

SEPTEMBER 1, 1977

MR. T. C. WALKER
POTTSTOWN

J. E. MEHLER

UNC REPORT

Enclosed is a copy of the University of North Carolina's Cross Sectional Environmental Survey, Part II - Pottstown, PA, No. F.18. This report deals with industrial hygiene surveys conducted in both the tire and plastics and chemicals plants. The plastics and chemical plants are covered on pages 76 through 86 of this report. The report serves as a summary of surveys conducted from April, 1974 through March, 1975.

The bulk of this report deals with the compounding, mixing and milling operations where particulate and vinyl chloride monomer vapor are found. Since your plant currently has an ongoing monitoring program to determine employee exposure to vinyl chloride monomer, the results of this report are obviously less meaningful than the more recent surveys conducted by your personnel. The results reported during the surveys of April through June, 1974 are in question. This is due to the fact that the method used to determine vinyl chloride vapors in the air was less than reliable.

It was also found during the UNC survey that the styrene and butadiene levels found at the paint latex manufacturing area were well below the threshold limit values of these chemicals. They make no recommendations that need attention. At best, this report serves as a documentation of conditions during the sample periods.

If you have any questions regarding the contents of this report, please do not hesitate to contact me.

INDUSTRIAL HYGIENIST

JEM:jk
Encl.

cc: Dr. L. H. Ballou

BFS

007797

PP 76-86 Pkt M&R-PLASTICS
Film + sheeting

Pottstown Plastics
Film + sheeting + chemical
plant

Compdg - msg, Milling

April 1974 - March 1975

Film + sheeting

Compdg and mixing are major exposure
Benzene, Compdg. -

Although they imply reduction of dust + part. levels
to lowest levels not doing so is ok

Plastics

April 74, Oct. 74

Oct. March 74

3-26-75

Note VC Monitoring in film and sheeting div.
VC 1.8-10 ppm L

Suspect VC release during PVC milling

Chemical plant

April - June 74

particulate + VC monitoring

they question results of April - June 74 surveys

Reason for extensive sampling March 75

found Styrene ^{butadiene} levels low at paint lotter areas