

Enhancing openness through Risk Management Planning

One of Solutia's Environment, Safety and Health commitments reads: "We will keep our operations open to our communities and foster open communications with all of our stakeholders."

Furthermore, as a member of the Chemical Manufacturer's Association, we commit to uphold the Community Awareness and Emergency Response code, which means we plan to grow the relationships between Solutia's plants and local communities through communication and cooperative emergency planning.

And two years ago when the EPA issued its new regulation Risk Management Program (RMP), it became another piece of _____ efforts to keep our facility open to our employees and communities.

RMP covers some 70,000 facilities in the United States -- including _____ and seven other Solutia sites -- that use, make or store certain amounts of regulated chemicals. Each facility is required to consolidate information about their risk management activities and make it public to local emergency responders, federal and state officials and the public by June 1999. We will make our information public on _____.

Although the regulation is new, this concept is not new to Solutia. Since 1984, Solutia's manufacturing facilities have maintained a policy of openness with their local communities. As part of openness with the community, Solutia facilities regularly hold emergency planning sessions as well as communicate the safety and emergency response capabilities of the plant and surrounding communities to our neighbors. As you are probably aware, we already follow strict safety, health, environmental and product stewardship standards and are enthusiastic supporters of the chemical industry's Responsible Care program. Solutia is working hard right now to meet the RMP reporting requirements, even though the results won't be made public until 1999.

One of the things that will be made public in 1999 is a "worst-case" release. The EPA defines a "worst-case" scenario as a release of the largest quantity of a regulated substance from a vessel or process line failure that results in the greatest distance to

an endpoint. In other words, the "worst-case" scenario is believed to represent the worst chemical release that could result from operations at the site. The probability of such a release is low, so plants are also required to select a more realistic "alternative-case" release. It is important to understand both the "worst-case" and "alternative-case" are designed to be used as planning tools for emergency preparedness.

In the coming months, you may realize additional areas of your jobs that relate to RMP. Also, watch for further communication about RMP. Make the time to participate in these information sessions. One outcome of RMP Solutia hopes to achieve is that each of you, the employees, feel sufficiently knowledgeable and informed to serve as effective "ambassadors" for our company or the chemical industry as a whole.