

Manufacturing Chemists' Association, Inc.

(FOUNDED 1872)

1825 Connecticut Avenue, N. W.

WASHINGTON 9, D. C.

246.

MINUTES OF MEETING

SAFETY AND FIRE PROTECTION COMMITTEE

Offices of Celanese Corporation, Charlotte, N. C.

March 18-19, 1964

PRESENT

G. G. Fleming, Chairman	Celanese Corporation of America
A. L. Cobb, Vice Chairman	Eastman Kodak Company
R. H. Albisser	Merck & Co., Inc.
L. W. Boulton	Polymer Corporation Limited
A. H. Christian	FMC Corp, American Viscose Division
C. R. Eastman (alternate for P. Folse)	Socony Mobil Oil Co.
G. L. Gorbell	Monsanto Company
J. Guelich	General Chemical Div., Allied Chemical Corporation
S. M. MacCutcheon	The Dow Chemical Company
J. S. Queener	E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Co.
S. F. Spence	American Cyanamid Company
W. S. Wood	Sun Oil Company
F. G. Stephenson, Secretary	Manufacturing Chemists' Association, Inc

GUESTS

N. D. Griswold	The Dow Chemical Company
E. B. Harrison	Manufacturing Chemists' Association, Inc
W. R. Shields	American Cyanamid Company
R. W. Van Dolah	Bureau of Mines

ABSENT

J. A. Hawthorne	National Lead Company
A. L. Kling	Olin Mathieson Chemical Corporation
F. E. Macaulay	Wyandotte Chemicals Corporation

Chairman G. G. Fleming opened the meeting at 9:30 a.m.

1. Minutes of the December 11, 1963 meeting were approved as distributed.

2. Industrial Injury Statistics for 1963

It was noted with satisfaction that 1963 proved to be the safest year yet recorded. Actually, the injury frequency rate of 2.98 was equally low in 1958 but the severity rate for that year was 525 compared to 389 for 1963. All injuries for 1963 reported by the 123 reporting companies totaled 3,289. This figure included 44 deaths and permanent total injuries, 180 permanent partial injuries and 3,065 temporary injuries.

3. Public Hearing on Walsh-Healey Safety Regulations

Mr. Carl H. Hageman, Vice President of Union Carbide Corporation, will testify on behalf of MCA at the public hearing on the proposed revisions to the safety and health standards for federal supply contracts (Walsh-Healey Act) in Washington, D. C. on March 20, 1964.

Mr. A. L. Cobb of Eastman Kodak Company, Vice Chairman of the MCA Safety and Fire Protection Committee, will accompany Mr. Hageman as a technical advisor. An MCA legal advisor will also be present.

The Safety and Fire Protection Committee and the Industrial Relations Advisory Committee are participating in the preparation of the testimony.

4. Insurance Company Requirements for Fire and Explosion Protection

The Committee further discussed new insurance company device requirements for fire and explosion protection as a prerequisite for insurance coverage. Some of these are thought excessive or unjustified. It was agreed that Committee members will keep each other apprised of the situation by sending informational reports to the secretary for circulation to the Committee.

5. Revised Edition of "Guide for Safety in the Chemical Laboratory"

The subcommittee will prepare a list of names of authors of the various chapters. This will be circulated by the secretary at an early date.

6. Development of Off-The-Job Safety Activities

Mr. Bruce Harrison of the MCA staff discussed the possible development of the Committee's off-the-job program through the activities of the local Chemical Industry Councils (CIC). Off-the-job safety informational material could be distributed to the CIC's as package items. The CIC Bulletin could also contain off-the-job items. This program could be developed with Committee cooperation in providing Mr. Harrison with suitable material.

The proposal was discussed in some detail. Material of this nature is currently available from the National Safety Council. In any event, it was thought desirable to limit such an activity to the chemical aspects of off-the-job safety. There is too some question as to whether company managements are prepared to support such a program because of the possibility of it being interpreted as interference with the private lives of employees. The chairman appointed a subcommittee of Mr. Albisser and Mr. Spence to make a recommendation at the next meeting as to the development of the off-the-job safety program.

