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PCB [illegible]

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ST. LOUIS — Monsanto Company, sole U.S. producer of an industrial chemical called polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB), has declared that "recent potential dangers and sensational headlines about the chemical cannot simply be ignored by voluntary actions the company has taken to restrict use of the material."

"Our program must go hand in hand with the proper identification and measurement of PCB in the environment and with corrective steps by our industrial users to control the spread," Kenneth L. Mankler, company vice president and general manager of the Organic Chemicals Division, said.

He added: "Monsanto has not been provoked into action by any alarmist or sensational press. We have taken positive action based on evidence that PCB is a persistent chemical which builds up in the environment."

Commenting on a recent report that PCB can induce birth defects in animals, Mankler said, "Monsanto is not aware of any scientific data that indicates polychlorinated biphenyls may cause birth defects. The results of comprehensive toxicity studies, sponsored by Monsanto and using the usual species of laboratory animals, have failed to produce such effects.

"Sensational stories and sensational reporting do not serve the public interest nor solve environmental problems," he said. "Only a few pounds of PCBs were ever developed [illegible] and used today. We have the [illegible] PCB used, [illegible] ...

[illegible] ...

[illegible] ...

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