

March 28, 1927.

Mr. A. E. Mittnacht,
c/o The Ethyl Gasoline Corp.,
25 Broadway,
New York, N. Y.

My dear Mr. Mittnacht:

Your letter concerning questions asked by the Petroleum Terminal Corporation of Bayonne received today. I have advised generally that the distillation tests on Ethyl Gasoline should be reduced to the minimum, that in most cases it is feasible to run such tests before the addition of Ethyl Fluid to the gasoline. In most cases it has been found unnecessary to run distillation tests on the Ethyl Gasoline itself, and where this can be done I think it should be handled in this manner.

As a matter of fact very little danger is connected with the distillation tests. Very little vapor of the Fluid is allowed to escape into the room where the tests are conducted. However, I have felt that it was necessary to guard against running a large number of such tests at the same time in any laboratory. If one or two tests are being carried out I can see no possibility of danger or injury to any one, but if a battery of stills were being run in a laboratory, a considerable number of men might be exposed to low concentrations of vapor. This is the only reason that I have discouraged routine distillation tests on Ethyl Gasoline. I should not have the slightest hesitancy myself in running such tests, and if they are run properly so as to avoid any possibility of considerable vapor concentrations in the workroom, there is no danger at all.

My advice, therefore, is to suggest that distillation tests be reduced to the minimum, and that care be exercised in case such tests are made, to see to it that the vapor does not escape into the workroom. This can be accomplished either by good distilling apparatus, or by extra ventilation, that is, by having the distilling apparatus under a hood.

I trust that this will be satisfactory information

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