



CERTAIN-TEED PRODUCTS CORPORATION
PIPE & PLASTICS GROUP
P.O. Box 253
Sulphur, Louisiana 70663 318/882-1441

April 1, 1976

Inspection by Stephen R. Messinger, Industrial Hygienist.

Entered plant today at 12:30 p.m. to inspect Vinyl Chloride spillage that had been reported to his office on Wednesday, March 31, 1976 (1:00 p.m.) . The report was made by Mr. Art Gellner, Plant Manager of Certain-Teed Products Corporation Polymer Plant, Lake Charles, Louisiana.

Mr. Messinger explained his visit to Mr. Gellner and myself (Joe Mastrogiovanni) . He had indicated that he was here to investigate only the reported incident. He requested Mr. Gellner to fill out an interview statement at that point (copy attached).

He further requested interviews with two hourly employees who were involved in the incident and one written documentation, then spending 30 minutes with him reviewing our situation and monitoring system of the plant and the plant's employees.

Also submitted to him form used by our plant for control of our safety procedures.

Mr. Messinger also inspected our files (1975 accident record), Form 100 and 1976 to date records. Requested the name of our plant physician, he indicated our responsibility to report all incidents of this nature immediately upon happening, no later than a 24 hour period.

At this point Mr. Gellner stated that he had been informed that should an incident occur on the weekend, the report could be made on Monday. Our incident in fact did occur on the weekend.

Approximately 1:15 p.m. plant tour was made of the area of concern. Mr. Messinger indicated we had reacted in the proper manner. Between the hours of 2:00 and 3:00 p.m. he interviewed and took documentation from David Viator and Jimmy Parker. He also spent a few minutes with Rodney Bollich, Production Superintendent.

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In his closing comments to Mr. Gellner and myself, he made the following statements:

Penalty System via OSHA based on three (3) categories:

Severity - extent and likelihood.

Each category has three sub-categories.

A, B and C, which of course, is based on the seriousness of the situation. He stated fines could range anywhere from \$100 to \$500 with the following discounts taken into consideration.

- 20% off for good faith.
- 5% off for plant size over 100.
- 20% off for first violation, generally 50% of the total amount is reduced at this point.

Also taken into consideration is whether or not violations are repeated. He stated this was Violation 19.10.1000 N2I which means not reported within 24 hours.

The following points were pointed out:

Actually called Wednesday morning - could automatically be \$100. This instance would range between \$20 and \$30. He saw no need for an extension. His area director in Baton Rouge is Jim Powell.

Certain-teed has the right to contest the penalty, the amount of the penalty or the abatement any time it wishes to. The employees also can contest the same.

Upon receipt of the citation it should be posted for three days in the area of violation (Control Room). Due to the fact that we have corrected the situation, no abatement letter is needed.

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Mr. Messinger stated if we were going to contest any portion of the citation, we should contact Mr. Powell in Baton Rouge before doing so.

In closing, Mr. Messinger indicated he was very pleased with what he observed in our employees, and the safety program that we are conducting.

He also stated that the employees must conform to the employer's safety regulations and OSHA would so inform any employee who refused to abide by Company safety regulations.

Meeting ended 4:10 p.m.

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OCCUPATIONAL
SAFETY AND
HEALTH
ADMINISTRATION

STEPHEN R. MESSINGER
INDUSTRIAL HYGIENIST

SUITE 200
2156 WOODDALE BLVD.
BATON ROUGE, LA. 70806



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EXT. 474

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EMPLOYEE PERSONAL INTERVIEW STATEMENT

April 1, 1976

Place of interview Lake Charles, La.C. A. Gellner

, of

1410 Laura Street

(name of employee)

(number, street, apt. no.)

C. A. GellnerSulphurLouisiana318 - 625-8785

(city or town)

(state)

(telephone)

33years of age, (have been) employed by Certain-teed Products Corporation

(establishment)

P. O. Box 253, Sulphur, La. 70663for the approximate period from 3/19/73 to presentPlant Manager

(occupation or description of duties)

On March 27 and 28 employees were engaged in a reactor cleaning operation. During the course of this operation employees were cleaning a reactor with excessive crusts.

Twenty-two (22) employees were exposed to vinyl chloride concentrations in excess of 100 ppm off and on during the 28 hour period. The employees were wearing breathing air masks during the exposure.

The extensive reactor cleaning was required when a malfunction occurred in the Prepo Initiator Charge Pot. The Polymer crust, which normally does not form, was caused because of over-reaction that was caused by excessive Initiator.

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EMPLOYEE PERSONAL INTERVIEW STATEMENT

Place of interview _____

Doris M. Vinter

(name of employee)

of 807 Walters Apt. #131

(number, street, apt. no.)

Lake Charles

(city or town)

Louisiana

(state)

478-7287

(telephone)

23

years of age, (have been) employed by

Certainated Products

(establishment)

for the approximate period from April 14 to 4/18/68

(occupation or description of duties)

We started cleaning the Prep Friday evening. Everyone who worked at the Prep manway wore protective clothing #1 - Full face mask, slicker suit, rubber gloves, & safety glasses.

The VC reading was higher on ground level or 1st floor than the Century during clean up time. There was a reading of approximately 100 ppm's around the Prep manway. The stronger readings were found on the floor below the Prep manway, on 2nd floor - 1st floor as stated above.

Also as ^{the} bore is stated, those that cleaned around or were clipping in the manway used brass hatchets, hammer and crow bar to remove PVC from Prep.

Because of your higher readings below the manway was because of some PVC that fell through the grating to the 2nd - 1st floor. The men from B & T wore full face mask & slicker suits while inside Prep during cleaning, and also rubber gloves.

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EMPLOYEE PERSONAL INTERVIEW STATEMENT

Place of interview _____

_____, of _____
(name of employee) (number, street, apt. no.)

(city or town) (state) (telephone)

_____ years of age, (have been) employed by _____
(establishment)

_____ for the approximate period from _____ to _____

(occupation or description of duties)

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