

SPI

J. K. Nelson
THE SOCIETY OF THE PLASTICS INDUSTRY, INC.
250 PARK AVENUE • NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10017 • 212/687-2675

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May 6, 1974

TO: MEMBERS OF THE VINYL MONOMERS AND
PVC PRODUCERS AD HOC COMMITTEE

Gentlemen:

The attached questionnaire is an attempt to gather some data which could be used in a presentation at OSHA hearings on a permanent standard for vinyl chloride monomer.

The basic concept is that there are many polymerization and monomer plants in which there have been no cases of angiosarcoma. We must show that significant numbers of people are involved and that these people have been exposed long enough for the disease to become evident. We must also try to show what degrees of severity of exposure occurred in these operations. We must at least derive the implication that TWA exposure levels were at least 50 ppm and possibly higher.

Since we do not know when a permanent standard will issue, we must plan for the worst and handle this like a "crash" program. Please try to complete this form and return it to SPI offices by May 15, 1974 at the latest.

Cordially,

Thomas J. McGrath

Thomas J. McGrath
Director of Packaging Services

TJM/mm
att.

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QUESTIONNAIRE ON VINYL CHLORIDE EXPOSURE

Exposure Levels:

1. Odor of vinyl chloride monomer present throughout much of the day.
From years — to — .
2. Odor of VCM present occasionally during the work day.
From years 1945 to 1973.
3. Odor of VCM a rare event in any work day.
From years 1974 to — .
4. Have there been process or processing changes introduced which have resulted in an increased escape of VCM.
List years when these occurred.
 — .
5. Have there been process or processing changes introduced which have resulted in a reduction in the escape of VCM.
List years when these occurred.
1973.
6. Do you have environmental measurements prior to 1970?
Yes — No ✓ - explosion meter Tests since 1966

Personnel Exposure Data:

1. When did the plant start to work with VCM?
Give year 1945.
2. How many employees are working with VCM?
Give number 100.
3. How many employees are still working for you who once worked with VCM but do not do so now?
Give number 15.
4. Of the persons identified in 2 and 3 above give the number who have been exposed for the following time intervals.

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More than 1 and up to 10 years	<u>115</u>
10 and up to 15 years	<u> </u>
15 and up to 20 years	<u> </u>
20 and up to 25 years	<u> </u>
25 years and more	<u> </u>

5. Of the persons identified in 2 and 3 above give the number falling within each latent period given below and considering only employees with more than one years service. A latent period is the time lapse from first exposure to the present date.

More than 1 and up to 10 years	<u>115</u>
10 and up to 15 years	<u> </u>
15 and up to 20 years	<u> </u>
20 and up to 25 years	<u> </u>
25 years and more	<u> </u>

Data From Current Examination Programs

1. Give the number of persons who have been examined since January, 1974. 301.
2. Were liver profile studies made?
Yes No .
3. Did the studies include at least bilirubin, SGOT, LDH and alkaline phosphatase?
Yes No .
4. How many of those examined showed an abnormality in:
one test 2
two tests -
three or more tests -
5. Have you had any cases of angiosarcoma?
Yes No .
6. Was this determination made by your own survey?
Yes No .

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7. What per cent of the total exposed population was covered in the survey? 99.
8. Were retired personnel included?
Yes ☒ No ☐.
9. Were persons who had left your employ and gone to work elsewhere included?
Yes ☐ No ☒.
10. Did you review causes of death of those who died while still employed by you?
Yes ☒ No ☐.
11. Did your plant participate in the Tabershaw-Cooper epidemiologic survey?
Yes ☒ No ☐.

May 3, 1974

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