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Monsanto halts some sales of persistent chemical PCB

ST. LOUIS, Mo.—Monsanto Co. will no longer sell polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) for use in adhesives, sealants and chlorinated rubbers and for other uses which allow the chemical to enter the environment. Reason for the ban is that researchers have found that PCB is a persistent chemical which builds up in the environment.

The fire-resistant chemical was developed in the early 1930's for use as a coolant in electrical components. In early 1960, other uses were discovered, but its primary use continued to be in "closed system" heating and cooling applications and in electrical components. The chemical will continue to be sold for these uses.