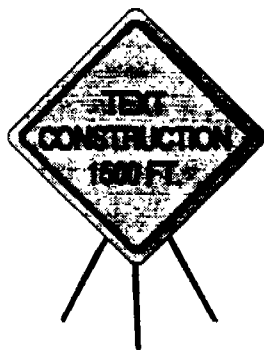
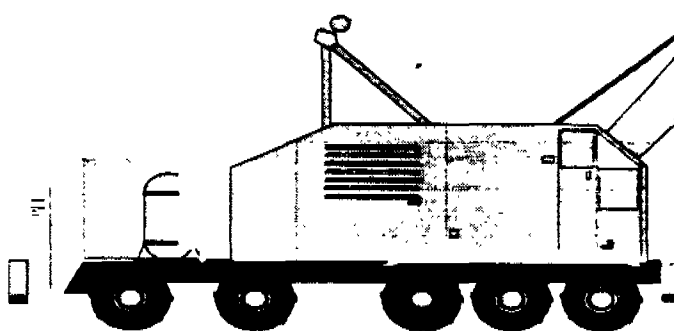


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In an effort to provide our readers with the most current information available, we have put CHEMSTAR News under construction to make a few modifications. We appreciate the comments our readers sent to us via a survey from the last edition of the News, and we hope to incorporate as many of the suggestions as possible. Because your ideas are important to us, we have included a survey in this edition as well. Please take a few moments to answer the questions and fax the survey to us at 202/887-5427. You can find the survey on the back of this page. If you'd like to discuss your ideas, please call Kim Reed at 202/887-1191. Again, many thanks and please pardon our dust



CMA 030981

READER SURVEY

TO: CHEMSTAR News

FROM: _____ (optional)

The editors of CHEMSTAR News want to provide our readers with the most useful and enlightening information available. We are overhauling the Newsletter to focus on your needs and wants. Please take a moment to answer the following questions:

1. What elements of CHEMSTAR News do you find useful?
2. What items would you suggest adding to the Newsletter?
3. What items would you suggest deleting?
4. Is the Newsletter too long or too short?
5. Do you have any additional comments?

Return by fax to Kim Reed
at

202/887-5427

Diisocyanates Panel Wins MDI Ruling

On July 19, 1994, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit reversed EPA's decision to place methylene diphenyl diisocyanate on a "high risk" list for purposes of the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990. MDI is a precursor of various polyurethane foams and resins used in the manufacture of upholstery, insulation, wood and automobile coatings and other products.

In 1992, EPA placed MDI on its list of high-risk air pollutants, a list statutorily reserved for "pollutants for which high risks of adverse public health effects may be associated with exposure to small quantities...." EPA made this determination based on the results of a generic air dispersion model and an inhalation reference concentration for MDI from its Integrated Risk Information System.

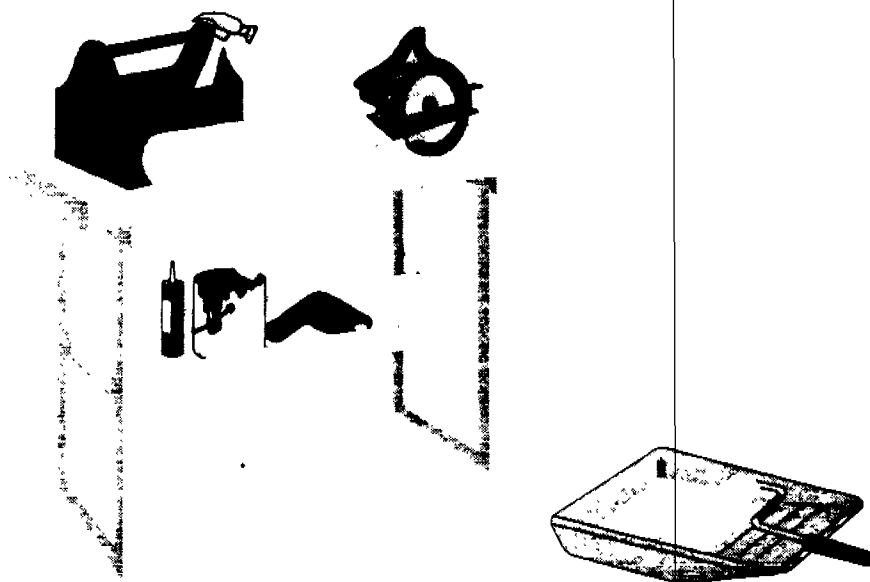
The Diisocyanates Panel appealed EPA's listing decision to the U.S. Court of Appeals. CMA argued first that EPA's generic air dispersion model did not take into account the actual physical characteristics of MDI. Although MDI

has a low vapor pressure and tends to disperse as an aerosol, EPA's generic model was designed for a gas. In addition, CMA objected that the RfC calculated for MDI was based on nasal irritation, an adverse health effect not sufficiently serious to warrant a "high risk" designation under the statute.

