

# Manufacturing Chemists' Association, Inc.

(FOUNDED 1872)

1825 CONNECTICUT AVENUE, N. W.  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20009

F. H. CARMAN

REPORT OF

Plastics Research Subcommittee Meeting  
August 1, 1969  
MCA Conference Room, Washington, D. C.

PRESENT:

Mr. M. H. P. Morand, The Dow Chemical Company  
Dr. C. M. Neher, Ethyl Corporation

and

Mr. George E. Best, Manufacturing Chemists  
Association

Mr. F. H. Carman, Manufacturing Chemists  
Association

Mr. George W. Armstrong, Southwest Research Institute  
(AM through lunch)

Mr. Norman Fishman, Stanford Research Institute  
(PM only)

Mr. Armstrong, a senior research engineer of the Fire Research Section of Southwest Research Institute met with the group in the morning. The purpose was a discussion of appropriate research on plastics flammability problems. All present recognized that his main activity was in the area of fire hazard research, although subsequent discussions disclosed that he was conversant with plastics solid waste disposal problems and with SwRI activities in this field.

Messrs. Morand, Neher, and Best explained the interest of the Association in matters concerning plastics, referring back to the letter that had been sent to various institutes to determine their interest in proposing research projects on flammability and/or solid waste disposal both through a possible survey of such work already underway in this country and abroad, and possibly special projects concerning methods of test, waste disposal procedures, standards, etc.

Earlier in the discussion it was apparent that a start in this investigation could be a survey on what is now being done. Reasons for this being considered by MCA and the desire to avoid duplication of activities of others were fully explained.

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The following statement of objective was submitted to Mr. Armstrong:

"As a first step, this investigation should be concerned with a world-wide survey on the state-of-the-art on flammability, waste disposal, and other problems of similar impact on this industry; this should include a report of proposed solutions and steps that should be taken in the best interest of the industry and the public. Areas suggested for consideration were major industrial and higher per capita income countries and a survey which should include (1) literature, (2) universities and research institutes, (3) major municipalities and government bodies, (4) plastic and related trade associations, (5) major plastic producers, and (6) disposal equipment manufacturers."

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After an initial survey it would be desirable to set up a procedure to keep this information current, perhaps on an annual basis.

cc:

Mr. Armstrong stated he will endeavor to send us a proposal on the above by September 1.

Bcc:

In the afternoon, Mr. Norman Fishman of the Polymer Section, Stanford Research Institute, was advised along the same lines as reported above on Mr. Armstrong's contact. In general terms, Mr. Fishman was familiar with SRI's activities in solid waste studies and the problems facing the Industry. He stated that considerable industry-wide interest had been engendered in his proposed fire retardance project and that he readily recognized the fact that this was a program inappropriate for an association sponsorship.

Discussions with Mr. Fishman included general information on SRI's work in the (1) flammability, (2) air, water, and solid waste pollution problems, and (3) chemical investigations.

The discussion terminated with the understanding that Mr. Fishman would consult others in SRI on the proposed objectives

which the MCA had in mind on the flammability and solid waste, and he would endeavor to have an informal proposal submitted by September 1. It is possible that he will suggest a pilot operation in one step as a start.

\* \* \* \*

*F H Carman*  
F. H. Carman  
Secretary  
Plastics Committee

August 7, 1969

cc: Mr. T. B. Nantz  
Mr. Roy L. Schuyler

Bcc: Mr. H. E. Robbins