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MONSANTO CHEMICALS LIMITED

PLASTICS DIVISION

FULMER

Application Research Laboratory Report No: L.57/2

Date: 13th August, 1957.

Job.No: 635.151.1151
Req.No: DF.57/32

Title: Further investigation of the high temperature stability of
Aroclors 1243, 1248 and 1254.

Introduction:

Previous work on these Aroclors indicated that they were unstable at 250°C. (See A.R.L.R. L.57/1). This report deals with an attempt to determine the maximum working temperature of Aroclors in electrical applications.

Summary and Conclusions:

Tests over a period of 25 days at 200°C. and 50 days at 175°C. were carried out on various Aroclors.

At 200°C. Aroclor 1242 appeared to be unstable and would be unsuitable for use at this temperature. Both Lots of Aroclor 1248 degraded slightly and use of this material at 200°C. is not recommended. The sample of Aroclor 1254 also showed a deterioration although at the end of the ageing period its Power Factor was still low, 0.0024, and its Volume Resistivity high, 3.11×10^{12} ohms. cms.

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At 175°C. no significant change in electrical properties of any sample was detected.

These results suggest that 175°C is the maximum working temperature of Aroclors 1242 and 1248, and possibly 200°C. for Aroclor 1254. Further long term tests are necessary to confirm these conclusions, and such tests have been initiated.

Details:

Representative samples of Aroclors 1242, 1248 and 1254 were selected for the tests (See Tables 1 and 2), and each sample was treated with Fullers Earth prior to measurements and ageing.

The ageing was carried out in two stages, first at 200°C. with tests after five days, fifteen days and twenty five days, and then at 175°C with tests after fifteen, twenty five and fifty days.

The test conditions were those usually maintained in this type of measurement viz.

Power Factor at 1000 cps. and 100°C.

Volume Resistivity at 200V DC and 100°C.

Results are given in Tables 1 and 2.

Discussion.

Aroclor 1242 shows a marked deterioration after ageing for 25 days at 200°C. and would be unsuitable for use at this temperature. No significant difference appears between the two lots of Aroclor 1248 tested, both show a slight degradation, which would probably increase with further ageing at 200°C. The change in electrical properties of the sample of Aroclor 1254 after ageing may be significant and further long term tests would be necessary before its use at 200°C. could be recommended.

After 50 days ageing at 175°C. all samples showed very little change in electrical properties. Discolouration had occurred in all samples, but to a greater extent in Aroclor 1254.

Further tests are being carried out over a longer ageing period to confirm these results.

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It should be noted that during the ageing period some samples exhibited an initial improvement in electrical properties followed by a deterioration, but there is insufficient experimental evidence to indicate whether this is a real effect or merely due to random experimental errors.

No change in S.I.C. occurred in any sample over the period of ageing.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "J. H. Gilbert".

John H. Gilbert.

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Table 1.

Samples aged at 200°C.

Sample		Control 25 days at Room temp.	Aged for 5 days.	Aged for 15 days.	Aged for 25 days.
Aroclor 1242 Lot K.1	P.F. Vol.Res.	0.0096 7.42×10^{11}	0.012 1.40×10^{12}	0.0084 8.16×10^{11}	0.050 1.13×10^{11}
Aroclor 1248 Lot K.1	P.F. Vol.Res.	0.0031 1.54×10^{12}	0.012 2.05×10^{12}	0.0051 9.77×10^{11}	0.010 4.95×10^{11}
Aroclor 1248 Lot L.1	P.F. Vol.Res.	0.0079 1.22×10^{12}	0.0074 1.91×10^{12}	0.0046 9.88×10^{11}	0.0049 8.89×10^{11}
Aroclor 1254 Lot K.16	P.F. Vol.Res.	0.00023 7.34×10^{12}	0.0012 3.17×10^{12}	0.00083 3.11×10^{12}	0.0024 1.30×10^{12}

Table 2.

Samples aged at 175°C.

Sample		Control 50 days at Room temp.	Aged for 15 days.	Aged for 25 days	Aged for 50 days.
Aroclor 1242 Lot K.1	P.F. Vol.Res.	0.013 3.64×10^{11}	0.016 4.74×10^{11}	0.007 6.67×10^{11}	0.011 4.00×10^{11}
Aroclor 1248 Lot L.1	P.F. Vol.Res.	0.009 3.36×10^{11}	0.024 3.48×10^{11}	0.0038 1.02×10^{12}	0.0056 5.35×10^{11}
Aroclor 1248 Lot M.1	P.F. Vol.Res.	0.006 6.63×10^{11}	0.0097 7.96×10^{11}	0.0042 1.13×10^{12}	0.0056 4.95×10^{11}
Aroclor 1254 Lot K.16	P.F. Vol.Res.	0.0017 1.39×10^{12}	0.018 3.74×10^{11}	0.0013 2.89×10^{12}	0.0013 1.47×10^{12}

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