Based on a review of the EPA model and the Panel's technical comments, the Court ruled that EPA's model was not tailored to the physical characteristics of MDI and that EPA's designation of MDI as high-risk was "arbitrary and capricious."

In the area of adverse health effects, the Court was unwilling to accept EPA's argument that reversible nasal irritation formed a rational basis for listing MDI as a high risk pollutant. Accordingly, the Court ruled that EPA's use of the RfC based on nasal irritation was inappropriate in listing MDI as high risk because the Agency had previously indicated that it would only consider pollutants with "serious" health effects for the high risk list.

The ruling will benefit the entire regulated community by providing a precedent for challenging Agency decisions, especially where models are inappropriately used. The Court was critical of EPA in emphasizing that an agency has an obligation to respond specifically and thoughtfully to public comments. In addition, the Court held EPA to its criteria that the high risk list would be comprised only of pollutants associated with serious health effects. Thus MDI is not likely to be regulated on the basis of its IRIS RfC alone — at least not when serious health effects are required. With this opinion, the Court signaled that the Agency must use a realistic model and continue to respond meaningfully to public comments. *For more information, contact Cecilia Spearing at 202/887-1305.*



Biocides n th Road

(Ottawa, Canada, June 2)

The Biocides Panel presented a workshop on biocides and their uses to regulators from Environment Canada, Health and Welfare Canada, and Agriculture Canada. The workshop was designed to provide regulators with specific information on industrial processes, biocide application points, industrial hygiene practices of workers, occupational and environmental exposure, and EPA's tiered testing scheme. Through educational sessions like this workshop, the Panel hopes to encourage streamlining of Canadian regulatory processes by sharing information with the agencies. *For more information, contact Dr. Has Shah at 202/887-1192.*

Neurotoxicity Testing

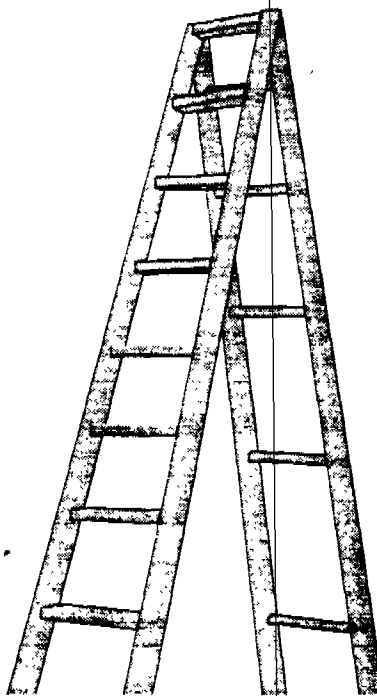
(Washington, DC, July 26)

Members of the CHEMSTAR Neurotoxicity Technical Task Group met with EPA scientists to discuss the multisubstance neurotoxicity test program. Focus was on the scheduled controlled operant behavior (SCOB) test. The meeting provided a forum for study directors and sponsors to demonstrate to EPA the magnitude of industry efforts toward developing the SCOB test for use in a regulatory arena and the level of the coordination effort to standardize the testing program. EPA and industry participants agreed that the joint meeting was extremely productive and generated excellent discussions among the scientists on technical issues related to the conduct of the studies. *For more information, contact Barbara Francis at 202/887-1314.*

Neurotox Genes Public

(Washington, DC, July 28)

