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Division Headquarters
April 28, 1964

E. G. Wilcox

Specification Requirements
Polyethylene Pipe
Supreme & Dur-x

Trade SECRET
J-M 83

Several weeks ago we agreed to discontinue 73°F sustained pressure (1000 hr.) testing of Polyethylene and adopt 100°F testing only. Unfortunately this did not recognize the transfer of Dur-x to Denison. Since Denison has only one test tank, obviously they cannot test at both 73° for PVC and 100° for Polyethylene.

In addition it was subsequently developed at the Denison meeting, that Franklin was not testing at 100°F having converted the 100°F tester to 73°.

At the Denison meeting, I gathered that our future in the polyethylene market was pretty much one of continuing to sell Supreme and Dur-x on a minimal basis but not investing much in the way of promotion.

In view of the above, I would like to make the following recommendations.

- (a) Discontinue 100°F sustained pressure testing of polyethylene across the board. If you wish or think it worthwhile, possibly once a year we could run one batch of Supreme samples at Franklin at 100°F merely for the record.
- (b) As regards 80 psi and 100 psi Supreme pipe, these are covered by Comm. Std. C4 255-63. We, therefore, propose that we revise the Finished Product Specification to show 1000 hr. at 73°F using an 180 stress level of 1800 psi. (This was the old requirement.) On quick burst we would use 320 psi for 80 psi and 400 psi for 100 psi. These reflect the Comm. Std. 255-63. Incremental testing of 80 psi and 100 psi, since they do not appear in C4 255-63, would be cancelled.
- (c) On Schedule 40 Supreme, we still reference C4 197-60 which includes sustained and incremental burst testing. Has this or will this specification be revised? For the time being, we have no option but to continue with the requirements in the Finished Product Specification less the 100°F testing. In addition, we will delete the quick burst on Schedule 40 Supreme from the Finished Product Specification until a revised Commercial Standard requiring same is issued.
- (d) On Dur-x there is no Commercial Standard. Therefore, we recommend we limit ourselves to a 1000 hr. sustained pressure test at 73°F and a quick burst. We see no reason to use the incremental in view of the decision to move away from it as exemplified by C4 255-63. Mr. Hutchinson has suggested a sustained pressure stress level at 73°F of 1800 psi which is the same as C4 255-63 for PS 200 (corresponding to our Supreme).

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