



DOW CHEMICAL U.S.A.

TEXAS DIVISION
FRESFORD, TEXAS 77541

March 19, 1979

Kent Korr
B-837

to: E. P. McNutt

CHEMICAL EXPOSURE AUDIT, MAG CASTING B

The Mag Casting B department had one chemical exposure out of a total of fifteen injuries in 1978. The 1979 program continues to stress indoctrination and safety training for all employees.

Supervision is well informed on stresses for this plant and those to be monitored. The answers to Questions for Department Heads are as follows:

1. Supervision developed the educational plan with help from their Industrial list.
2. Paul Howe, Safety and Training supervisor did most of the work.
3. Supervision involved: Area Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, Paul Howe and the Shift Foreman.
4. Index 1 is a rating system of how well the department is communicating to employees about chemicals.
5. Most hazardous material is molten mag. Most hazardous risk is sludging furnace.
6. Good job, communication is not as timely as it could be. Monitoring reports are later than supervision would like.

Interviewed three people. They were: Red Thomas, Control B Operator; Brett Short, Control C Operator; Paul Bullard, Material Handler.

Operating employees said they were informed about the hazards of the materials with which they worked in 1978. Bullard said he was also informed but he had concern about some additional chemicals he handles for Hydrate B and Cell Feed B. He said he was not being informed on these.

All employees said Paul Howe informed them in safety type meetings or just papers to read. The people felt they were always learning something from the educational effort.

Here again Bullard felt like he didn't understand all the hazards of materials which relate to his job. He mentioned specifically moving bags of barium.

Most hazardous material - molten metal, sulfur dioxide; most hazardous risk - sludging, operation of fork lifts.

Protective equipment - men have hard hats, side shield glasses, mouth-bit respirator, spats on boots and fire retardant clothing. Train in Respiratory Test Facility every year. Control E and Shift Foreman train on the SCNA every six months. Must don in thirty seconds or less.

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The men felt they were adequately trained.

Other comments:

Employees reported they had the STOP card program in effect now. They said you'll get reminded here quicker than anywhere else in Dow if you're doing something wrong.

Thomas said he felt there should be more training for operators running the sludging rig.

Thomas had some concern over fire retardant clothing not being treated properly.

ON 3/20/79
O. N. Hollis
John Summarlin

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