FILE NAME: Caterpillar (CAT)

DATE: 1977 Jan 18

DOC#: CAT027

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: Safety Complaint

CATERPILLAR TRACTOR CO.

EAST PEORIA

PLANT OR OFFICE	DEPARTMENT	ATTENTION	
☐ DESTROY	FILE UNTIL (DATE)		

DATE January 18, 1977

PLANT OR OFFICE East Peoria

DEPT. Administrative

ATTN. E. L. Breese

Re: Hazardous Material Audit

These audits are designed to locate and identify possible hazardous materials and situations. Where possible, CTCo. standards have been indicated as the standard applicable to the situation. When CTCo. standards are not available, OSHA standards have been provided. We have asked for a status report on each recorded violation within 30 days from your managers. During the audit, many of the identified hazards were corrected.
The proliferation of hazardous materials used in production will necessitate closer control of these materials if we are to be in compliance. One problem is the large number of products purchased to perform the same function at different facilities. This appears to be a problem with water treatment products, maintenance aids and degreasing products. A review of these products could reduce the number as well as the on-hand quantities in many cases.

GENERAL COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:
(See audit record sheets for specific locations.)

Housekeeping

Except for a few areas (noted by specific locations in the attached reports) housekeeping has been greatly improved. Buildings KK and HH were in good condition inspite of the moving of production machines.

Asbestos

Materials containing various amounts of Asbestos are still being used without complying with OSHA standard 1910.1001. If use is to continue, engineering controls, personal protective equipment, monitoring, caution signs and labeling, special housekeeping procedures, waste disposal, medical examinations and medical records are required. In addition, medical records must be maintained for 20 years. A copy of 1910.1001 is attached for your use.

Spray Painting

In many of the spray painting booths the build up of flammable and explosive paint dust is at a dangerous level. To reduce the possibility of fire cleaning of these stacks requires a No. 1 priority. Cleaning procedures set forth on pages C-9 & 10 of the Hazardous Material Manual must be carefully followed.

Acid Carboy Baskets

Wire baskets for acid carboys are in very poor condition. Most are badly corroded, bent and broken which can result in a serious spill. In addition most containers were not identified as to content or labeled as to the hazard. To the best of our knowledge they contain Sulfuric Acid and are filled from the bulk tank at the rear of building LL.

Outside Contractors

More control over outside contractors in the securing and handling of compressed gas cylinders will be required if we hope to provide a safe place of employment for our employees.