

Monsanto

FROM
TIME-LOCATION-PHONE) J. H. Craddock - B3NA (4-4764)

DATE : December 28, 1983
SUBJECT : PCB Material Safety
Data Sheet (MSDS)
REFERENCE :
TO : J. A. Carroll - FIEC

Attached for your information are several copies of the Material Safety Data Sheet for PCBs. This document provides information on health effects, occupational control procedures, disposal instructions, etc. The MSDS is primarily intended for personnel who come into large quantities of PCB.

Amounts of PCB usually associated with florescent light ballast (about 2 oz. or less) or small electrical motors as used in starting capacitors (usually 1 oz. or less) are specifically excluded from use and disposal regulation by EPA rules. As recently as November 1 of this year EPA authorized the use and distribution in commerce of an additional approximately one million pounds of PCBs in "small appliance" capacitors. The EPA concluded that these uses in small capacitors "would not present an unreasonable risk of injury to health or the environment."

As I indicated, Monsanto worker experience (for about 50 years of PCB manufacturing and use) and that of several thousand other workers, including many in several capacitor and transformer manufacturing plants, has failed to show any causal-effect relationship between PCBs and chronic human illness except dermatitis. Dermatitis (skin rashes, etc.) is reversible after removal of the source of irritation (i.e., PCB).

I'm also sending you a copy of a CED Workplace Exposure Guideline for PCB that gives much more information on handling, regulations, Monsanto policy, etc. Call me if you have any questions.

I'm happy to participate in your group safety meeting on February 23 to discuss this issue. (Don't let me forget I promised to appear.)


J. H. Craddock

/dg

Attachments