

ETHYL CORPORATION

INTER-OFFICE

To Dr. R. A. Kehoe

ADDRESS Cincinnati

FROM K. C. Jost

ADDRESS Detroit

SUBJECT SAFETY ACTIVITIES

DATE October 1, 1968

Attached for your review is an appraisal of overall safety activities from each of the regions. It includes:

1. Personnel assignments.
2. Tank cleaning activities.
3. An assessment of regional safety activities.

Also attached for your quick reference is my memo to you of 4-12-68 and a copy of our Safety Policy which includes the bare basic requirements to fulfill the policy. The Safety Manual of course elaborates on the requirements.

I have studied your "Report on a Survey of Various Facilities of Ethyl Corporation for the Manufacture and Distribution of Lead Alkyl Antiknock Compounds". I offer the following comments for your consideration:

On page 4 you indicate disappointment in not having had the opportunity to visit customers. I feel sure there are no objections from PCD for such visits. Personally, I would encourage this but realize it would take a vast number of visits to attain a true appraisal of industry thinking on medical, hygienic, and safety affairs. I would also encourage your visiting with each of the five Regional Managers, Chief Product Service Engineers and their associates.

In connection with customer visits, I was surprised that you mention nothing about your impression of the visit to Texaco. The Texaco mixing plant is typical of say 1/2 of our domestic refinery lead plant operations. The new design such as you saw at Texaco represents a big departure from the earlier design except it retains the eductor concept. The uniqueness of the new design is that it is safer not from a toxic standpoint but from a thermal standpoint. This was illustrated last week at the Atlantic Richfield Refinery fire when their Ethyl Mixing Plant was totally demolished because of a large gasoline spill in the tank farm area. We were exceedingly fortunate that the weigh tank did not rupture and the fluid spill/burn. Only through the efforts of Tom Gillen, the local Product Service Engineer, the weigh tank did not

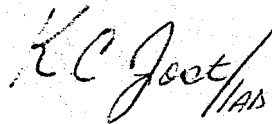
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explode. I mention this because the new Ethyl design does not require a building and a pit which in this case trapped gasoline vapors. Also, the Texaco installation which you saw represents a significant expenditure and manpower effort to make the eductor principle applicable to today's in-line blending concept.

Dr. Kehoe, I have repeatedly mentioned that one real problem we face in the future on handling lead alkyls at a refinery is, can we or can we not pump fluid. I have just recently recommended to our management a firm policy that we do not pump until we have all the engineering answers and have a complete meeting of the minds with high level management and medical personnel and that after this we even get opinions from competitors as well as customers before such a device is introduced. I think this is a very serious problem. So far, we have resisted fluid pumping rather strenuously. In fact we have even avoided the use of nitrogen in specialized cases where it would have been condoned in the past. Now, I recognize that the problems of EID are quite different from PCD.

I do not understand your statement on page 27, "It will not be possible in this report to say anything new or important about these hazards. Very little has been learned, through this survey, of their significance. Questions have been raised, but few answers have been obtained." I was quite surprised at this statement in view of our conversations and previous correspondence.

If there is any information you think I have not passed on to you, please so advise.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "K. C. Jost" with a stylized flourish at the end.

K. C. Jost

KCJ/lad
Attachments

cc: F. A. McCoy
D. E. Park
M. C. Shonfield

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