MONSANTO CHEMICAL COMPANY
Springfield, Massachusetts

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Sludge in Vinyl Chloride Monomer Tank Cars

Here at Springfield 5 cars of vinyl chloride monomer left large quantities of sludge in the lines upon pumping. Solution in cyclohexanone with filtration and evaporation indicate a portion of this sludge to be polymer. Those cars exhibiting this behavior were as follows:

SHPX	pumped	8/14/58
GATX76245	"	8/18/58
GATX78259	"	8/18/58
GATX37874	"	8/22/58
GATX37804	"	8/23/58

The quantities observed could lead to serious trouble in our lines if much more build-up should take place. Have you any information as to why this should be noted in these certain cars and not in others? Could it have been the prior loads such as uninhibited monomer, from accumulation of sludge in a storage tank, or some other source?

Anything you can offer to explain this would be much appreciated.

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