



Interoffice Communication

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From R. W. Seymour

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Subject RESPIRATOR PROGRAM REVISION

In the original VCM Respirator Program issued on March 31, 1976, there were two hazardous operations listed under Section III (Laboratory continuous Monitoring Unit) requiring continuous flow fresh air masks. 1. Sampling Dry Blend Blenders. 2. Charging Blenders (this includes make-up of dry blend masterbatch).

Revised procedures (high temperature steam stripping and air purging of slurry) in the resin area has further reduced residual VCM levels in resin supplied to compound, dry blend and our customers. For this reason, we have taken a group of 15 minute samples during these two hazardous operations in order to see if fresh air masks were still needed. This testing, in addition to eight hour samples on personnel performing these tasks, showed that exposures for these jobs are below the exposure levels requiring any type of respiratory protection. All samples for 15 minutes and eight hours were below 1.0 ppm.

Therefore, it is no longer required that fresh air masks be worn for sampling dry blend blenders or charging blenders on Line I or Line III or making up dry blend masterbatch. However, charging blenders on both lines and making up dry blend masterbatch does require wearing a Dustfoe 66 dust mask in order to prevent inhalation of dust on these jobs.

Please remove the last page of your "Procedure for Respiratory Protection Under the OSHA VCM Standard" issued on 3/31/76 and replace that page with the attached revision.


R. W. Seymour

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Attachment

c: LHB (9), DFJ (9), RGG (6), JEB, RGH, LDH (6), JVH (9), JVu (4), DEM (2)
KWC (7), RAD, GGD, DML, DEN, GDB, RFH