MONSANTO CHEMICAL COMPANY
ANNISTON, ALABAMA

Ed Volz's Plant Inspection
February 4, 1960

The following items were noted and discussed as Ed Volz made his annual inspection. Rus Sprague, Jim Larkin and Elmer Schramm accompanied him during the inspection.

A general discussion of electrical grounds for equipment was held and the F.I.A. standard of five ohms. It is believed better if it were changed to one ohm, since one ohm resistance is easy to obtain. General railroad track static grounds will be included.

BUILDING 28

1. Several cylinders in the storage cage were not chained.

2. A broken ladder, which was tagged, was laying on the ground ready to be destroyed and had lost its condemned tag because rain had made the cardboard tag come loose from the string.

3. An open can of kerosene was sitting on the edge of a table next to a large lathe.

4. Broom and shovel should be put on a rack in the shop. Tool racks would help the appearance of this area greatly.

5. It was recommended that some precaution be taken to prevent the possibility of burns from the open gas-space heaters. Many people in this country catch themselves on fire each year by backing up to an open heater to warm themselves.

6. The use of two-pronged electrical outlets should be eliminated and replaced with three prongs. The program to do this should be accelerated in order to completely eliminate adaptors.

7. Recommend a yellow circle be painted under all safety showers that do not presently have one.

Recommend a safety self-closing type valve (5-gallon) for solvent storage in the laboratory.

9. Lockers in the electrical departments need a general policing action for better organization and straightening.

10. Replace safety glass in front of hood in the laboratory.

11. A ground connection should be put on the dual seal vacuum pump on the east wall bench in the laboratory. A guard should also be put on this pump for the belt drive.

12. Lower the eye bath in the laboratory.

13. Metal covered waste baskets are a must for the laboratory

14. Laboratory housekeeping level would be rated as definitely "pig."

15. The "hot plate" area should be given a complete clean-down.

16. Soap dishes should be provided around the sinks.

17. MSA industrial gas mask in small lab has been used and should be replaced--seal has been removed.

18. Shelves in the lab icebox are down again. Make necessary repairs to prevent this from happening.

19. Recommend we discontinue the stocking of the cloth masks as they afford no protection. Industrial respirators should be substituted.

20. Elmer Schramm is to talk to the MSA representative on his next trip about the dust protection afforded by the Mine Safety respirator.

21. Investigation should be made of the free-swinging hoist in the storeroom and consider putting safety chains to block area below when lowering or raising the material.

22. The fire hose in this outside storeroom is not standard and should be changed. At present it will work, but it should be standardized.

23. All fire hydrant caps should be checked for hand looseness.

24. The three-prong adaptors on the floor polishers in the storeroom have been removed.

25. Mr. Sprague told Mr. Volz that conversion throughout the plant to a three-prong system should be completed by May 1960.

26. Broken window in the storeroom door should be replaced.

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27. Consider replacement of the "guillotine" paper cutter in the Multilith Room with a "slide type" cutter to correct a safety hazard.

28. Electrical connection on the east wall stall at start-stop switch is loose and should be fixed.

29. Safety shower circle in carpenter shop with no shower over it.

30. Second floor storeroom should have items picked off the floor and put on shelves.

31. Change the method of storing fluorescent bulbs so that it does not conflict with the sprinkler head.

32. Thermocouple wires are stored with a bad overhang. An eye could be put out with this manner of storage.

33. Other sprinklers have interference in this area and this should be changed.

34. There are some open conduit above the storeroom, second floor.

35. Wastepaper on the floor should be removed.

36. The new free-swinging hoist on the second floor should have the electrical connection to the motor hung by a spring.

37. A sign on the second floor elevator is loose.

38. "Christmas tree" wiring in the laboratory storage room should not be allowed. A hot plate and electric heaters all attached to one unit.

39. The stationery supply room needs complete thorough clean-up, expecially straightening of the shelves on the bottom.

40. PA system for conference room located on second floor is in poor shape and should be repaired.

41. Floor loading should be checked in the motor storage room. Niran samples stored on floor has been questioned.

42. Electrical junk room on the third floor needs a thorough clean-up.

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LAB

43. Laboratory storage of solvents in old oil room should have C clamp replaced with pierce point type clamp.

44. Pressure vacuum type fitting should be installed on the drums along with self-closing type valves. The C clamp installation and entire grounding situation is entirely unsatisfactory on all drums stored in the solvent storage room.

