GENERAL
BULLETIN

Monsanto

SUBJECT MONSANTO ANNOUNCES COMMITMENT TO VOLUNTARY SAFETY PROGRAM

DATE Feb. 4, 1992

NO. 683

Monsanto's commitment to ensuring a safe workplace for all employees is as old as the company, and as new as the Monsanto Pledge. But safety can become so ingrained that it is taken for granted, and that poses a problem. For some time, we have been looking for ways to elevate our safety commitment, and to expand it to include contract employees, visitors and indeed anyone who enters Monsanto property.

Today, Monsanto, the U.S. Department of Labor, and the U.S. Occupational Safety & Health Administration (OSHA) are announcing that Monsanto is committing all of our U.S. operating facilities to the goal of meeting the stringent requirements of OSHA's Voluntary Protection Program (VPP) within five years. We will establish similar standards for our international facilities.

To earn the VPP "Star" status, a facility must undergo a very rigorous OSHA audit, demonstrating that its safety programs and practices reach various levels of excellence and that its accident rate is below the rest of the industry. Our Pensacola, Florida, plant achieved this VPP status in 1991, and serves as model for Monsanto's commitment.

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Further, we are committed to meet and exceed any appropriate guidelines which OSHA may add to the program.

Our goal is clearly a stretch, but Monsanto's people never shrink back from a stretch goal. As we have said in the Monsanto Pledge, "It is our pledge to ensure that no Monsanto operation poses any undue risk to our employees and our communities." Our commitment to attain VPP status for our facilities will help us fulfill that commitment.

Richard J. Mahoney
Chairman and
Chief Executive Officer

St. Louis