ASSOCIATION OF PLASTICS
MANUFACTURERS IN EUROPE

Reminder : 1st letter sent 12.8.1996

Brussels, 30 January 1997

Dear Sir/Madam,

As part of its Responsible Care Programme the Association of Plastics Manufacturers of Europe maintain a register of cases of angiosarcoma of the liver associated with exposure to vinyl chloride monomer.

In the past this has relied on spontaneous reporting of cases, usually from medical officers associated with the plants concerned. Reports to date have mainly been from plants in Western Europe and North America.

The previous custodian Dr Françoise Drion did attempt a more proactive approach and we acknowledge her valuable contribution to improving the quality of the Register.

A further review lead to the preparation of a formal protocol which included a requirement for me to directly mail plants each year and this is the purpose of this letter.

Please could you look at the attached protocol and decide who the most appropriate person in your organisation is to deal with this matter. If you have had any actual or suspected cases of angiosarcoma of the liver then I would be most interested to hear the details as requested in the protocol. If you have not had any cases then confirmation of this would be equally valuable. I have enclosed an addressed envelope for your convenience.

I will acknowledge all replies. If you do reply you will receive a copy of the next publication of the Register free of charge.

If you have any queries relating to possible health problems associated with exposure to Vinyl Chloride Monomer I will do my best to provide you with further information on request. The Association has for some years collected information in this area and has the benefit of regular advice from the Medical Officers and other Safety, Health and Environment specialists from its member companies.

Yours sincerely

Dr J C Paterson Bsc., FFOM
Occupational Physician

N:\VINMED\ASL\COVERL2.WPD

AVENUE E. VAN NIEUWENHUYSE 4 BOX 3 B-1160 BRUSSELS
TELEPHONE (32-2) 675 32 97 FACSIMILE (32-2) 675 39 35