA Permissible Exposure limit = 1ppm)

During the fourth quarter of 1991 there were 40 monitorings completed for vinyl chloride exposure (23 Poly Building/17 Dryer Building). Of the total monitorings, 4 (10%) exceeded 1ppm and 24 (60%) were below 0.5ppm. Three (75%) of the exposures above 1ppm occurred without respirator protection. These three exposures are outlined below:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Job</u>	<u>Exposure Level</u>
11/01/91	Charge/Recover LoSope	1.60 ppm
11/04/91	Charge/Recover LoSope	2.60 ppm
12/11/91	Charge/Recover LoSope	3.5 ppm

Because of the high exposures in the losope charge and recovery job, additional monitoring has been initiated using both vinyl chloride gas badges and OVA checks. Operators on this job will be checked for vinyl chloride exposure during a number of short-term tasks that could collectively lead to a full-shift exposure exceedance. Any task that is found to emit vinyl chloride will be evaluated for engineering controls. In the interim period operators will be required to wear a respirator during the task.

Earlier in the year there was a high vinyl chloride exposure to a Poly building operator who had transferred and dumped blend tank scrap material to an outside dumpster during the work shift. Short-term monitoring has been done to determine if the full-shift exposure exceedance was due to vinyl chloride exposure from the task. Five, fifteen minute monitorings were done using a personnel sampling pump with a large (600mg) charcoal tube. The average exposure was 0.63 ppm and the maximum was 0.85 ppm. The short-term exposure limit for vinyl chloride is 5 ppm averaged over fifteen minutes. Based on these results, the scrap dumping task was not responsible for the operator's high vinyl chloride exposure. Other possible sources will continue to be investigated.

III. MEDICAL SURVEILLANCE SUMMARY

Total number of audiometric examinations = 44

Number of examinations that showed:

A. Hearing loss = 3 standard threshold shift (STS)

B. Report by Department

Compounding - 2 (one confirmed; one not confirmed and retest scheduled)

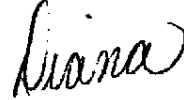
Boiler House - 1 (not confirmed, retest scheduled)

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Follow-up Activities:

1. Send letter to each employee stating that they have a STS.
2. Retest each employee within 21 days.
3. Reinstruct each employee in the proper use of hearing protection.
4. Reevaluate this working area.

Please contact me at 9407 if you have any questions concerning this information.



Diana Friesz

DF/bs/WP/9202

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