

CARCINOGEN SEARCH

Materials and Toxicology System (MATS)

To overcome the deficiencies of manual and semi-computerized search methods, the Materials and Toxicology System (MATS), under development, will consolidate four materials approval systems into one common data base. The four systems are: the CATALOG of Hazardous Materials (P&O Staff) containing Company materials, their toxicological evaluation for worker/consumer protection and the chemical composition, the Engineering Material Approved Source List (E&RS) containing the material specification title and the materials approved to that specification; the Nonproduction Material Approved Source List (Manufacturing Staff) containing the nonproduction material standard and the approved materials; and the Environmental & Process Review System (Manufacturing Staff) containing the waste disposal, treatability, and facility engineering cautions on all materials approved to Engineering Specifications and Manufacturing Standards.

Carcinogen Search Strategy

Developing the links between the above systems will, in the future, provide a method for locating Category I potential carcinogens in nonproduction materials and production parts and bulk materials. The search methodology is numbered on the facing page to correspond to the following search steps:

1. The Chemical Abstracts Service numbers of the Category I substance and their compounds are identified by H&T. The system will then generate a list of materials which contain those chemicals.
2. Utilizing the NAAO supplier code, the specification number and the product name, the system will then identify other Category I containing materials and specifications.
3. The Engineering Specification can then be passed to the North American Engineering Product Information System (NAEPIS) which contains the engineering notices from all of the product engineering offices. The NAEPIS system will then produce a cross-reference list of all parts which use that materials.
4. The list of production parts can then be matched to Purchasing's Procurement system to determine current sources to be queried for control and elimination of carcinogens. The same list can be matched to the AAD Process Sheet system to determine where and how the part or material is handled in AAD.

Functions

A function of MATS is to maintain and produce the Approve Source List for nonproduction and production materials including the toxicology and environmental clearances for use by Purchasing. The system also produces the CATALOG of Hazardous Materials as either a full companywide print or as a plant specific print. The CATALOG is used by Hazardous Material Information Center and plant physicians for verification that the substances are on the TSCA inventory and is required to be furnished to the UAW under the current contract. The system is also available to the plants Hazardous Material Information Center to be searched by supplier or specification for complete medical, handling, shipping, waste treatment and disposal instructions on a material.

The system also produces the Michigan DNR Critical Materials report for the consumption of materials which contain a Michigan defined "critical component" e.g., chromium.

Affected Activities

All Corporate Staffs concerned with materials/toxicological/environment controls are currently involved in using/developing the system. All NAAO/DPO plants are planned to have access to the system by third quarter 1980.

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