

cc: Y. P. Phillips - Springfield
J. G. McQuarrie
~~O. C. Jones/Price~~
W. F. Zimmermann/Kongable

J. M. Chamberlin/Nisbet
G. T. Ryan/Lunsford
C. P. Fullerton/Young
R. T. Clark

*Jerry - Can Robert or Maule help on the
styrene in VCM problem?*
MONSANTO CHEMICAL COMPANY

Texas City, Texas

September 21, 1962

To: R. A. Coffey

Subject: Phone Call Report on VCM Quality and Scavenger Testing

We tentatively plan to test a different scavenger, styrene oxide (SO), in our product column during the week of September 25 to 28 or during the first week in October. We have set a maximum SO concentration of 1 ppm for shipments. I was very glad to hear that you are not concerned about 1 ppm level SO affecting the polymerization process. I will notify you of car No's on the first ten cars shipped with the SO scavenged monomer and on the last ten cars shipped with pyridine scavenged monomer. We will keep these materials segregated as much as possible.

A recent complaint on monomer quality was received from Carey Chemical Company. They stated that monomer we shipped to them during the first two weeks in August resulted in excessive fish-eye formation and poor plasticizer adsorption characteristics. They specifically blamed three king-size monomer cars for having given them 480,000 pounds of off-spec polymer. Please review the data you have on operation with the cars listed below. They were loaded concurrently with the material Allied claims to have given them trouble. I hope we can learn something about monomer from these reports.

<u>Shipping Date</u>	<u>Car No.</u>	<u>Polyrate</u>
8/10/62	MONX21045	5.87
8/10/62	MONX21003	5.80
8/11/62	MONX21005	5.91
8/16/62	MONX21033	5.84
8/16/62	MONX21016	5.89

Enclosed for you and York are the polyrate data on shipments and rundown tanks through the month of August. The survey of chromatographic data showed that the changes during June and July were analytical variance much more than process variance. We are still trying to establish a

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true picture of the changes that did occur and I will send this when it is complete. Recent work shows styrene present in our product, occasionally, at significant levels. The present Control Lab analytical method doesn't see styrene so additional chromatographic development is needed before we can replace polyrare testing with a GLPC method.


T. E. Shirley

pb

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