

Vinyl Chloride Safety Association

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Last year Dave Lull, Oxy, presented facts about a VCM railcar accident in Camden, New Jersey, 8/89 and actions initiated.

Today, I'll update you on the past year's progress, touch on two significant accidents in '91 and organizational efforts to improve VCM transportation safety.

During '91, two separate incidents involving 10 derailed VCM railcars all required transfer.

- o 1/1/91 - International Falls, MN., Dow, 5 R/C's
- o 4/14/91 - Edgewood, IL., BFG, - 5 R/C's.

They were transferred safely by OH materials without a release reported under the supervision of Greg Johnson, Dow, and Frank Sollman, BFG. This points to the continuing need for preparedness.

The Delaware Valley PVC Producers:

- o BF Goodrich,
- o Occidental Chemical,
- o Formosa Plastics,
- o Georgia Gulf

...have held four - 16-hour classes for 200 rail, fire, police, contractor and facility employees. The course presented by Clyde Strong and Associates, supported by the Burlington County Fire Academy, Conrail, OHM is in close proximity to five facilities.

A second location is to be established on the Gulf Coast at Beaumont, TX. The first training is targeted for the Spring of '92 and will service needs of VCM producers as well as resin, rail, police, fire, etc.

This Regional training is consistent with Responsible Care's^R - CAER, Distribution, and Product Stewardship Codes of Management Practice, taking product responsibility and reaching out to the communities.

OxyChem's HazMat team located in Pottstown, PA., serving the Delaware Valley, has toured the five facilities, several fire departments to increase their resource awareness.

A national mutual aid effort was committed to by all eight producers, - VCNet under CMA's Chemstar program. Initially,

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railcar transportation safety will be addressed, - marine and pipeline will follow. Since PVC producers are shippers of VCM empties, they will be approached next year.

The VCNet panel drafted four initial subcommittees for:

- o Education and Training Responders, Chmn - Burley Melton, FPC
- o Territory and Selection
- o ID & Qualification of E.R. Contractors - Chmn - Vergel Perry, Dow
- o Rail car ID - Chmn - Frank Sollman, BFG
- o Public Communication - Chmn - John Klimavicz, Georgia Gulf

Rail, industry and contractors working together, can effectively, and most cost efficiently address and improve transportation safety and quality of emergency response.

I want to thank Vergel Perry and Greg Johnson of Dow, and Frank Sollman of BFG, for their input. Should your company have questions about VCNet, training, contact me or Mike Kerlegon, Vista Chemical (V/chmn VCNet) 713-588-3564.

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