MONSANTO CHEMIC . COMPANY — Inter-Office Correspond

From LOCATION: Texas City, Texas

cc: W. R. Nisbet
E. H. Jones

DATE: September 15, 1959

SUBJECT: Process Spill, Dept. 3 - August 31, 1959

PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT
MON-1099

TO: H. M. Keating

As a result of the investigation of this incident, items of Action Taken and Recommendation fall to the Safety Department.

Item 5 under Action Taken:

The failure of three all-purpose gas masks came as a shock to us and these were immediately investigated. Our findings show that one mask did fail because of the strap breaking but the other straps were not defective. We believe that the strap was torn by shearing across buckle when put on. The second mask was also not defective because the seal was not removed before it was used. The third mask was a chemical cartridge respirator used prior to the spill and we were unable to find out what happened. We would like to state that during the period that the spill was "controlled" prior to the alarm, six gas masks were brought into the area by the safety inspector in anticipation of their need.

The alarm system was faulty and corrective action was taken and completed September 9, 1959.

Recommendations:

All gas masks are now being checked at a minimum frequency of each two months and usually once per month. This inspection includes a complete check of the mask, the connections and the rubber. We are even stretching the straps to see if they will fail as a test of the strap rubber.

SC 16741

Gil

C. L. Gilmore

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