

Division Headquarters
March 9, 1964

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Acetone Test Method
PVC Pipe

Research Report 455-133 dated 2/4/64 made two specific recommendations regarding subject test; 1) section samples to expose mid wall on all samples irrespective of wall thickness and 2) run temperature at 75° to 80° F. This report led me to recheck CS 256-63 and I found that it calls for sectioning wall thickness in excess of .125" to 1/16" and for conditioning samples for 48 hours at 73.4±1.8° F and 50 ± 2% RH and for testing at same.

Obviously, a 48 hour conditioning period completely negates any value of this test as a production tool. In addition, we are not set up to even hold the acetone at the specified temperature on the production floor.

I discussed this question with Mr. Hucks and would like to offer the following for your consideration and comment.

- 1) Run the samples on the production floor as at present.
- 2) Hold the acetone to a minimum temperature of 70° F. Measure the temperature of the acetone at the start of each test & record.
- 3) In the event of a failure make appropriate adjustments in the process and recheck.
- 4) Test a duplicate to each failing sample in the laboratory adjusting the acetone temperature to 73.4° F ± 1.8° F.

An alternative procedure would be to provide a means of controlling the acetone temperature right on the production floor. This might be somewhat costly and we would like to determine if it is really necessary. Item 2 versus 4 above should establish this.

May we please have your reaction.

As regards sectioning all samples to mid wall, I assume it will result in a more stringent test than that of CS 256 putting us at a further disadvantage. We presently call for two hour acetone as opposed to the 20 minutes of CS 256.

However, not withstanding this objection, I would appreciate any comments you might have of the problems you would encounter if mid wall sectioning of all samples was to be adopted.

Attached for your information is a letter I have written Mr. Hucks re this subject.

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cc: J. B. McCarty
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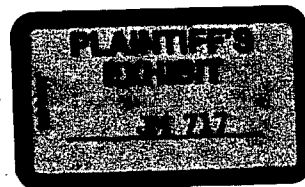
J. D. Macdonald - Mvl

TRADE SECRET
J-M 83

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1. *Phragmites australis* (Cav.) Trin. ex Steud.

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