

Manufacturing Chemists' Association, Inc.

(FOUNDED 1878)

1825 Connecticut Avenue, N. W.
WASHINGTON 9, D. C.

MINUTES OF MEETING

PLASTICS COMMITTEE
The Manhattan Club
New York City
January 9, 1964

PRESENT:

Messrs. W. B. Humes (Acting Chairman), Union Carbide Corp.
J. H. Childs, Du Pont of Canada
William D. Holland (for L. J. Francisco), American
Cyanamid Company
D. S. Frederick, Rohm & Haas Company
H. H. Irvin, Marbon Chemical Division, Borg-Warner Corp.
Donald M. Joseph, CIBA Products Company
T. T. Miller, W. R. Grace & Company
Walter H. Salzenberg, E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Co.
D. C. Williams, Eastman Chemical Products, Inc.
Robert E. Workman, Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company
William P. Raines (PR Liaison), Koppers Company, Inc.
F. H. Carman, MCA

and

T. J. Kinsella, Consultant
R. B. Akin (Chairman, UL Advisory Committee), E. I. du
Pont de Nemours & Co.
E. A. Edberg (Chairman, Plastics in Building Committee),
Koppers Company, Inc.

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 P. M. by Acting
Chairman W. B. Humes.

San Francisco Code Regulations

T. T. Miller reported there were no new developments in the
smoke regulation problem, due in part to the change in membership
of the Board of Supervisors. The SPI group in that area is on the
alert and will advise MCA on developments; their public relations
presentation on plastics in building is in preparation.

R. B. Akin commented at length on the MCA smoke study
covering the following:

- (a) A review of SF hearings during the past year, particularly industry's presentations.
- (b) The move on the part of the SF officials to include a requirement on smoke since this was covered in the Model Chapter on Plastics.
- (c) The forthright report on toxicity from combustion products published by the UL in July 1963. Here it was pointed out that the Association was not mentioned as a sponsor, although financed by MCA.
- (d) The draft report of the UL on the smoke project was sent to their Fire Council on November 27, 1963 for comment. It is hoped that the report will lead to:
(1) higher smoke numbers by SF; (2) building officials, and the public, becoming aware of the scattering of smoke numbers resulting from the UL Tunnel Test; and
(3) an appreciation of how varied Tunnel Test operating procedures greatly affect smoke numbers.
- (e) The UL appears to feel that smoke numbers of 300 or under indicate no hazard, and that smoke numbers above 1,000 present a hazard, but with these products the total flammability or flame spread should also be considered.
- (f) Investigations for other locations for smoke research on plastics are still going forward; although no good technical proposals have been received to date, the Committee is still soliciting projects.
- (g) The UL Advisory and the Building Committees feel that any future work on toxicity of combustion products should be sponsored by all manufacturers of combustibles, and that no further work should be done by MCA alone.
- (h) Various states differ in their emphasis on smoke numbers and flammability scores.
- (i) The tentative date for the next hearing in SF is February 1, 1964.

West Coast Consultant

A copy of the 1963 report by Charles E. Smith, Consultant for MCA-SPI on the West Coast, had been supplied this Committee. All members were impressed by the concise report and the contributions being made by this representative.

Standards-and-Certification Program

Messrs. Miller, Humes, and Kinsella commented briefly on their presentation and its reception by the Reinforced Panel Council meeting in Chicago December 10 and 11, 1963. Mr. Kinsella advised that the Reinforced Panel group: (a) was currently endeavoring to develop a performance standard since such a program is desperately needed; (b) has found that the technical information is available only from the chemical companies; and (c) is concerned about the prospect of other plastics being used, if a performance standard is developed, and that failure in outdoor service may adversely affect reinforced plastics.

Messrs. Kinsella and Busse visited the Bell Laboratories; although not much new information was obtained, it was learned that group will not depend on indoor accelerated tests for outdoor life and does not look at certain conventional outdoor exposures as correctly judging long-term life. In discussing the weathering problem, one member commented that an extensive study might be necessary for correlation of long-term weathering with accelerated tests.