45. Foamite cans stored in the Fire House on the floor should be stored on the wooden platform.

46. Solvent storage in the paint storage room--drum should be provided with safety vent and self-closing valves. Protecto seals "collection can" with protecto screen should be installed under the mineral spirit drum.

47. Broken window pane in the paint shop should be replaced.

48. The contractors' material stored in the paint shop is in bad shape and, if it is stored here, should be put up to Monsanto standard.

49. Evaluate the possibility of completely fencing in, with locked gates, the north side of the paint shop. This transformer station should be considered for this complete protection.

50. The recirculating water pump at the pond is leaking badly and packing glands should be repaired.

SERVICE BUILDING

51. A new waste can is needed for the white locker-wash room. This should have a cover. Makeshift system on drinking fountains should be corrected in both white and colored locker room. All trash cans should be replaced as they are rusting out.

52. Pop valves on the hot water tank are disconnected and should be connected back into the sewer.

53. A leaking radiator valve in the same room should be changed or repaired. Maintenance Department should send a man to check the lower valve station.

54. Seal on fire extinguisher in the clothing room is not adequately installed. The seal can be pulled without breaking seal. (Reminder to Elmer Schramm---replace seals on fire truck fire extinguishers pulled during the inspection.)

WOE-Material Handling Area

55. Storage of oil and other items in one storeroom is completely out of hand and should have immediate attention for safe storage as well as housekeeping, neatness, and appearance.

56. Tools are stored properly on the wall and is a big help to the area.

57. The 5-gallon can of gasoline stored in the sealed room is a potential safety hazard. This can is being moved to the outside of the building. Gasoline should be stored in a safety can rather than the painted galvanized can it is presently stored in.

58. Eight-pound sledge with small handle is taped. This tape should be removed to indicate a split handle and the handle replaced.

59. Road just inside gate between Niran waste ponds and Service Building needs repairing.

60. Lubricating dempster dumpster truck can be improved by pulling truck fully on rack before chocking, consequently decreasing the liklihood of unit rolling off.

NIRAN

61. Niran drumming station pulls on the palletizer and needs to be renewed.

62. Light bulb fixture near filter is bent and should be repaired.

63. Circle should be painted on or built into floor under safety showers.

64. Nipple protruding in area under showers, Niran drumming station, could puncture man's head or face as he jumps under emergency shower.

65. Top off the soda ash conveyor blocks fire blanket and fire extinguisher.

66. Renew fire blanket box in 400 Area.

67. Replace window pane in deluge system door.

68. Loose hanger on fume duct system in center of 400 Area. Consideration should be given to storage of all extraneous matter out of the deluge control room.

69. Non-standard aluminum ladder is in an erosive condition and should be destroyed immediately.

70. Three wires sticking out of a conduit just outside second floor, 400 Area platform, should be tied in or removed.

71. Electrical appliances in the eating area of Niran Contol Room Office is two-pronged system and should be converted immediately to three-prong.

72. Have static ground installed on air mover.

73. No indicating thermometer on residue hold tank.

74. Installation of new stairs to replace ladders in cubicle areas should be expedited.

75. Install couplings on all hose and use plant standard hose.

76. Electric heater on emergency shower immediately outside and south of control room should be removed.

77. Handle on valves should be properly set.

78. Check possibility of installing automatic shut-off motor in case of extreme out of balance condition, on the grind motor on the cooling tower.

79. Valve at platform to Niran tank should be repacked - Niran leaking.

80. Lockers in maintenance shop-Niran need a complete cleaning up and better organization. Men's lockers should be repainted and names of the men put on with a professional touch.

81. Bracket for chain to chain cylinders to the new heliwelder system is designed for the short-fat type cylinder. Suggest bracket be changed to accommodate all types of cylinders.

82. There are many tools with broken, taped wooden handles -- these should be replaced.

83. Need some spare cylinder racks, compressed gas cylinder racks, for the Niran shop area.

#2 PROCESS & BOILER ROOMS

84. An opening in the staire in the loading dock, at the point of lost-time accident, still has not been filled in.

85. Limit switches on elevator, #2 Process Building, should be inspected and set to operate so that the cable will not unwind.

86. Storage cabinets in #2 Process Building, that the warehouse department uses, need complete clean-up.

87. Electric wire is strung through a ladder in the Boiler Plant and the temporary installation for the boiler feed make-up is completely unsatisfactory. It should be made into a permanent installation.

