CAPACITOR PRODUCTS DEPARTMENT

NEWS

Hudson Falls-Fort Edward, New York June 17, 1976

GE Receives OSHA Citation

On June 9, 1976, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) cited the Capacitor Products Department at Hudson Falls and Fort Edward in violation of government PCB vapor standards and guidelines on protective equipment.

In an interview yesterday, Mr. Lucas P. Hart, Jr., General Manager, commented on the citations by saying:

"In 1975, when measurements indicated some few work locations were marginally above acceptable PCB vapor levels, work has been underway to eliminate these nonconforming areas. Modifications have included redirection of air flow and shielding of work stations from PCB sources and significant reductions in vapor levels have been accomplished. In late 1975, additional major ventilating system and equipment changes were engineered and the required equipment placed on order with the earliest possible delivery scheduled for July 1976. Planning is complete and as soon as this equipment is received, installation will be accomplished and PCB vapor levels in all locations will be brought well below prescribed limits.

"With respect to the violation on lack of protective gloves, employees handling PCBs have, for the past 5 or more years, been required to wear gloves or a protective barrier cream where gloves interfered with manual dexterity. In these cases, the use of the barrier cream has been a strong preference of the employees. However, because OSHA apparently does not recognize efficacy of the barrier cream, the Company now requires that gloves be worn in all cases.

"It has always been the objective of the General Electric Company to totally provide for the safety and health of its employees in its plant locations. The developing regulations defining such things as PCB vapor limits occasionally puts the Company in technical violation of standards. However, our continued upgrading of facilities has, in our judgment, provided safe work environment and there has been no evidence that any health problem has been identified. The additional equipment to bring vapors to even lower levels will further insure this."

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Parking

MOTORCYCLES

With the warm weather more employees are riding motorcycles. Special parking areas are designated for these vehicles.

Ft. Edward

...Inside fenced area in front of plant near County Bldg.
...Inside fenced area near center gatehouse--South side of plant.
...In front of Trailer near Foil Mill.

Hudson Falls

...In front of Life Test Bldg.
...On sidewalk North side of Bldg. 10.

The following conditions must be maintained: Do not ride through pedestrian gates during shift changes. Do not park motorcycles at plant doors -- use designated areas. Operate machines in a safe manner giving the right of way to pedestrian.

GATE SCHEDULE

The plant gates to parking lot on Park St., Fort Edward will be closed between shift changes. The Main plant gate on Route 4 will be open 24-hours per day.

The main gate to the inner plant will be open from 7 am to 7 pm. The guard will be on duty during these hours:

Gate Schedule

Side Gates	Open	Closed
	6 am	7 am
	2 pm	3:30 pm
	10 pm	11:50 pm
Main Gate	7 am	7 pm

Community Fund Campaign Results

The recent Fund campaign closed with gratifying support evidenced by our employees and a new total membership representing an annual contribution rate in excess of $20,000. This was the result of both increased giving and a sizeable new membership. Several suggestions were also received for additional agencies and these are currently being reviewed by the Board of Administrators of the Fund. We reached 60% of the goal for both increased dollars and membership. Here are the team results:

	Total Members	% of Total Employees	Avg $/ Yr per Member
Hourly	678	59	* $15.22
	*(a $2.90 increase)		
Salaried	231	75	* $42.27
	*(a $12.59 increase)		

The pre-campaign budget, developed around an estimated income of $14,000 provided for contributions as follows:

American Heart Association
American Cancer Society
United Cerebral Palsey
American Lung Association
Cystic Fibrosis Foundation
Local Rescue Squads
Retarded Children
Washington Co. Children's Assoc.
United Way (18 agencies)

Individual allocations were based upon the needs and local activities determined from the requests received from the agencies and supporting information submitted. From the actual income of $6890 through May 1976, contributions have been made to: Cystic Fibrosis-$300 (for 1975); Heart-$750; Cancer-$400; Cerebral Palsy-$500; Granville Rescue-$100 (plus $100 for 1975); Moreau Rescue-$100 and United Way $4500.

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