St. Louis - General Offices

March 8, 1961

Deutsche Carborundum-Werke G.M.B.H.
Germany

Aroclor Toxicity

Mr. A. T. Hinson
General Offices

After reading Mr. Hanke's letter, it is our opinion that he has been handling Aroclors in a very incautious manner. Based on American industrial hygiene practices this might even be called a dangerous manner.

It is our recommendation that wherever Aroclor products are used at elevated temperatures, adequate ventilation must be provided to maintain the atmospheric concentrations of Aroclor below the Hygienic Standard or the Maximum Allowable Concentration (MAC) established by the American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists. These MAC's for Aroclor products are: for Aroclor 1242, 1.0 milligram per cubic meter, and for Aroclor 1254, 0.5 milligram per cubic meter.

Under ordinary conditions the Aroclor products are not particularly toxic as indicated by the oral acute toxicity which for Aroclor 1242 is 4.15 ml/kg in rats and for Aroclor 1254 is 3.10 ml/kg in rats.

At the risk of being repetitious the problems with Aroclors come from repeated contact on the unprotected skin in the form of dermatitis and from the inhalation of excessive quantities of vapors could cause liver and kidney difficulties.

I would suggest that a copy of the attached publication on the vapor toxicity of Aroclor 1242 and Aroclor 1254 be sent to the subject company.

If we can be of any further help, please let us know.

Jack T. Garrett

JTG:pjk
Enclosure

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