88. Metal floor panel to the south of the boiler feed pump is completely unsafe. Anyone stepping on it will go down into the trash. It should be replaced immediately.

89. Installation of gas heater in the boiler room is not satisfactory. A man can be burned very easily.

90. There is a cold packing on the steam tie line immediately east of the boiler room that needs to be brought down.

91. Ladder on the north side of the #2 Process Building and Boiler Room should either have a cage around it or be removed.

92. Iron wire on north end of the building is loose.

93. The gas heater in #5 Boiler Room is turned up much too high, flames are leaping out, this can damage #5 Boiler Room; should be cinched out.

94. Use of the top sections of ladders should be discontinued.

95. Cracks in #5 boiler show that there has been considerable movement in the unit during the past few weeks.

96. Loose wires on the #5 boiler stack are close to 440 volt line on the west side of the building.

97. East side of #2 Process Building track is sprung--should be repaired.

98. Pump coupling unguarded on Eco pump at the incinerator. (Niran)

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99. Install a cold plate on the platform at that point. (Niran)

100. The alcohol tank dike area should be drained immediately. (Niran)

101. Water in the sump at the southwest corner of the tank farm. (Niran)

102. Insulation is coming down in the Niran fire pump booster house.

103. Valve is leaking on the fire system.

104. There is no cage on the ladder to the top of the water tank at the fire pump.

105. S&R rules that the fire booster pump station should have caps on them for protection of offense.

CHLORINE

106. Install a hose rack immediately south of Chlorine office.

107. Grating around water collecting ditch which is on the south side of the Chlorine plant, should be tied down. Presently it is a tripping hazard.

108. Ladders on ground at CO_2 tank. At this location a ladder rack is being used for storage of pipe, measuring sticks, etc.

109. Consideration should be given the use of Corby connections in all areas where hose are used.

110. Grating covers on salt sump are a tripping hazard.

111. Excessive corrosion at start and stop buttons for KCl elevator.

112. Install a new wheel on grinder in welding shop.

113. 440 fly cable on ground in the welding shop. Should be put overhead.

114. Steeple should be checked to determine whether or not temporary repair is adequate.

115. There are three electric fans in the welding shop that should be destroyed.

BIPHENYL

116. There are tools lying in the mud out at the benzol loading docks.

117. Jack-leg device on west benzol tank to remove fence post is completely unsatisfactory and unsafe.

118. Cage glass on west HCl tank is broken and glass is falling down into tube.

119. Stairs in HCl area should be posted as unsafe on the second level as well as on the ground level.

120. Cage board located in the corner of the Biphenyl meter room should be placed in a rack.

121. The installation of the blower in the Biphenyl meter room should be expedited.

122. Deadman switch on link belt car spotter is not standard.

123. Pull cable on the light standard at the aroclor loading dock should be replaced.

124. There is a frayed ground cable tied to a conduit at the benzol unloading pump.

125. Insulation requires repair at this pump.

126. Ground cable on 6-inch joint on benzol unloading line is broken.

127. Benzene protecto seal tank car dome cover is not complete. A new one should be purchased immediately.

128. Present grounding clamps are not satisfactory, as much as the points do not penetrate the paint.

129. Miscellaneous pipe fittings on third level in Biphenyl should be removed.

130. Hoist over number four unit does not have safety hooks.

131. No. 13 Biphenyl unit heat exchanger is leaking water.

132. The practice of using 10 and 12 gauge sheet as a flying flange should be discontinued.

133. Motor guard missing on chlorinator pump southwest chlorinator area.

134. Chlorinator pumps should have a mechanical seal.

135. Relocate nitrogen blowout cylinder on chlorine ferric line to new location to enable the cylinder to be securely chained.

136. Wall on second floor, Aroclor, without safety latch-rack. It is needed to store shovels, scrapers, brooms, etc.

137. Measuring stick storage for second floor needed.

138. CO_2 cylinders, second floor, just outside aroclor control room wired instead of chained.

139. Aroclor, second floor, dumb waiter cage opens when elevator is on first level--should be corrected.

140. Sampling cup on wire not standard for sampling of material.

141. Hanger needed to secure light fixture over the #2 aroclor filtrate tank-second floor-now held by wire and "skewed" out of position.