7. 35 mm Slide Visual Aid Safety Program

Mr. Kling was unable to be present to report on the activities of the subcommittee.

Slides and commentaries are being prepared covering two or three "sample" subjects. Mr. Cobb stated that he is preparing slides and commentaries dealing with "tank entry" and with "tag and lockout" and hopes this material will be ready for showing at the next meeting.

Mr. Queener and Mr. Guelich demonstrated slides and systems for possible use in this visual aid program.

8. Safety Publications

(a) Chemical Safety Data Sheets

New sheets in preparation:

Methyl chloroform	-	S. M. MacCutcheon
Paranitroaniline	-	G. L. Gorbell
Beryllium	-	Brush Beryllium Co.
Phosgene	-	E. N. Deck, General Electric Co.

Revisions

SD-4, Phenol - published March 1964
 SD-31, Acrylonitrile - final draft being completed
 SD-30, Sodium Cyanide - draft to be distributed
 SD-29, Ethyl Ether - draft to be distributed

Other drafts in preparation

SD-13	Ammonia Aqua
SD-18	Ethylene Dichloride
SD-21	Nitrobenzene
SD-22	Methanol
SD-23	Calcium Carbide
SD-24	Perchloroethylene

SD-26 Phosphorus Oxychloride
 SD-27 Phosphorus Trichloride
 SD-28 Phosphoric Anhydride
 SD-11 Perchloric Acid
 SD-12 Carbon Disulfide

(b) Safety Guides

SG-17 Fire Protection in the Chemical Industry - published March, 1964.

Identification and Transfer of Materials - to be published shortly.

The chairman asked Committee members who are working on drafts for other Safety Guides to proceed with this work as soon as possible.

(c) Revision of TC 7 - Tank Car Loading and Unloading Platforms

Members were asked to forward comments on the draft to Mr. C. H. Mayhood.

(d) Standard Sections "Unloading Flammable Liquid from Tank Trucks"

Comments on the recently distributed draft should also be forwarded to Mr. C. H. Mayhood.

9. Transportation Emergency Cards for Hazardous Materials

The secretary referred to his letter to the Committee of March 9, 1964 to which was attached drafts for Transportation Emergency Cards for 14 rocket propellant chemicals. The MCA Technical Committee on Rocket Propellant Safety will proceed with the publication of these 14 cards shortly. Discussions have taken place with the National Tank Truck Carriers association, with staff members of the National Fire Protection Association and with representatives of the U.S. Air Force Directorate of Aerospace Safety. The secretary read a letter from Mr. C. Austin Sutherland, Managing Director of the National Tank Truck Carriers Inc. proposing that cards be developed to cover "all chemicals which are flammable, toxic or have any hazards in connection with the handling thereof." The letter also stated that the Transportation Emergency Card program "is a real contribution to safety but that it is long overdue." On a motion by Mr. MacCutcheon, seconded by Mr. Spence, it was resolved to proceed with the program as recommended by Mr. Sutherland.

The chairman then appointed a subcommittee of Mr. Guelich and Mr. Spence to initiate the project. Members agreed to forward to the secretary a list of materials which their individual companies

currently transport by tank truck.

It was stressed that close liaison will be maintained with the National Fire Protection Association; that drafts for Transportation Emergency Cards will be made available to NFPA for comment; and that NFPA publications such as No. 49 will be consulted in preparing statements for inclusion in the cards.

10. 1964 Chemical Industry Safety Workshop

The 1964 Chemical Industry Safety Workshop will be held at the Robert Treat Hotel, Newark, New Jersey on September 29, 1964. The Chemical Industry Council of New Jersey has kindly offered to cooperate in the organizing and publicizing of the Workshop. Mr. George Fisk, Plant Manager for Celanese Corporation of America in Newark, will assist with local arrangements.

11. Accident Reports

Compressed-Gas Cylinders of Mild Steel

Reports of failures of compressed-gas cylinders, made of mild steel, during or after chilling were discussed. It was agreed that the secretary should contact the Compressed Gas Association or the U. S. Steel Corporation and request information as to the reasons for these failures and for recommendations as to alloys available that would be safe in this service.

