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REFERENCE : HAV/MER
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Industrial Chemicals - Europe - Environmental Studies

Business Situation

1. P.C.B./P.C.T. policy for Europe has been defined and Marketing/Field Sales personnel given direction for implementation.
2. The technical B.I.T.A. meeting scheduled for 19th January was postponed through accommodation difficulties. A new date has not yet been agreed.
3. The German Mines have been advised that P.C.B. based fluids will be phased out, the timing being dependent on whether they will accept liability for safe use of the products.

Technical

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P.C.B. / P.C.T.s
Further studies of the degradation of P.C.B. products by biphenyl-degrading cultures have indicated that the addition of 10% Aroclor 1254 to Aroclor 1242 inhibits the degradation of the lower chlorinated components. It appears therefore that the more highly chlorinated P.C.B. behaves as a bacteriostat towards these cultures.

From discussions with the Ministry of Agriculture Laboratory at Tolworth it appears that Aroclor 1016 fed to pigeons is showing less residue than when Aroclor 1242 is used. The results indicate that with Aroclor 1242 there is some accumulation of the long retention peaks. Measurements of P450 hydroxylase show much higher levels in pigeons fed with Aroclor 1242 than those fed with 1016. 14

Technical discussion with Progil personnel disclosed that their analytical techniques are not yet fully adequate for P.C.B. work. They have not yet developed expertise in capillary column G.L.C., although they have used packed column G.L.C./Mass spectrometry for product analyses. They claim that Pyralene 3000 contains less than 1% pentachloro-biphenyl, but the chromatogram we were shown did not appear to offer adequate resolution for this claim to be substantiated. It is important for Monsanto to analyse Pyralene 3000 to check this claim. We have not yet received a sample.

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We have arranged a meeting with Inveresk Research International to discuss possible ecological experiments for checking environmental effects of Aroclor 1016.

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