

Inter-organization Correspondence

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FROM	FIELD POINT OR DEPT. & BLOC. NO.	DATE THIS LETTER
P. M. Zakriski	Brecksville R & D Center, D/8506	Dec. 14, 1976
SUBJECT	RESEARCH LIBRARY	

Passive Personnel Monitor Badges for Vinyl Chloride and Other Organic Vapors

Gulf South Research Institute (GSRI) has developed a technology base which leads them to believe that they can demonstrate the feasibility of a vinyl chloride detector badge. That is a passive dosimeter that does not need a battery operated pump and will replace the Bendix tube for measurement of personnel exposure to vinyl chloride. They would like very much to present a proposal to B.F. Goodrich for the purpose of demonstrating the feasibility of this badge. I expect the cost of this proposal would be in the neighborhood of \$25,000.

I have discussed this subject with them. They have not completely revealed their technology base to me but they have given me the following insight. Their work directs them to approach the badge from the point of specific adsorbants, that is different adsorbants for different organic vapors. They do not use or intend to use carbon as a adsorbant. They intend to prepare badges with as many as a dozen separate compartments. Some of these compartments will hold the same adsorbant and therefore be used for replication of analyses. Other compartments will hold other adsorbants which will enable the same badge to measure other pollutants.

They have already proposed a feasibility study to a pharmaceutical house, for a prototype badge to be used by operating room personnel. In this case the badge will be used for the fluoro-chloro-carbons used as anesthetic gases. I mention this to indicate that they are serious in their work and they do have active efforts to invent specific dosimeter badges.

Let me talk briefly about the agreement that GSRI would like to enter into when they undertake a contract. For the limited amount of approximately \$25,000 they would be preparing a badge feasibility study. I have presumed our interests would be in vinyl chloride at first, but it could be in something else, for instance, benzene. This work would take 1-2 months. At that time, BFG would own the patent and be in a position to field test and then produce privately or commercially, the dosimeter badge. GSRI would not plan to go into any sort of commercial production of the invented dosimeter. In the event BFG does not like or wish to pursue the findings of GSRI relative to the badge, then GSRI would, by contract, retain all rights and privileges to the findings and inventions of the work. Then, they could sell it to someone else. They indicated to me that they simply want to guarantee that their research work doesn't become permanently locked up in unexploited contracts.

I firmly believe that B.F. Goodrich should ask GSRI to submit this vinyl chloride badge proposal for careful review. If that review indicates that the cost for this feasibility study is reasonable and the business aspects are sound we should seriously consider acting on this proposal. My reasoning is that I believe the cost of personnel testing for vinyl chloride can be significantly reduced by employing a badge and the quality of the measurements can be significantly improved by eliminating the pump.

When it appears that B.F. Goodrich does wish to review this proposal, I will arrange for its presentation.

Paul
Paul M. Zakriski

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