

VCM-VAM PTE MONTHLY SUMMARY - MARCH, 1965

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N&R
Jenny

VCM Quality

Springfield reports no lump or coagulation problems in paste resin operation while operating on Union Carbide monomer since mid February. There is still no definite clue to the impurity in VCM which could be causing the problems in polymerization. Fourteen components were identified by MS-GC system in a concentrated tray 47 sample and only one unsuspected component (formaldehyde) was found. Verification will be made by chemical means. Testing of Texas City monomer which has been produced during normal known process variations is being proposed to Springfield with tests to begin April 12.

Cracking VCM Column Control - Final instrument design is being reviewed.

Target for PAFE circulation is May 1. Dept. 23 Caustic Wash Automation - Operation has been smooth and final testing for limiting rates is in progress. Project will be complete by April 15. Cracking Furnace Controls - Fabrication and shop testing of the first analyzer-controller was completed. Field installation to be complete early in April. Contract for assembly of remaining gravimeters should be awarded by April 1. Muriatic Acid Vent Scrubber - Column installed and in operation. Oxidative Chlorination Material Balance Study - Development of sampling and analytical techniques is 90% complete. First material balance is still scheduled for April 15. West Plant Model - A series of runs was made for Division Engineering. Product Column Instrumentation - Pressure drop recorder for bottom half of the column should be installed by April 1.

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MAR 1965

-2-

Oxidative Catalyst Improvement - Study was concentrated on exact amount of heat treating necessary before adding CuCl_2 . The amount of Cu deposited is related to the amount of heat treatment. HCl release from the catalyst was found to be slow. PAFIE estimate for manufacturing facilities located in pilot plant will be complete by March 25.

Vinyl Acetate - A method for determination of peroxides in product vinyl acetate is being developed by the analytical chemistry group.

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