

MINUTES OF PLANT MANAGER'S SAFETY BOARD

MEETING

February 16, 1977

Present: Members

G. W. Bostick	W. H. Lane
G. A. Danner	N. L. Marsh
G. W. Daues	R. Medina for Martini
W. C. Fuller	C. M. McCullough
J. A. Glass	C. A. Peters
H. M. Lacy	G. T. Ryan
	A. J. Bolton for Trafton

I. SAFETY STATISTICSA. February and Year to Date

Time Period	TOT INJ	TIR	TOT RI	RIR
Feb. 1 - Feb. 10, 1977	4	9.00	1	2.25
Jan. 1 - Feb. 10, 1977	22	10.90	2	.99

B. Comments on Plant-wide Training of Injury Recording

Following the Friday, February 4, plant manager's luncheon, revisions were made in the materials to be used in training all Texas City employees in the use of the new Monsanto system of recording occupational injuries and illnesses. Copies of the revised materials have been distributed to all members of the PMSB for use in training their people. The most significant single revision was in the meaning of the restricted kind of lost workday cases, which reads as follows:

Employee is at work but is restricted from performing all of the normally expected duties of his/her next regularly scheduled work shift and all scheduled shifts thereafter.

Target date for completion of the training plant-wide is March 18.

The SHAC has the responsibility for modifying the safety record signs at the Main and West Gates to properly display the statistics generated by the new program.

II. INDUSTRIAL MUTUAL AID

At the area managers' luncheon held on Monday, February 14, it was decided to form an ad-hoc committee to draw up a new charter for the Industrial Mutual Aid group based on new guidelines for limited commitment of equipment and trained manpower in cases of major emergencies experienced by member companies. Arnold Glass has been appointed Monsanto representative charged with the responsibility of establishing the committee to draw up the new charter.

The action taken by the area managers indicates that there is a significant change in favor of increased cooperation and participation in mutual aid training, coordination, and response.

III. SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE -- Mike McCullough

Tank Protection Program

Concern 1: Proper Fire Protection of Non-blanketed Floating-roof Tanks

Status: SAC reviewed the subject with Jack Carlisle on February 9 and asked for special emphasis to insure seal integrity of the toluene and methanol storage tanks.

Actions:

- (1) Carlisle is planning a joint seminar with Chocolate Bayou, Port Plastics, CED and Texas City in an effort to achieve consensus on this subject along with other API tank design criteria.

- (2) The methanol floating-roof tank testing of atmosphere above the roof will be increased in frequency from twice a year to once a month.
- (3) Ryan will review the adequacy and performance of the 12 sampling points on the methanol floating roof. Carlisle has communicated to East Plant supervision the necessity for sampling the air space above the toluene tank floating roof.

Concern 2: Adequacy of Communication With Emergency Procedure Plan Wardens

Status: Carlisle reviewed the status of his plans to improve the communication with the wardens and to have the wardens report to the instruction points whenever the fire-and-spill alarm is sounded.

Action: Carlisle will report later on the proposed changes for improving warden communication.

Concern 3: Emergency Procedure Plan Communications

Status: The following are three areas of concern on EPP communications which were addressed in the 2/9/77 SAC meeting.

1. Need immediate relief from wire line control in the EPP room.
2. Complete replacement of existing system with one of modular construction to include wire line control (primary) with repeater (air control) backup in the event of cable failure.
3. Portable EPP room on wheels to include two options -
 - a. First option is to use the mobile unit as a standby unit adjacent to the main office building.
 - b. The second option is to use the mobile unit as a completely remote control center, free and clear from wire line control.

In addressing area 1, it has been requested that the following radio equipment be considered as soon as possible.

- One radio to include Fire and Safety.
- One radio to include maintenance Zones 1, 2, 3, & 5
- One radio to include up to eight critical production channels or one complex system to include multi-channels for all of the above.
- The accessories, such as batteries, chargers, and antennas will be included as necessary.

Action: A meeting has been scheduled with Motorola, Carl English, SAC and SHAC for February 23rd to review the Motorola proposal for meeting our needs.

Concern 4: Personnel Protection From Hazards Created by Overhead Construction Work

Status: SAC reviewed Jim Gatewood's proposed overhead barricade procedure.

