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QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS TO BE USED IN RESPONDING TO MEDIA INQUIRIES REGARDING PYDRAUL CONTAINING PCB

Q. When did Monsanto warn its customers of fire resistant hydraulic fluids that PCBs were an environmental contaminant?

A. Scientific investigation first confirmed that PCBs were in the U.S. environment in 1970. Monsanto voluntarily began a program to terminate PCB sales in open applications well before government restriction. One application, fire resistant hydraulic fluids (trademarked Pydraul) was seen as such an open application -- an application where the safety benefits to foundries and other metal working industries might no longer be justified by the potential contamination.

We began to notify our hydraulic fluid customers of the studies and articles about PCBs beginning in February 1970. By February 1971 we announced a reformulated fire resistant hydraulic fluid line with no PCBs in the formulation.

Q. Outboard Marine says that Monsanto never warned them about PCBs and environmental contamination. What do you say?

A. I don't know the specifics about exactly when this company was notified. But,... (second paragraph from previous question).

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Q. Outboard Marine says they are going to sue (or have sued) Monsanto because of the PCB contamination of a Lake Michigan harbor. What do you think?

A. As a policy, we do not speculate into future litigation (or we have not seen the suit and by policy do not comment on ongoing litigation).

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