

August 3, 1973

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PATENTS & CONTRACTS UNIT
STAFF NOTES
WEEK OF JULY 30, 1973

Safety

<u>Injuries</u>	<u>This Week</u>	<u>To-Date 1973</u>	<u>Year-To-Date 1972</u>
Sub-Major	0	0	0
Major	0	0	0
Off-The-Job	0	0	0

<u>Manpower</u>	<u>7/25/73</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Deletions</u>	<u>8/1/73</u>
	17.5	0	0	17.5

Air Pollution Control Regulations

Du Pont testimony supporting EPA proposed Rule 66-type hydrocarbon regulations has been presented in Massachusetts and New Jersey. Similar testimony has been presented in Colorado and Texas.

The EPA has published four proposed plans reflecting alternate approaches to defining significant deterioration of air quality. Public hearings on these plans will be held between August 27 and Sept. 6 and written comments may be submitted before October 15. Du Pont participation is unlikely at this stage. EES

N38317

Carcinogens

OSHA has revised its Emergency Temporary Standard on certain carcinogens in recognition of the fact that some operations are within closed systems and that different control measures may be appropriate. Manufacturing Div. is evaluating the effect of the revised standard on the Ft. Madison plant.
RES

Licensed U.S.P. 2,753,318 - CIBA

This patent which dominated the WA-type acrylonitrile copolymer aqueous dispersions which were utilized primarily in "Lecton" wire enamels expired in July. Freedom to practice the invention without the royalty fee of two cents per pound of polymer solids provides an incentive to expand the utilization of the WA-type polymers. More recent patent art relates to specific aqueous dispersion acrylonitrile copolymer composition which will need to be considered if there is significant deviation from the WA-type compositions. For example, U.S.P. 3,749,690 issued to Celanese on July 31, 1973, relating to a latex paint based on a dispersion of a tetrapolymer of acrylonitrile, an alkyl acrylate, an acrylamide and a carboxylic comonomer. CEB

Ultrafiltration in Electrocoating Operations

There appears to be increased activity in the direction of enforcement of the patents relating to ultrafiltration and utilization of reverse osmosis in electrocoating operations, patents assigned to PPG Industries and to ICI being pertinent. These patents issued about a year ago, but a further patent, U.S.P. 3,749,657 was issued to PPG on July 31, 1973, relating to treatment of electrodeposition rinse water by a process which includes an ultrafiltration step. The published abstract does not provide for a comparison of scope versus the earlier PPG inventions, but this comparison will be made when the patent with its 25 claims is available. CEB

Polyamide-Imide Polymers

The Patent Office has issued a notice of interference (Interference No. 98,387) between two claims in Incrementa and Strugar FFD-1815-A relating to polyamide-imide polymers having an ordered structure and corresponding claims in an application assigned to Hitachi Chemical Company of Japan. FFD-1815-A is accorded benefit of the June 30, 1967, filing date of the parent application, the Hitachi application having filing date of July 17, 1967. FFD-1815-A in July 1971 was involved in a four party interference (No. 97531) which was dissolved in November 1972 with the interference counts being unpatentable to the other three parties. In connection with that interference a settlement agreement was executed granting the several parties non-exclusive, irrevocable, royalty-free licenses under the respective applications involved in the interference. It appears appropriate to consider similar settlement action in connection with the current interference. Industrial Products Division has no current or contemplated interest in the polyamide-imides defined by FFD-1815-A.

G. I. MUELLER

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