Action: McCullough will consolidate the comments of SAC members, review the proposed P-bulletin, and make recommendations to the PMSB. A new, distinctive tape was recommended for use by LP&S for erecting temporary barricade in event of a spill of toxic materials anywhere in the plant. This tape would be stored in emergency vehicles and would be limited to use only in case of spills or other emergency barricades.

Concern 5: New Emergency Code Listings

Status: With the completion of AN-5 and the extension of our property into the South 22 area it was necessary to revise the fire/spill codes for the area north and south of the new AN plant. A new code, 6 - 1 - 1, was added to cover off-plant-site emergencies to notify plant personnel about emergencies occurring off the plant site which could affect us.

Action: A bulletin board notice has been published for the new codes. Wallet-size cards containing the new codes are being printed, and the revisions in the codes have been included in the new issue of the telephone directory.

A new bulletin board notice will be issued on February 18 reminding employees of actions to be taken in case of a fire or spill alarm. The notice also indicates that the wardens will report to their instruction points for all plant alarms and will be available for communication about the nature and extent of the emergency and the appropriate action to be taken in their area.

Concern 6: Additional SAC Agenda Items

Due to the length of the February 9 meeting, there were several carry-over topics that will receive consideration at a later date-

1. Traffic, specifically, West Gate congestion.
2. Smoking vs non-smoking policy issues.

IV. SAFETY AND HOUSEKEEPING ACTION COMMITTEE -- Harold Lacy

Harold Lacy reported on the following items that are covered in detail in the minutes of the SHAC meeting of February 4.

- A. Overhead work protection procedure
- B. Emergency procedure plan backup control center
- C. Electrical tracing
- D. Task force study status
- E. Relief valve program

V. OFFICE SAFETY COMMITTEE -- Arnold Glass

A. Defensive Driving Course

The third Defensive Driving Course has been held with about 60 Monsanto employees/family members participating. The overall response has been good, with some comment for improvement in instructor presentation. This will be reviewed with the College of the Mainland and additional instructors will be sought from within Monsanto. The keen interest of our employees and the benefit to be gained from the program justifies continuation and effort necessary to improve the instructor capability.

Chuck Yoas and his committee will develop appropriate action plans to cover our needs.

B. Future Programs

The committee is planning a safety program about the operation of lawn mowers during the first quarter. The second quarter program will deal specifically with office safety.

VI. REVIEW OF INCIDENTS

The following incidents were reviewed, and copies of the reports have been circulated:

- A. Operator Injury, Dept. 10 -- Bill Fuller
- B. Pipefitter Fractured Finger -- Mike McCullough

VII. OTHER ITEMS

Concern 1: Appropriate Actions to be Taken in the Event of HCN Spill in AN-5 by Persons in Surrounding Areas

Action: A detailed training program is in progress for operators and maintenance personnel assigned to adjacent or nearby areas. Harry Conrad is in the midst of these presentations now. Detailed unit emergency procedures are being presented by unit supervisors in the adjacent and nearby areas. Each unit response will be dictated by the unique characteristics and location of the unit.

Concern 2: AN Communications with Surrounding Areas

Action: AN-5 (K. F. Webb) is establishing telephone hotline communication links with Depts. 19, 25, 27, and 29 for operations.

Concern 3: How Will Other Areas Know That AN-5 Has an Internal (Within Battery Limits) HCN Emergency?

Action: Standard procedure will be for AN-5 to call 2 - 2 - 2 - 2 to alert the guards, who will alarm the emergency fire net by Plectron, which will give an alarm and a voice message to all control houses that an emergency exists in AN-5. It will also give the wind direction.

Concern 4: Level and Knowledge About the Use of Specialized Equipment for HCN Emergencies

Action: LP&S will arrange special training for unit supervision in the use of escape masks, Draeger sniffers, and amyl nitrite capsules. Supervisors will be notified about the times and places of these special training sessions.

The HCN Dept. 19 supervision (Harry Conrad) will arrange for cyanide identification training for anyone who wants it.

Concern 5: Effect of Eddy Currents on Toxic Spills

Action: All supervisors are asked to be alert to the particular local influences of structures and large vessels in the dispersion of toxic materials in unusual and unexpected way. The recent cyanide incident at Chocolate Bayou illustrated the hazards created by eddy currents that brought toxic concentrations of HCN into an area that was believed to have been "upwind" of the HCN spill. Each area must determine for itself the number and appropriate location of windsocks or other wind direction indicators useful for personnel protection in event of a toxic spill.


J. A. Glass

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