

Monsanto

FROM (NAME & LOCATION)

D. D. Kos - O-11

DATE

July 21, 1982

CC:

Mark Riddle

SUBJECT

Minutes of Hourly Safety Committee Meeting
June 29, 1982

PMSB
SHAC

REFERENCE

TO

Hourly Safety Committee

PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT
MON-2918

Present

Gene Crain
L. E. Derrick for Mike Westmoreland
Walt Middleton
Ruby Mosley
James Nidiffer for A. J. Davidson
Carl Richardson
Pat Walzel

Absent

Clarence Jackson
Lawrence Elbert

The meeting was opened with a review of the year-to-date plant safety performance presented by D. D. Kos.

The hourly safety committee was asked to make suggestions and present ideas related to area and craft competition for best safety. Suggestions included a) staggering of inspections evenly between announced and unannounced, b) competition should result in ratings of satisfactory or unsatisfactory, and c) suggest recognition award be a plaque.

OLD BUSINESS

Physical Fitness Promotion

- oo As a part of the continuing effort to promote safety of all workers, it is suggested (by Carl Richardson) that a program to promote physical fitness be considered. Some examples of promotion are sponsoring of a swim night, marathon run, or offering of fitness equipment at wholesale cost.
- oo The idea of physical fitness promotion has considerable merit. However, it is not possible to commit Monsanto funds for sports events or new employee benefits. However, a number of free or low cost facilities are available throughout this area. Available facilities could be communicated to employees in a plant newspaper article, along with fitness testimonials from plant employees (jogging, swimming, etc.). This should be addressed in the next hourly safety committee meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Dutch Kettle Employee Hard Hat Rule Violations

- oo The Dutch Kettle employees have been observed not wearing hard hats while delivering food to manufacturing areas.

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- oo This problem is being handled by the plant security department. A program is now underway to show the safety orientation film to all Dutch Kettle employees and to stress the wearing of hard hats in manufacturing areas.

Unattended Tank Trucks With Motor Running

- oo Following the establishment of the Department 10 area as a tank truck staging area, trucks have been observed unattended with motor still running. This is a plant rule violation and would be especially dangerous during a fire/spill alarm.
- oo The plant security department has stepped up efforts to communicate plant rules to truck drivers as they enter the gates. It is imperative that such incidents be reported immediately to the main gate (description and license number) so that corrective action can be taken before the driver leaves the plant. Of course, every employee has the responsibility of pointing out a safety rule violation to the individual involved (even fellow workers).

Bicycle Traffic Rules

- oo In general throughout the plant, employees are observed riding bicycles through stop signs. Is this really a rule violation?
- oo The Monsanto "Guide to Accident Prevention," page 76 states clearly "ALL TRAFFIC SIGNS ARE TO BE OBSERVED BY OPERATORS OF VEHICLES INCLUDING BICYCLES." Pedestrians are especially vulnerable to injury from bicycles not obeying traffic signs or not yielding the right of way. In recent years, a number of serious injuries have resulted from bicycle accidents. Adherence to bicycle rules is a necessary part of our overall safety effort.

Acid Exposure Incident

- oo In a recent incident, a laborer was going by the west side of Department 44 and while in the street felt a spray on his arm. When it started burning he didn't know what it was and wasn't sure where to go for immediate washing. Should he enter the unit to wash off, without chief operator permission?
- oo Our investigation revealed that on June 3 an insulator was sprayed with acid while riding a bike in the west plant. He proceeded to the safety supply area, reported to a safety inspector, showered, and reported to first aid.

The answer to this question is that if immediate burning sensation is felt, the area should be washed as soon as possible. Usually help should be obtained at the nearest control house if the dispensary is not close by. However, if the pain is severe or the eyes are affected, the area should be washed at the nearest safety shower or water hose (even without chief operator permission). Then someone should be found to help you to first aid.

Unsafe Scaffold Modification

- oo On several occasions during the styrene shutdown scaffolds were modified by Manufacturing and/or Maintenance and were left in an unsafe condition. This could be a trap for an unsuspecting user.
- oo This is a good safety item. On two occasions operations modified scaffold board in order to reach a valve during shutdown or startup, and there were some reports of modification by Maintenance craftsmen. The styrene operations group plans to discuss this in monthly safety meetings, stressing the importance of roping off any altered scaffold and communicating the need for repair.

As a plantwide concern, the carpenter group is developing a tagging method which could be used to highlight unsafe scaffolds. SHAC will review the need for plantwide action and cover this in future HSC minutes.

The next hourly safety committee meeting will be held Tuesday, July 27, in the small conference room, Personnel Building.



D. D. Kos