



DOW CHEMICAL U.S.A.

March 8, 1973

MIDLAND, MICHIGAN 48640

R&S 038110

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2020 Dow Center

SUMMARY OF INVOLVEMENT WITH EUROPEAN COUNTRIES ON VINYL
CHLORIDE

Below is a summary of the correspondence that MCA and
others had on this subject.

November 16, 1971

MCA report on proceedings of an inter-industry conference
on the toxicity of vinyl chloride.

Dr. Marcel Lafèvre of Solvay et Cie revealed that several
European companies are doing additional experimental
studies at seven concentration levels.

April 13, 1972

Letter from Rudolph W. Knopf, President of Solvay
American to Dr. Kenneth Johnson of MCA.

Letter summarizes telephone calls with Dr. Johnson stating
Dr. Lafèvre would be delighted to meet with Dr. Dinman from
the School of Public Health, the University of Michigan
during his visit to Brussels. Dr. Knopf has not yet re-
ceived an answer from the European producers concerning
their willingness to disclose their data to us.

April 17, 1972

Ken Johnson to Dr. Dinman

Informed him of invitation by Solvay et Cie to visit Dr.
Lafèvre in Brussels.

April 20, 1972

Minutes of MCA meeting by K. Johnson of MCA

Dr. Johnson reported that he had not yet been able to
obtain through Dr. Knopf of Solvay American any



indication of the lowest level at which on-going European research had presumptive evidence of positive results.

April 26, 1972

Letter from Dr. Dinman to K. Johnson advises Johnson that he was unable to see Dr. Knopfel as planned and will do so at a later date.

May 17, 1972

Letter from T. Torkelson to Dr. Johnson

Requesting Dr. Johnson encourage Dr. Dinman to follow up with European companies as rapidly as possible.

June 21, 1972

Letter from Dr. Dinman to K. Johnson

Dr. Dinman states that he just received a note from Dr. Lafèvre to the effect that the committee of three PVC producers who have responsibility for the vinyl chloride monomer study have met and they agreed that they would be willing to modify their position regarding total secrecy as regards to MCA; however, must receive final management agreement. States this comes too late in his trip to Europe to make the visit.

August 16, 1972

Letter from R. I. Lindsell of ICI to Mr. Best of MCA.

Letter stated that the European group agreed in principle to collaborate with the MCA and to disclose their experimental protocol and the results on the following conditions. That the European companies be represented in the MCA studies, that no disclosure of information rising from the European investigation should be made outside the industrial companies in the MCA group. Also requested that the MCA write up a formal agreement covering the above.

September 1, 1972

Letter by George Best to American Producers.

Letter states we have obtained working relationship with European Producers pending the secrecy agreement.

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September 11, 1972

D. C. Nuechterlein to G. Best

Letter states Dow's intention to sign secrecy agreement.

September 20, 1972

Letter from George Best to R. I. Lindsell of ICI

Letter confirms American companies will go along with their arrangement for reciprocal exchange of information. Also suggest that Dr. Walter Harris of Uniroyal visit European companies during his trip to England in October.

October 19, 1972

Letter by K. Johnson of MCA to American Producers

Letter states the proposed agreement for sharing data has been confirmed and arrangements made for Dr. Harris of Uniroyal to meet with European representatives to discuss the preliminary findings.

October 30, 1972

Letter from D. M. Elliott of ICI to George Best.

Essentially repeats stipulations in August 16, letter.

November 10, 1972

Letter by George Best to American Producers

Letter stated that Dr. Harris met with the European producers on October 19 and was given full experimental program and the test protocol. He reported however that disclosures of test results were withheld because some of the European companies did not feel the assurance of confidentiality was sufficiently tight. Stated that European companies are eager for U. S. companies' representatives to visit at the scene of the European Research and observe first hand.

November 13, 1972

Secrecy agreement signed by Dow.

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November 14, 1972

Minutes of MCA meeting by K. Johnson

Mr. D. C. Elliott of ICI gave verbal report on European findings.

Week of January 15, 1973

T. Torkelson and D. Kociba of Dow and Dr. Mac Roy Gasque visited the European companies and discussed the vinyl work being done at the University of Bologna by Professor Cesare Maltoni.

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