

MONSANTO

FROM W. J. Boyle, Jr. - Springfield cc R. E. Cummings
DATE April 13, 1972 G. M. Ellsworth
SUBJECT VINYL CHLORIDE SAFETY ASSOCIATION D. L. Gendron
NOVEMBER 10-12, 1971 MEETING SUMMARY G. W. Fletcher
REFERENCE W. B. Howard - St. Louis
TO W. F. Gabel R. L. Miller - St. Louis
F. T. Molyneux
W. L. Thomasino
A. P. Torrenzano
J. J. Uihlein
W. P. Willis

Highlights of the recent Rochester meeting of the Vinyl Chloride Safety Association are summarized in the order in which the topics were discussed. Items of particular interest to us are underlined.

BUSINESS MEETING

The present slate of officers were:

C. G. Thompson, Tenneco, Chairman
M. G. Glenn, General Tire, Vice-Chairman (absent)
S. J. Moll, Borden, Secretary
H. E. Kling, American Chemical, Treasurer
W. J. Boyle, Jr., Monsanto, Program Chairman

The officers recommended against the V.C.S.A. associating with the S.P.E. or S.P.I. A motion was passed to keep the group an independent body.

New memberships include Norsk Hydro A.S. of Norway, Promociones Industriales, S.A., of Mexico, Shell Chemical of Deer Park, Texas, and Pittsburgh Plate Glass Industries, Inc.

Additional inquiries have been received from Farbwerke Hoeschst of West Germany and Montecatini Edison SPA of Milano, Italy.

A nominating committee proposed a new slate of officers. The slate was accepted and took office following the adjournment of this meeting.

M. G. Glenn, General Tire, Chairman
R. A. Asti, Stauffer, Vice-Chairman
J. C. Flores, Great American, Treasurer
J. R. Mehall, Hooker, Secretary
H. G. Smith, Ethyl Corp., Program Chairman

The business meeting took only twenty minutes. The remainder of the meeting was turned over to W. J. Boyle, Jr., who presided over the agenda discussions of November 10 (A.M.), November 11 (A.M. and P.M.) and November 12 (A.M.)

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b. AOL Bone Disease

Airco and Conoco reported that an extensive x-ray program is now being undertaken with their central medical department to detect AOL in employees. Ten companies have an AOL program already. B. F. Goodrich has long been the leader in doing extensive employee analysis to detect AOL early. Europe has recently reported many cases of AOL in PVC plant employees. Originally thought to be caused by hand reactor cleaning, cases in lead operators and other non-cleaners now proves that AOL is caused by repeated exposure to low concentrations of VCM (50 ppm).

c. Bulk Truck Loading

Four companies use life lines on operators while loading and climbing on bulk trucks. Several companies expressed concern at the high injury potential of this operation.

d. Fisheye Control

Pantosote indicated that maintaining the oxygen level in the vapor space above incoming VCM tank cars below 100 ppm would have a great effect on reducing fisheyes.

Airco, Pantasote and Diamond Shamrock confirmed that once the oxygen level in the RVCM system was monitored and controlled to prevent polyperoxide formation, fisheyes improved considerably.

e. New Solution Fast Catalysts

Reference was made during the catalyst handling and storage discussions, that not only do the solution catalysts reduce the severe hazard of handling solid IPP, but give better conversion and cycles as well. No indication of which fast catalyst was made, however.

f. Shortstop Testing

Uniroyal is doing some testing to determine the effectiveness of isoprene in various concentrations and under different conditions as an emergency shortstop. Isoprene was reported at an earlier meeting to be the most effective shortstop for PVC reactions. Uniroyal will make the test results available to the Vinyl Chloride Safety Association in unpublished form at a future meeting.

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VINYL CHLORIDE SAFETY ASSOCIATION
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g. Kettle Jacket Cleaning

One company commented that kettle jackets should be cleaned annually, since many years of scale may take several chemical cleanings before significant heat transfer can be recovered.

W. J. Boyle Jr.

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WJB/rg

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