Other reports by T. J. Kinsella included:

- (1) The visit to NBS where it was learned a photo degradation measurement may be of value for outdoor life predictions.
- (2) Mr. Folley, representing the AIA, has complained about the life of plastic panels in New York State public schools; this is currently under investigation.
- (3) Further technical meetings on testing for weatherability and necessary data on siding made with polyesters, vinyls, and laminates are currently scheduled. On this, a special letter was sent to technical representatives urging they come prepared with data and test procedures; all present were asked to check with their technical men to see if they are in a position to participate fully.

Contacts with SPI Divisions

Those participating in the presentation to the Fiberglass Reinforced Panel Council felt this effort was very worthwhile. Since the SPI Code Advisory Committee (meeting February 11 in Chicago) has been fully advised in the past of the standards-and-certification program, it was decided to forego a special presentation at that time.

The Rigid PVC Building Panel Council meets February 27; it was the consensus of the Committee that the Secretary should consult with Tom Nantz on the advisability of contacting this Council during its New Orleans meeting. A listing of the Council members, supplied by T. T. Miller, is attached as an appendix.

FTC Supplemental Questionnaires
on Polyethylene, Etc.

Since the questionnaire had already been circulated to industry and there seemed to be no problem common to all members that could be effectively handled by Association action (due largely to the confidential nature of data requested), it was the consensus of the Committee that there was nothing that MCA could do on behalf of the membership. It was understood that the companies are handling this on an individual basis.

Building Program

E. A. Edberg commented briefly on a recent meeting of the committee reporting:

- (1) The Primer on "How to Obtain Code Approvals" is now in galley proof and should be available within two weeks. The publisher is Ludlow Press, New Haven, Connecticut, and 150 copies will be supplied the MCA. They are expected to run 3,000 which will be sold at \$5 per copy.
- (2) The Primer on "Educating the Building Official" is now in its first draft, and R. B. Akin has this for further revision.
- (3) The Building Committee members are investigating, along with the Plastics Technical Subcommittee members, what should be done on the standards-and-certification program.
- (4) The Building Committee plans to meet early in February to again study the performance testing of siding as already being considered by the ad hoc technical groups.

UL Appliance Report

This extensive report weighing about one pound is now being printed, and the Committee was advised of plans to forward copies to each member of the Plastics Group.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Committee is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, February 18 in Washington, D. C. with the understanding the Ad Hoc Advisory Committee on Building would meet in the morning.

Respectfully submitted,

F. H. Carman

F. H. Carman
Committee Secretary

FHC:amm
Attachment

cc: Mr. Lloyd Symington
Mr. William P. Raines (PR Liaison)
All Present
Plastics Committee

January 15, 1964

APPENDIX

THE SOCIETY OF THE PLASTICS INDUSTRY, INC.
RIGID POLYVINYL CHLORIDE BUILDING PANEL COUNCIL

W. J. Hoofe, III, <u>Chairman</u>	The B. F. Goodrich Co.
Robert T. Crouch, <u>Vice Chairman</u>	Johns-Manville Research Center
Harold G. Adams	Navaco Co.
H. C. Bendel	Naugatuck Chemical
J. W. Donegan	Allied Chemical Corporation Barrett Division
D. C. Heine	The B. F. Goodrich Co.
W. D. Hill	Monsanto Chemical Company
Robert T. Holtz	B. F. Goodrich Chemical Co.
J. L. Huscher	Kaykor Products Corp.
Antoine Kawam	Union Carbide Corporation
Dr. Gordon M. Kline	National Bureau of Standards
G. H. Lang	Hostachem Corp.
Matt Love, Jr.	Johns-Manville Corp.
Orville L. Pierson	Rohm & Haas Co.
Edward J. Schultz	Clopay Corporation
G. Segre	Allied Chemical Corporation Barrett Division
M. Dow Sellers	B. F. Goodrich Chemical Co.
D. S. Threlkeld	Clopay Corporation
George E. Watson	Navaco Co.
Peter S. Weill	Diamond Alkali Co.
John R. Strauss	Clopay Corporation

Copied by MCA
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