DOW CHEMICAL U.S.A.

MICHIGAN DIVISION
MIDLAND, MICHIGAN 48640

April 4, 1980

To: Members of the Vinyl Chloride Safety Association

AGENDA AND TOPICS OF INTEREST

Following is the agenda and possible topics of interest for the 1980 meeting of the Vinyl Chloride Safety Association to be held on October 23 & 24. There will be three sessions including:

SESSION I - VCM PRODUCTION, TRANSPORTATION & STORAGE
SESSION II - PVC UNIT OPERATIONS
SESSION III - REGULATIONS & TRUE CONFESSIONS

Certainly, the old adage "an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure" applies to safety when handling vinyl chloride. Thus, a key objective of the discussions is to explore ideas that can measurably improve the safety of operations involved in the manufacture and use of vinyl chloride monomers. Actions taken to correct or prevent problems will be of interest to others.

The intent of this letter is to ascertain the interests of members with regards to specific topics of presentation and discussion. Therefore, suggested major topics have been listed below. This list is not intended to be the final agenda or to exclude other topics of interest. Please indicate which topics are of interest and if you and your company can lead* a discussion area. The meeting will be structured around your comments.

SESSION I - VCM PRODUCTION, TRANSPORTATION & STORAGE

(CHECK LINES PROVIDED)

Transportation Tankcar Modifications	Topic of Interest	*Willing to Present
. Vent relief	_____	_____
. Improved valves	_____	_____
. Improved couplings	_____	_____
. Construction material improvements	_____	_____
. Gasket materials	_____	_____
. Sampling systems	_____	_____
. "Leakproof" valves & fittings	_____	_____

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6. Suggestions for improved meetings (Contd.)

Other suggestions:

- Continue surveys
- Report on commercial safety devices
- European participation in surveys
- True confessions first
- Emphasize safety rather than regulations
- Increase European contributions
- Open shot on program for additional presentation of true confessions
- More effective use of visual aids
- Split group: PVC topics, VCM topics
- More on training procedures
- Compile all papers in small book
- Keep meeting in resort area

7. Comments on meeting facilities

Very good	9
Poor meeting room; hard to see & hear	9
No answer	3
Reservation & travel agent problems	2
Transportation from Savanah difficult	2
Be specific in designing questionnaire	1

8. Should VCSA meet annually?

Yes	25

9. Preference for meeting location: resort or major city

Resort	10
Either location	5
Major city	4
Resort desirable; not necessary	3
Alternate	3
No answer	1

Suggestions for future meeting locations:

- San Antonio, Texas
- San Juan, Puerto Rico
- Orlando, Florida
- Los Angeles, California
- Kansas City, Missouri
- Chicago, Illinois

Quote "Houston is not a place to hold a meeting"

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	Topic of Interest	*Willing to Present
Tankcar Filling		
. Piping system improvements		
. Level control devices		
. Remote operations		
. Automatic shut-off devices		
. Overfill protection system		
. Instrumentation & redundancy		
Tankcar Cleaning & Repair		
. Tankcar preparation		
. Polymer problems		
. Peroxide problems		
. Undercarriage improvements		
Tankcars in Transit		
. Safer routing		
. Railbed conditions		
. Derailment cleanup		
. Weight problems		
Water Transportation		
. Vessel design improvements		
. Materials of const.		
. Valves & fittings		
. Spill containment		
. Piping system improvements		
. Level control devices		
. Vent systems		
. Remote operations		
. Automatic shutoff devices		
. Overfill protection system		
. Instrumentation & redundancy		
. Vessel preparation & cleaning		
. Polymer problems		
. Routing problems		
Storage		
. Vent relief systems		
. Remote operation		
. Evacuation plans & training		
. Emission control systems		
. Preparation for vessel entry & cleaning		
. Hi pressure cleaning system		
. Respiratory protection		

	Topic of Interest	*Willing to Present
Storage		
. Solids disposal		
. Computer control		
. Gasket materials		
. Materials of const.		
. Valve improvement		
. GC monitoring		
. Mechanical seals improvement on pumps and compressors		
. Level control systems		
. Improved loading systems		
VCM Production		
. Vent relief systems		
. Improved valves		
. Evacuation plans & training		
. Vessel entry preparation & cleaning		
. Emission control system		
. Hi pressure cleaning systems		
. Improved materials of const.		
. Remote operation		
. Burner system		
. Standby power		
. Corrections to emergency releases		
. Respiratory protection		
. Mechanical seals		
Compressors		
Pumps		
. Computer redundancy		
. Gasket materials		
. GC precision & accuracy		
. Stacks-design improvements		
. Plant boundary monitoring		
. Current state of employee health		
. Outdoor vs. indoor plants		
. Solids disposal		
. Polymerization problems		
. Emission control system redundancy		

SESSION II - PVC UNIT OPERATIONS & FINAL CONTROL DEVICES

Unit Ops: & Final Control Devices	Topics of Interest	*Willing to Present
. Vent relief systems		
Type		
Design		
Construction		
. Remote operations		
. Evacuation plans		
. Emission control		
. Burner systems		
. Standby power		
. Catalyst handling		
. Follow-up to emerg. releases		
. GC precision & accuracy		
. Storage tank cleaning & preparation		
. Hi pressure cleaning system		
. Piping & vessel entry preparation & cleaning		
. Respiratory protection		
. Solids disposal		
. Follow-up to major accidents		
. Follow-up to safety related operations problem		
. Recovery compressor improvements		
. Computer redundancy		
. Mechanical seal		
compressors		
pumps		
reactors		
. Alternate reactor cooling sources		
. Redundant instrumentation on vent systems		
. Plant boundary monitoring		
. Improvements in safety training or techniques		
. Data control & retention		
. Carbon absorption		
. Hazards analysis		
. Computerization & safety		
. Other topics of interest		

SESSION III - REGULATIONS & TRUE CONFESSIONS

Toxicology	Topic of Interest	*Willing to Present
. Females in work area		
. Progress at C.I.I.T.		
. Toxicology studies summary		
Regulations & Regulators		
. OSHA		
- Current law		
- Regional differences		
- Citations		
- Excursion letters		
- Variances		
- Respiratory protection requirements		
- Plant boundary monitoring		
- Inspections		
- Employee letters		
. EPA		
- Current law		
- Regional differences		
- Citations		
- Excursion letters		
- Variances		
- Inspections		
- Monitoring systems		
. Regulations Outside U.S.		
- Current law		
- Citations		
- Variances		
- Respiratory protection requirements		
- Monitoring systems		
- Inspections		
True Confessions		
- Spills		
- Leaks		
- Fires		
- Near misses (Important area - "ounce of prevention...")		
- Excursion letters		
- Accidents		
- Citations		
- Emissions		
- Runaway reactions		
- Set up reactions		

True Confessions (Con't)	Topic of Interest	*Willing to Present
- Material of construction failure		
- Vent relief system failures		
- Operational errors		
. Inadequate supervision		
. Inadequate training		
. Attitude problems		
- Mechanical seal failures		
- Gasket failures		
- Railcar derailments		

Please return your responses by May 29, 1980 to one of the members listed below.

Thank you.

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