

CELANESE CHEMICAL COMPANY, INC.
TECHNICAL CENTER
Corpus Christi, Texas

To: S. P. Krivan

From: C. Shafer, D. O. Anderson
CS-64-81/DOA-67-81

October 30, 1981

RESPIRATORY PROTECTION

PLAINTIFF'S
EXHIBIT
CEL-583

In response to your memo (SPK-111-81), the following is a summary of the Respiratory Protection Program at the Technical Center.

Selection of Respirators

In selecting the proper protection for our employee's the following factors are considered.

- 1) Physical state of the substance.
- 2) Concentration of substance.
- 3) Toxicity of substance.
- 4) Irritation of substance to the eye or skin.
- 5) Method of handling.
- 6) Existing engineering controls.
- 7) Proper fit and comfort of wearer.

At the Tech Center, if the particular problem is limited to catalyst and asbestos tape insulation. We use the 3M #8710 NIOSH approved dust respirator.

When the problem is a vapor or odor, the concentration and toxicity are evaluated. If the concentration and toxicity are low and the situation is a nuisance as opposed to a serious threat to health, we use Wilson or Scott cartridge respirators with approved organic vapor cartridges. A full face or a half face mask is issued depending on the degree of eye irritant present. 3-M 8712 respirator is also available.

If the concentration or toxicity is such that a health problem might be encountered or if a spill or escape of vapors is possible, we issue an air line respirator.

In sections of the plant where temporary problem might arise, such as the pilot plant and the maintenance areas,

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air line respirators are located conveniently for use if needed.

Scott self-contained breathing apparatuses are located throughout the laboratory and pilot plant areas for emergency use in life threatening situations and in unknown atmospheres.

When a respirator is issued it temporarily becomes the property of the wearer. He is given instructions on care and cleaning of the respirators while in use. When the job or problem is terminated, the mask is returned to the SH&E Department.

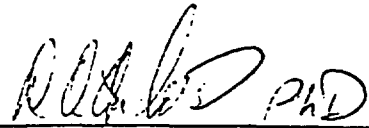
Each situation is examined and discussed individually. If engineering controls can be improved or changed to decrease the hazard to the employee, this would be the first choice.

Respiratory protection should be issued after all other solutions are ruled out.

Since we have no situations in our plant that require the continuous use of respirators, medical conditions have not presented a serious problem at this time. We do not have, at this time, any conditions that require full time use of any type of respiratory protection. We are not doing the quantitative fit testing.

Maintenance and inspections of the respiratory equipment is done on a monthly basis by the SH&E Department. Records of location, condition and availability are also kept by the Department.

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