bcc: Dick Davis

August 3, 1966

Mr. P. E. LeClair
American Steel Foundries
Prudential Plaza
Chicago, Illinois 60601

Dear Mr. LeClair:

I have been asked by Mr. Mosmer of our Chicago office to forward toxicity and safe handling information on our two hydraulic fluids, Pydraul 135 and Pydraul 150.

Mr. Mosmer has indicated that you were concerned principally about the toxicity of vapors resulting from the fluid exposed to ignition sources. In the accompanying information, it is pointed out that animal exposure tests were run on the decomposition products of our representative Pydraul fluids when these were sprayed on heated metal surfaces. Comparison was made with petroleum base fluids tested somewhat similarly. The equipment used in the tests had to be modified with the petroleum base products because flame from the decomposition carried into the animal chambers causing effects unrelated to inhalation of the decomposition products. When the flame was eliminated, it was concluded that the effects of the decomposition products in both cases were not significantly different.

Experiments conducted by Underwriters Laboratories have indicated similar decomposition products when the fluids are exposed to electric arcs so I believe we are safe in assuming that -- disregarding the flammability aspects -- the decomposition products are about equally as toxic.

If, after reviewing the enclosed bulletins, you have additional questions, please do not hesitate to let me know.

Very truly yours,

Elmer P. Wheeler
Manager, Environmental Health
Medical Department

EPW:mjb
cc: D. L. Mosmer - Monsanto, Chgo.

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