

FUNCTIONAL FLUIDS

PC 13 mktg

THERMINOL

PYDRAUL

SANTOVAC

Sales Information Bulletin No.

51

325K

W. B. Papageorge

DATE: NOVEMBER 24, 1971

SUBJECT: POLLUTION IS EVERYONE'S PROBLEM

From the publicity being given to PCBs one might get the impression that pollution was almost the sole result of Monsanto's product line. Get rid of Aroclor and Therminol fluids and the problem would be solved. In heat transfer fluids Dow (our major competitor) has been fairly busy at our Therminol FR customers trying to convert them to Dowtherm rather than Therminol 55 or 66. In fact some Dow salesmen have got a little bit carried away by the occasion. We've heard stories that Dow claim Monsanto is out of the Therminol business and that we have precious little industrial experience with Therminol 66. Both stories are far from the truth.

It was therefore with some surprise that we read in the St. Louis Post-Dispatch on November 18 that diphenyl oxide heat transfer fluid (of which Dow is the only U.S. manufacturer) had contaminated drinking water in a local community. The point that must be made to all customers is that heat transfer leaks can lead to environmental pollution whatever fluid is used. To emphasize that view Chemical Week of November 24, 1971 has an article on a Senate Bill (S-2770) that sets zero water pollution from industry and municipalities by 1985. The chances are that this bill will be passed by both Senate and House.

Singling out Monsanto as the scape-goat and getting mad at us for converting our Therminol FR line to Therminol 55 and 66 gets no one anywhere. We are sure they are probably as busy now at Midland as we have been. Therminol 55 and 66 do not contain diphenyl ether.

Cumming Paton

P.S. Please use my own write-up discreetly. Do not xerox it for customer distribution.

Attachments

MONS 071430

Monsanto

Water's Taste Traced To A Leak

St. Louis Post-Dispatch
1918/71

The source of the bad-tasting tap water in south St. Louis County has been traced by the County Health Department to a leak in a chemical line at the Ashland Chemical Co. plant in Valley Park.

William Starkey, plant manager, when reached at a sales convention in Columbus, O., refused to say what the plant manufactures or what caused the leak or what the substance was that leaked from the Meramec River. The Meramec is the water source for south county residents.

Jon L. Tuepker, vice president of production of the St. Louis Water Co., said the company had found a treatment to remove the substance late Tuesday and consumers should not be bothered with the bad taste any longer.

The taste was first reported from Kirkwood last Thursday and the problem reached its peak Tuesday morning, Tuepker

said. Kirkwood has its own water system; the supply comes from the Meramec.

A spokesman for the environmental division of the County Health Department said the chemical compound was found to be biphenyl ether. He said it was used as a heat exchange material at the plant, Third Street and St. Louis Avenue.

"The material," said H. Clifford Mitchell, assistant commissioner of environmental health,

"caused no significant public health problems. In small concentrations, it is not harmful."

"The quality of the water being produced by the St. Louis County Water Co. meets all public health standards for drinking," Mitchell said.

He said the chemical plant was shut immediately after the leak was discovered.

However, officers at the plant refused to say whether operations had been resumed.