Monsanto

FROM (LOCATION) Anniston, Alabama

DATE September 14, 1965

SUBJECT Safety Meeting
Laborer Group

REFERENCE

TO B. O. Severson
J. W. Molloy

CC J. H. Aldridge
R. G. Moody

Confidential

This Copy For

On Thursday, September 9, 1965 I was the safety meeting leader for the Biphenyl/Aroclor laborer group. Two sessions were held; five in the first and two in the second session.

I explained to the men that I knew very little about their jobs and that they would discuss the various jobs and hazards of each.

Remelt Pots

1. Broken pallets - when old broken pallets are used moving drums up to the pots is very hazardous - the two wheel truck tilts, spilling the drum.

2. They all agreed they need to clean up materials on the decks and stair as they go.

3. Bar across pot openings - one pot is not protected the other bar needs repair.

I asked what they would do in case of fire. They all said they would turn on sprinklers - the system is now out of order. I suggested that after turning on the sprinklers they pass the alarm to get help.

Aroclor Drumming Area

1. Fumes - they all stated fumes are very bad while drumming. The air vacuum system is not good enough to supply a vacuum at the drumming station and supply air to shake biphenyl/solid aroclor bags - either one or the other. The solid aroclor drumming station doesn't even have a vent port and the operator must stand close to the fill pipe to operate the control cock.

2. Another hazard is when the still operator "blows the jets" hot aroclor spews out into a drum just behind drum filling operator plus splatters down thru holes in the overhead on the operator. I have checked this area and aroclor is splattered over the pipes and wall in this area and could easily cause the drummer

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to be burned. The still operator doesn't always warn the drummer when he is going to "blow the jets."

3. The men also stated how much PPO fumes "burned" their eyes and skin when they had to inspect tank cars. Sometime it is so bad that they have to get out and take off their shirt until they "cool down."
Comment - Is this inspection necessary?

4. Biphenyl Flaker - hot water drops on the bagger from the "blowing trap tank" nearby.

5. Drawing Still Bottoms - all the men jumped on this item. The worse material was 1242 bottoms because "they never get solid" and atop giving off fumes. They suggested piping these bottoms outside for drumming. Even though the drums are only half full they still spill some material on themselves when removing the drums. The men also described how the drums are placed for filling - the last row of drums around the outside are about 1/2 out from under the hood.
Comment - No wonder the fumes are so bad. It is rather evident our present fume collection system is very poor. Could we put a full Scott Airline Mask on the biphenyl flaker man when we draw bottoms? (Using the airline cart.)

6. Both groups talked about their arms and shoulders hurting after breaking up Montar. We could easily have more "bad backs" on our hands with this archaic method of screening Montars. It seems to be an emotional problem - perhaps more than a physical problem and emotions can be more troublesome than anything else.

Every man in both groups actively participated in the meetings - the attitude was very good. They were constructive with their comments-not sour grapes.

You might want to discuss some of the improvements that are on the way with these men. With fumes being the greatest talked about hazard, whatever improvements you can make will be readily noticed and appreciated by these men.

Elmer W. Schramm

bmh