

DU PONT DE NEMOURS (NEDERLAND) B.V.
DORDRECHT WORKS

AVe
8794

CC :

[REDACTED]

TO :

[REDACTED]

FROM :

Dordrecht, 17 November 1993

EMPLOYEE COMMUNICATION ON C-8

Attached publication on C-8 is for your own use and to share with the appropriate people in our organization.

[REDACTED] do we need to translate this info? Please check [REDACTED] and/or [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

AMMONIUM PERFLUOROOCCTANOATE (C-8) UPDATE

In 1988 Haskell Laboratory reviewed existing toxicity information and concluded that C-8 was a weak carcinogen (small "c") based on a slight increase of benign (non-cancerous) testicular tumors in male rats. A DuPont Acceptable Exposure Limit (AEL) of 0.01 mg/m³ (8-hour Time-Weighted Average) was reconfirmed at that time. It was based on no-effect levels in the liver and included a thousand-fold safety factor. A note was also added advising that skin contact with C-8 should be avoided.

Recently, an article entitled "Mortality Among Employees of a Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA) Production Plant" was published. The study examined mortality of people who had worked at a 3M plant site for at least six months during the years 1947 to 1983. The study said there was a slight yet statistically significant increase in deaths from prostate cancer among workers with ten or more years employment in the site's Chemical Division, where among other operations, PFOA is used to make C-8. The authors of the study also said "The findings in this study are based on a small number of cases and could have resulted from chance or unrecognized confounding from exposure to other factors."


DuPont's position is that several aspects of the study raise a significant question whether there is any correlation between PFOA or C-8 exposure and deaths due to prostate cancer. These aspects include:

- 1) the small number of deaths
- 2) inability to characterize who was exposed
- 3) inability to characterize exposure due to the many different types of chemicals in use at the plant during the study period.

DuPont's evaluation of available information causes us to further question the association of C-8 exposure and prostate cancer. We know of no information associating C-8 exposure with prostate cancer other than this recently published study. This latest information does not require any changes to the Acceptable Exposure Limit, our current work practices, or our medical surveillance programs.

Both Haskell and 3M are involved in ongoing studies with C-8 and other related compounds. These studies are aimed at better understanding known effects and improving the ability to measure specifically for C-8 in blood. We intend to follow this work closely and will update you as relevant information becomes available.

If you have any questions, please contact [site liaison].


Manager Occupational Health
Fluoroproducts

Nov. 10, 1993