St. Louis Findings At A Glance

"Good News"

1. Eight out of ten (79%) of those aware of Monsanto's plants say they are at least "somewhat good" for the community, and just 6% say they are "bad."

2. Nine out of ten (91%) name the jobs (85%) and other economic benefits as the major advantage of having the plants in the community.

3. Three in four (77%) say Monsanto is either an "excellent" or a "good" employer, up from 71% in 1986.

4. Seven in ten people say Monsanto "often" (41%) or "sometimes" (28%) does extra things for the community, up 9% since 1986.

5. Three in four (77%) are "very" or "somewhat" confident in Monsanto in an emergency; those aware of Monsanto's emergency plans mostly say they are good plans.

6. Thirty-nine percent say Monsanto is either the best or second best local company, closely behind Anheuser Busch and McDonnell Douglas.

"Bad News"

1. The proportion saying Monsanto is "very good" for St. Louis declined from 54% in 1986 to 36% in 1989, with most of the "Backsliders" moving into the "somewhat good" category.

2. The decline in those saying Monsanto is "very good" was not localized to a few plant areas, but occurred throughout St. Louis.

3. WGK's 1986 problems in East St. Louis now extend into the Belleville area. The Queeny and WGK plants both had increases in the proportions saying they are "bad."

4. "Pollution" is the most common complaint, voiced by 46% (up from 36% in 1986). One in four (25%) voice safety complaints.

5. Two in three (64%) say the plants present a serious (15%) or slight (49%) long-term health risk. This rises to 79% in East St. Louis.

6. Only 37% say Monsanto is "very concerned" about the effect of its operations on the environment, unchanged since 1986.

7. Only 13% believe Monsanto keeps the community very well informed; 31% say it does not.

"Other News"

1. Monsanto's visibility in St. Louis increased sharply. Ninety-five percent now know about Monsanto compared with 83% in 1986.

2. Environmental sensitivity has increased dramatically, particularly concern about local air pollution.