Unloading of Anhydrous Ammonia

The chairman reported briefly on an accident in which two men lost their lives due to failure of a hose during the unloading of anhydrous ammonia. He undertook to prepare an accident case history as soon as this becomes possible.

12. Threshold Limit Values - Revision of ACGIH Listings

Concern was expressed that some of the Threshold Limit Values established by the American Conference of Governmental Hygienists may be reduced for "comfort" and other reasons which may not involve health hazards. TLV's have been written into the law in at least one state. A letter dated February 17, 1964 was forwarded by the secretary to Safety Directors of all MCA member companies drawing attention to the "Notice of Intent" list issued by the Threshold Limits Committee of ACGIH containing a list of chemicals for which TLV's will be revised and also including a list of new chemicals for which TLV's are being prepared. MCA member companies were invited to comment on this list to Dr. H. E. Stokinger, Chairman of the Threshold Limits Committee.

It was generally recognized that reduction of existing TLV's, in some cases without substantiating health information, could prove a hardship to the industry. Thoughts were expressed that Threshold Limit Values should preferably be developed by the American Standards Association or some other such group which invites the participation of all interested parties. It was agreed that a letter would be prepared for distribution to MCA member companies drawing attention to the situation and recommending action which may lead to industry participation in the future development of these Values.

13. Proposed Short Course for Chemical Industry Personnel on the Fire and Explosion Characteristics of Chemicals

Mr. Wood recommended that the Bureau of Mines be approached and a recommendation made that a short course (possibly two weeks) be organized covering such matters as flammability, explosibility, chemical instability, explosion suppression, etc. It was recommended that an appropriate contract be entered into between the Bureau of Mines and MCA to cover such a course and that participating companies would bear proportionate costs. Dr. Van Dolah stated that this type of activity falls within the charter of the Bureau of Mines and thought that such a course could include such matters as explosion hazards in the handling of flammables -- a discussion of materials and how they can be ignited -- development of unexpected ignition sources -- static electricity -- valve hazards -- detonable material -- process problems and predictions, etc. After discussion it was agreed to recommend that MCA negotiate with the Bureau of Mines regarding the development of such a course and Dr. Van Dolah agreed to write to Mr. Stephenson outlining a proposal to this effect.

14. Stability Tests for Reaction Chemicals

The chairman stated that Dr. Van Dolah had been invited to attend this meeting in order to review existing tests regarding the stability of reaction or process chemicals and to discuss the possibility of further research by the Bureau of Mines which might lead to the development of additional tests. Dr. Van Dolah discussed the matter at length, and described the various methods now used to test the detonability of chemicals. He thought that because of the press of other work it would not be possible for further research to be carried out by the Bureau of Mines at this time. The chairman thanked Dr. Van Dolah on behalf of the Committee for his very interesting and instructive presentation.

CMA 039979

15. Plastic Containers for Consumer Use in the Transportation and Storage of Petroleum Products

It is understood that the Fire Marshalls Association of America has resolved to write to the National Fire Protection Association opposing recognition in NFPA No. 30 of the suitability of certain

portable plastic containers for petroleum products. The Society of the Plastics Industry has a proposed standard for such containers.

It was agreed to bring this item to the attention of the MCA Plastics Committee and recommend that a proposal be made to SPI that plastic containers made in accord with the SPI standard be adequately tested.

16. President's Conference on Occupational Safety

Messrs. Albisser, Christian, Fleming, Gorbell, Spence and Stephenson will participate in a panel session at the President's Conference on Occupational Safety to be held in Washington, D. C. on June 23, 24 and 25, 1964. The panel session will be part of a workshop on "Safety in Manufacturing" and will deal with the role of the industry trade association in the promotion of safety in the manufacture, handling and use of its products.

17. Membership

Dr. N. G. White has announced his resignation from the Committee. The Committee unanimously endorsed a vote of thanks to Dr. White for his services in the advancement of Committee projects. The chairman and secretary agreed to write to Dr. White to this effect.

18. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held at The Homestead, Hot Springs, Virginia on July 9 and 10, 1964.

Minutes subject to approval

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