

# Thompson Vita-Meter Corporation

A WHOLLY-OWNED SUBSIDIARY OF THOMPSON PRODUCTS, INC.

23555 EUCLID AVENUE

Cleveland 17, Ohio

PLEASE DIRECT REPLY TO  
C. H. VAN HARTESVELDT  
6402 CEDAR AVENUE  
CLEVELAND 3, OHIO

July 12, 1948

Robert A. Kehoe, M. D.  
University of Cincinnati  
Kettering Laboratory of Applied Physiology  
Eden Avenue  
Cincinnati 19, Ohio

Dear Dr. Kehoe:

As brought out in our discussion of July 8, 1948 Vitameters will be placed on general sale in the city of Columbus, Ohio beginning in September of this year. The anti-detonant solution to be sold for use in the Vitameter will be that currently under test in your laboratory.

It is our desire that you and your staff participate in our commercial experiment in Columbus to determine safely the actual hazards in the distribution and use of Vitol, and to make recommendations on methods for expansion of this distribution at a later date.

Discussions with Shell Oil Company executives have brought out that sealed quart cans may be the best way to dispense Vitol in service stations in Columbus. These cans would be equivalent in all respects to those now used for motor oil and anti-freeze and offer the following safety features in comparison with dispensing the solution from drums:

1. Eliminates fire and poison hazards from dripping drum taps and from spilling when drawing from drum.
2. Makes re-use of container impractical.
3. Makes unnecessary the filling of miscellaneous containers to carry on trips.
4. Prevents accidental dilution with water.

Consequently, we will make every effort to have Vitol canned for sale in Columbus and we would like to have you or your staff inspect and approve the canning process to be used from the standpoint of exposure of canning plant personnel to the methanol and tetraethyl lead. As soon as I can locate facilities for this work I will get in

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Robert A. Kehoe, M. D.  
University of Cincinnati  
Kettering Laboratory  
Cincinnati, Ohio

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touch with you again.

In our Columbus sales effort the cans of Vitol will be stored at one central warehouse from which they will be issued to Shell service stations and to car dealers making Vitameter installations. As a general rule these car dealers will dispense small amounts of Vitol in comparison with service station sales. Methods of storage and dispensing for car dealer outlets should also be under your observation. Approximately twenty thousand gallons of solution will be canned making a total of eighty thousand quarts. We estimate that this amount should last for four months after the product goes on sale.

We will appreciate your advising public health officials on the effort we are making in Columbus, the part you and your staff will take in it, and our intention to be guided by results obtained in any subsequent expansion of our commercial effort.

Very truly yours,

*C. H. Van Hartesveldt*

C. H. Van Hartesveldt

CHVH:sg

cc: A. T. Colwell  
J. N. Cole  
E. H. Reading  
Eben Jones

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