April 2, 1965

Mr. W. M. Teller, Vice President
American Hydrotherm Corporation
10-55 Jackson Avenue
Long Island City
New York, New York 11101

Dear Mr. Teller:

I have been asked to reply to your inquiry to Mr. Shaw concerning the treatment of accidents in connection with Monsanto's heat transfer fluids.

In any accident of consequence, of course, the employee should be referred to a physician for the best treatment under the particular circumstances and the replies to your questions which I am listing below should be regarded largely as immediate first aid measures.

1. A burn caused by contact with the hot fluid should be regarded as a thermal burn and treated accordingly. Our practice in all thermal burns is to use no ointments but to immediately apply cold water or even ice water to the burned areas.

2. We have had no trouble with allergy to the heat transfer fluids and I would think that anyone who developed a rash which he thought was caused by such contact should be referred to a competent dermatologist for evaluation.

3. If the fluid accidently gets in the eyes, the eyes should be thoroughly flushed with water and the patient referred to a physician.

4. Our heat transfer fluids have a low order of toxicity by mouth and any significant intoxication by this route in an adult could hardly be accidental. There is no specific antidote and any person intoxicated by this route should be promptly referred to a physician for general supportive treatment.

5. Fume inhalation does constitute one real potential hazard with these materials. Again, there is no specific treatment other than removal from exposure and this, of course, is a situation which should be preventive rather than treated. Prolonged excessive exposure can cause chloracne.

If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact me directly.

Very truly yours,

M. N. Johnson, M.D.
Assistant Medical Director

MNJ:mjb

cc: Stan Shaw