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FOR IDENTIFICATION
9-14-95
DATE: RPTR: JAS

F.J. Camargo/C. Paton-St. Louis

October 1, 1971

POLYCHLORINATED BIPHENYL PRODUCTS

See Distribution List

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The public concern over environmental pollution due to PCBs continues in U.S.A. and Europe. The public and governmental agencies are becoming increasingly concered with the levels of PCB found in fish, eggs and poultry. In fact there have been several seizures of eggs and turkeys made by U.S.D.A. in the past several months.

Here is a status report by country:

1. U.S.A. and Canada

   Monsanto has voluntarily banned sales of PCB for all applications except dielectrics and a few restricted heat transfer systems.

2. UK

   Monsanto follows the same voluntary ban as in U.S.A.

3. Sweden

   The Swedish Government has banned the import of all PCBs and PCB-containing products except for the dielectric industry.

4. Holland

   As the attached news item shows Holland is actively considering a ban on PCBs.

5. Germany

   Monsanto will attend a meeting on PCBs at the German Ministry of Public Health in September.

STLCOPCB4024902

Please note that no Aroclor product should be used in any system processing or handling food or related products, food wrapping or container materials, pharmaceuticals, animal feed stuffs or potable water systems. Labels to this effect will appear on all Aroclor drums.

You may wonder where this places us with regard to competition. We think we are in a stronger position than Prodelec or Bayer, etc. Why?

1. You have had replacements for plasticizer PCBs in your hands for over a year. There is no sign that Prodelec or Bayer have any yet.

2. Our PCB competitors cannot claim this is solely a Monsanto problem. Bans in U.K. and Sweden and a proposed ban in Holland mean European producers have a problem too. In Japan there is a clamor for a ban. A customer will gain little insurance by switching suppliers.

3. U.N. restrictions on PCBs is a real possibility at their meeting which is only about six months away.

Monsanto is genuinely interested in preventing ecological problems from its products. We would rather restrict our sales on a voluntary basis and help our customers use replacements than be suddenly legislated out of business. We want to adopt a responsible attitude towards all countries, peoples and communities where we operate. We want no violations of our policies on PCBs anywhere.

The PCB situation has engaged a lot of the time of higher Monsanto management, e.g. John R. Eck of our main Board of Directors and John Mason (former Assistant General Manager of Organic Division and now a Group Director in Monsanto Industrial Chemicals Company.) We, therefore, ask your active co-operation in putting these policies into effect without delay. If you have any questions, please contact Frank Camargo.

Thank you.

F. J. Camargo

TNGS 008497

C. Paton

FJC/CP:mjj: