

DICTATE IN SEQUENCE:

1. HEADING INFORMATION
2. NAMES OF ADDRESSEES
3. NAMES OF CARBONEES
4. IMMEDIATE ACTION NEEDED
5. REPORT ON CALL

REPORT CAPTIONS:

1. OBJECTIVE
2. PERSONS CONTACTED
3. RESULTS
4. ACTION REQUIRED

CUSTOMER NAME Chevrolet-Tonawanda Plant		DATE OF CALL 2-11-71	
CITY AND STATE Tonawanda, New York	DATE RECEIVED 2-18-71	DATE TYPED 2-19-71	
CUSTOMER MAILING LIST CHANGES - SERVICE CENTER USE ONLY			
NAME AND TITLE	SA	OFF	MP
REGION Akron	SERVICE CENTER Akron	SALESMAN John Hellala	

TO **N. T. JOHNSON**
ST. LOUIS
ATTN: **C. L. BRADFORD**

CC **R. A. GARCIA, AKRON**
GEO. FAGUE, DETROIT
ELMER WHEELER, ST. LOUIS

DON POGUE
ST. LOUIS

CONTACTED: **Rudy Gibas, Chief Metallurgist--Engine Plant; Bill Elliott, Ass't Metallurgist**
Forge Plant; Merle Hughes, Chemist, Forge Plant; Bill Gaffney, Director Purch;
Bob Swift, Buyer.

OBJECTIVES: This was a joint call with Raleigh Garcia and Elmer Wheeler to discuss
Chevy Tonawanda's findings on their Pydraul 135 test.

RESULTS: The appointment was originally made with Harry Walker, Chief Metallurgist but he was ill. Most of the discussion was with Merle Hughes who was the chemist who evaluated Pydraul 135 and wrote the damaging report mentioning phosgene, chlorine, etc. Hughes was naturally defensive but seemed to warm up considerably as the call went on. As it turned out he did very little to evaluate 135. He based most of his conclusions on his previous work on A-200, a literature survey, some PCB articles, and probably some input from the Houghton salesman (although this is not certain). As it turns out, Hughes was deeply involved in the decision to remove A-200 from the Forge Plant. In about 1967 a worker was rather badly overcome with fumes while working in a restricted area near some leaking A-200. As they explained the situation there was some doubt as to what actually happened as they claimed that they worker could not smell anything and did not realize he was being overcome with fumes until he got to the point where he could no longer breathe. This sure does not sound like A-200 but this caused a full investigation by Hughes and his people in the laboratory. Hughes and one of the technicians proceeded to heat up A-200 themselves and then inhaled some of the vapors to smell for the fumes. Hughes claims he got very restless that night and that the other guy ended up sick for two days and for this reason they threw out A-200. When Hughes got the 135 all he did was to check the composition, learned that it contained chlorinated biphenyl, looked up a couple of references and wrote his report. He did heat it up to observe that white fumes came off but he did not smell them even since he stated he had already had one bad experience with the A-200. He would not say exactly what reference he looked up and found phosgene, chlorine, and oxides of chlorine but he did say this is where he got it. Elmer Wheeler did a good job of presenting our toxicity studies on these materials but most of it went right over Hughes' head. The only point he paid any attention to being the fact that there was trace amounts of phosgene (less than 5 ppm).

After considerable discussion Hughes did agree that if we had any of the other plants contact him he would tell them that his report was based on his own personal previous experience with A-200 and a literature search and that there were no actual tests run to

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CUSTOMER NAME Chevrolet-Tonawanda Plant (Continued)		DATE OF CALL	
CITY AND STATE	DATE RECEIVED	DATE TYPED	
CUSTOMER MAILING LIST CHANGES - SERVICE CENTER USE ONLY			
NAME AND TITLE	PUT ON	TAKEN OFF	NO MAG. CATEGORY CODES
REGION	SERVICE CENTER	SALESMAN	

TO _____ CC _____

to prove that any of these materials were present. He also agreed that if we submitted another material containing a chlorinated product he would let the medical people voice their opinion this time and secondly, he would not reject it just because of the word chlorins. However, he did state they would not look at anything with PCBs but this is no longer a problem.

We later met with Bill Gaffney who tried to resolve some of the political and emotional problems with this situation. Gaffney was quite proud of himself in that we had embarrassed him with our letter to their vice president, stating they were not looking at our fluid. This was his chance to get even with us and when he got this report he was delighted to circulate it throughout Chevrolet as being a very hazardous and dangerous material. Naturally after we explained what Hughes actually did, Gaffney was a little bit upset with the position that he was now in as it appeared that he had acted a little too hastily. Nevertheless, Gaffney was quite reasonable. He was eager to see us submit another material and even suggested writing a retraction letter on their findings.

Following that we met with Bob Swift and quickly filled him in on what all had transpired.

ATTN. GED. FAGUE: George there was a tremendous amount of ground covered in this call and I think things are reasonably well resolved here now. However, there is the potential for causing another big stir if too many people get on Hughes about his report. You will definitely want to go back to Flynn I'm sure but probably should talk to Raleigh in some depth about this first so we don't get a two way battle going between these two plants. I think Hughes will cooperate with us if we don't him into an embarrassing position. Also there is still the 24000 gallons of Houghton material at Tonawanda that we're after and they seem receptive to give us another try at it with Pydraul 230-A.

FUTURE ACTION: This time we plan to submit Pydraul 230-A as being the closest non-shelling product to what they are using. However, there are a couple of considerations. This time we will submit technical data first along with predicted decomposition products and recommended precautions such as gas masks for working around fumes, etc. These will be submitted to the medical department pending what Elmer Wheeler learns from their corporate personnel about the interest and capabilities of the local medical people here. Once they have accepted the data and information, then we will forward the sample. The sample should not be labeled Pydraul 230-A but instead, given an MCS or other number. Essentially what happened with 135 is we had lost the minute they saw the word Pydraul. Once they approve the material we could always "rename it" to Pydraul 230-A.