Monsanto

Name of Nominee			Location
Paul L. Wright			Creve Coeur
Company Unit or Staff Dept.	Division	Business Group	Department
Corporate Staff	Medical		Medical
Position Title	Salary Grade	Annual Salary	Date of Last Increase
Toxicology Manager	19	$28,980.00	2/75
Performance		Growth	Date Last Employe Review
Excellent		Excellent	2/75

Type of Award (Select the award category from the opposite side of this sheet which most appropriately describes the award and enter the category and code below.)
Staff

Award Category	Category Code Number
Solution to product toxicity problem which permitted Monsanto to continue product manufacturing and sale.	28

Describe the achievement and its significance to Monsanto below

Dr. Paul L. Wright has performed his regular duties exceedingly well and has, in addition, completed a specific "ad hoc" assignment with dispatch and distinction.

Dow informed us that they had encountered lung tumors in rats fed maleic anhydride and that they felt they had to report these findings to the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) at once under their "product stewardship" program. Dr. Wright was asked to contact Dow's toxicologists for details of their findings. This he did, and by his personal and professional efforts he convinced Dow personnel that while they had an obligation to report their findings to FDA, it would be foolhardy to act precipitously. Instead, Dr. Wright advised Dow to defer contacting FDA until they had thoroughly evaluated their findings and a subsequent course of action had been developed to allow resolution of questions which undoubtedly would be raised by their report of tumors. Dow agreed to this.

Dr. Wright then contacted the Process Chemicals business group and informed them of Dow's findings. He proposed a dual course of action. The first step was a commitment to support a repeat of the feeding study to determine whether Dow's findings were reproducible. The results of such a study would not necessarily resolve FDA's concern over the potential carcinogencity of maleic anhydride, but the intent to conduct the study promptly would serve to forestall precipitous action against the product by FDA. The subsequent step was to provide assurance to FDA that a thorough investigation of the toxicity of maleic anhydride would be undertaken, either by Monsanto alone or in cooperation with others. This proposal was acceptable to the business group, and Dr. Wright so informed Dow.

Subsequently, Dr. Wright accompanied Dow personnel to FDA when they presented their findings on maleic anhydride. FDA's toxicologists reviewed the data and the proposed plans of actions. They concluded that while the questions of carcinogenicity would need to be resolved, there was no apparent need for immediate prohibition of maleic anhydride or polymers containing maleic anhydride in food contact applications. Thus, we believe that Dr. Wright played a singular, outstanding role in preventing FDA from publicly proclaiming that maleic anhydride was a suspect

Recommended By:	Date	Award Amount Recommended:	Approved By:	Date	Award amount approved for payment:
G J Levinskas	16 Sep 75		[signature]	Sept 16 75	$2,500.00

G-2532

DEPOSITION EXHIBIT
LEVINSKAS-37
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carcinogen. Because of the many uses of maleic anhydride in food contact polymers, this was a significant accomplishment.

Subsequently, when maleic anhydride was included in the priority list for study by CIIT, Dr. Wright undertook writing of a literature review on the toxicity of this material. Notwithstanding the fact that he had assistance in locating pertinent articles in the literature, Dr. Wright had to read, digest, and write a substantive review in a relatively short time. This meant considerable extra work on nights and weekends. He completed his assignment on time, and it was a credit to him personally and to Monsanto. At present, Dr. Wright has been given the added assignment of preparing protocols for further toxicity testing of maleic anhydride by CIIT. We are confident that he will complete this assignment with equal professional competence. Therefore, it is a pleasure to nominate Dr. Paul L. Wright for a merit award on the basis of his demonstrated performance.

G. J. Levinskas