

MONSANTO CHEMICAL COMPANY

Inter-Office Correspondence

From LOCATION : Texas City, Texas

cc: W. F. Zimmermann

DATE : May 15, 1963

SUBJECT : Unplanned Incident & Blowing of
22S3 Rupture Discs

REFERENCE :

TO : J. W. Kongable

DESCRIPTION:

On May 14, 1963, about 1120 hours, the rupture discs on 22S3 were blown during a reaction startup. Reaction had been shut down just previously because of a spill in the VCM compression system. There was no injury to personnel. Reaction downtime was five hours.

CAUSE:

As best we can determine 22S3 was overpressured when 22C1 was started with too high suction pressure. A check of PRCV 22-1, which controls the 22S3 pressure by recycling gas to the compressor suction, showed the valve was not sticking.

CORRECTIVE ACTION:

The incident was reviewed with operating personnel, and the operating manual has been revised to include closing the 22C1 suction valve before starting the compressor.

G. E. Pratt /jb

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/jb

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