Representatives of the CHEMSTAR Neurotoxicity Work Group, an industry coalition formed in response to a 1991 EPA proposed test rule, attended the public meeting held by the Agency to identify parties interested in consent agreement negotiations on the multisubstance rule for the testing of neurotoxicity. On June 27, 1994, the Agency issued an administrative stay of the testing required under the multisubstance rule and proposed to revoke the final test rule as part of the settlement agreement signed by manufacturers of these chemicals and the Agency. Manufacturers had agreed to conduct neurotoxicity testing under enforceable consent agreements on seven of the ten chemicals subject to the final test rule. At the public meeting, industry representatives and EPA were able to propose a schedule which would complete the enforceable consent agreements by December 1994. *For more information, contact Barbara Francis at 202/887-1314.*



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Comments

Comments to EPA on the Hazardous Air Pollutants Proposed Regulations Governing Constructed, Reconstructed or Modified Major Sources Under Section 112(g) of the Clean Air Act (filed by the Phthalate Esters Panel, June 30, 1994).

Comments to EPA on the Hazardous Air Pollutants Proposed Regulations Governing Constructed, Reconstructed or Modified Major Sources Under Section 112(g) of the Clean Air Act (filed by the Diisocyanates Panel, June 30, 1994).

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Comments to EPA on the Hazardous Air Pollutants Proposed Regulations Governing Constructed, Reconstructed or Modified Major Sources Under Section 112(g) of the Clean Air Act (filed by the Ketones Panel, June 30, 1994).

Comments to Green Seal on Green Seal's Proposed Environmental Standard for Anti-Corrosive Paints and Petition to Remove MEK and MIBK from the Restricted Chemicals List (filed by the Ketones Panel, July 14, 1994).

Comments to OECD on Status Report on Views on Derestriction (filed by the Brominated Flame Retardants Industry Panel, July 15 1994).

Comments to the Department of Energy on Document on Global Warming Potentials (filed by the Atmospheric Research Council, August 1, 1994).

Comments to EPA on Request for Modification of 4-Vinyl Cyclohexane Consent Order (filed by the Olefins Panel, August 6, 1994).

Comments to EPA on National Emissions Standard for Hazardous Air Pollutants Secondary Lead Smelters Proposed Rule (filed by the Olefins Panel, August 8, 1994).

Comments to the Department of Transportation on the DOT Final Rule on Intermediate Bulk Containers for Hazardous Materials (filed by the Hydrazine Panel, August 25, 1994).

Comments to EPA on EPA's Proposed Alternate Threshold for Toxics Release Reporting (filed by the Biocides Panel, August 25, 1994).

Comments to the Department of Transportation on the Implementation of United Nations Recommendations for Hazardous Materials Transport (filed by the Vinyl Chloride Panel, September 6, 1994).

Comments to EPA on the Interagency Testing Committee's Recommendation for the Testing of White Phosphorus (filed by the Phosphorus Panel, September 26, 1994).

Federal Register Notices

"Fuels and Fuel Additives Registration Regulations; Final Rule," (59FR33042, June 27, 1994).

"Glycol Ethers Category; Toxic Chemical Release Reporting Community Right-to-Know," (59FR34386, July 5, 1994).

"Thirty-Fourth Report of the TSCA Interagency Testing Committee to the Administrator; Receipt of Report and Request for Comments," (59FR35720, July 13, 1994).

"Notice of Workshop on Ecological Risk Assessment Issue Papers," (59FR38972, August 1, 1994).

"Final Report: Principles of Neurotoxicity Risk Assessment; Notice," (59FR42360, August 17, 1994).

"Testing Guidelines for Developmental and Reproductive Toxicity," (59FR42272, August 17, 1994).

"Proposed Water Quality Guidance for the Great Lakes System," (59FR44678, August 30, 1994).

"Colloquium on Ecological Risk Assessment Issues," (59FR46644, September 9, 1994).

"Air Quality Revision to Definition of Volatile Organic Compounds - Exclusion of Acetone," (59FR49877, September 30, 1994).

Final Reports

"104 Week Dietary Carcinogenicity Study with 1,2,4-Trichlorobenzene in Mice," (Chlorobenzene Panel, June 15, 1994).

"104 Week Dietary Carcinogenicity Study with 1,2,4-Trichlorobenzene in Rats," (Chlorobenzene Panel, June 15, 1994).

"Isopropanol Vapor Inhalation Oncogenicity Study in Fischer 344 Rats," (Isopropanol Panel, June 17, 1994).



HAVE YOU COMPLETED THE SURVEY?

(If not PLEEZ see page 2.)