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 SUBJECT POLYVINYL CHLORIDE - Current Awareness  
 NHTIS 71-30 Supplement IV  
 Project 8625-004 (37)

(38) Polyvinyl chloride current awareness

Attached is our most recent collection of patents and articles on polyvinyl chloride.

The last page of this report contains references to CPVC.

As in the past, we will obtain copies of abstracted articles or full copies of those in which only the first page has been included as you request them.

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Sources:

British Plastics - August 1971  
 Business Periodicals Index - September 1971  
 Chemical Abstracts Condensates - 75, #8-12 (1971)  
 Chemische Industrie Int'l - #2, 1971  
 Derwent Central Patent Index, Plasdoc Section - Aug. 6 - Sept. 17, 1971  
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 Furniture Design and Manufacture - August 1971  
 Modern Plastics - September 1971  
 Plastics & Rubber Weekly - Aug. 6 - Sept. 3, 1971  
 Plastics Technology - September 1971  
 Plastics World - July, August, September 1971  
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# Plastics pipes — catching on fast

## Burning

## pvc—no

## phosgene

SIR,—The article which appeared in *Plastics and Rubber Weekly* on July 16, 1971, entitled 'Plastics — Disposability Considerations', contains a table which may be misleading in that it gives the impression that when pvc is burned, phosgene is evolved.

In fact, recent publications which have appeared in the United States\*, Switzerland and the UK† reporting work on this subject, state that within the limits of the analytical methods currently available phosgene cannot be detected in the gases evolved from pvc when it is burned.

There are some typographical and other errors in the text, the most important being that which refers to the Swedish study of the amount of HCl released from garbage (p 21 col 2).

The part of the relevant paragraph should read 'the amount of HCl released from garbage containing large amounts of pvc is low compared with the amount of sulphuric acid (H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>) released when fuel oil is burnt'.

No mention of HCl released from the burning of fuel oil is made in the Swedish report.

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\* Boettner et al, J. of Polymer Science  
Vol 13 pp 377-391 (1970).

† Woolley, W. D. and Wadley, Ann L;  
Joint Fire Research Organization Note FR

THE British Plastics Federation has released figures showing that the sales of plastics piping, which increased by over 12 per cent in 1969, put on an even larger increase of over 23 per cent (from 42,625 tons to 69,430 tons) in 1970.

Within this overall figure are increases in polyethylene and pvc piping production of 23 per cent and 41 per cent respectively.

By far the most significant increase — 61 per cent — was in pvc piping to BS 3505, which is used in pressurized water mains for portable water distribution.

Water authorities in particular it seems, are now beginning to realise that pvc piping to BS 3505, which is resistant to all normal forms of corrosion — the cause of 80 per cent of all water-main bursts — does provide a realistic and economical long-term alternative to traditional piping materials.

1970 sales of pvc piping for potable water distribution were 61.3 per cent higher than in 1969, increasing from 18,810 tons to 29,343 tons. This is the largest percentage increase ever recorded and contributed to a more than three-fold rise over the last four years.

## Pvc stops vandals

Darvic rigid pvc sheet, manufactured by ICI has solved a vandalism problem for one local authority. The problem was that two out of every twelve lighting fittings in a pedestrian underpass were being broken every week by vandals.

Faced with this problem, the local authority introduced light covers made from Darvic. That decision was three years ago and since then the covers have resisted all attempts by vandals to break them.

## Self-destroying?

A SELF-DESTROYING plastics bottle is claimed to be in sight, according to a report from Massachusetts.

The bottle, developed by blow moulder Illikon, of Natick, Mass, is made from a three-layer plastics sandwich. The thick centre-layer is of water-soluble material (probably polyvinyl alcohol) and is protected on both sides by thin insoluble layers (probably pvc). The centre material provides the necessary structural strength, and the facing films protect it.

When the container is no longer required, the user just scratches the surface film in a few places.

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