

04-38-052604

State Div. Emergency Gov't. (608) 266-3232
U.S. Nat'l. Response Center (800) 424-8802
Chemtrec/Pesticides/Chlorine (800) 424-9300

Spill ID Number
Y Y M M D D 0-99

04-38-052604

Date of Incident 12-25-95	Day of Week Mon.	Time of Incident 3:00	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A.M. <input type="checkbox"/> P.M.	Reported By (Name) Phillip Everhart	Telephone Number (715) 735-9033
Date Reported 12-25-95	Day of Week Mon.	Time Reported 8:22	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A.M. <input type="checkbox"/> P.M.	Agency or Firm Reporting Specialty Chem	Reported thru Div. Emergen. Gov't. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Substance Involved Vinyl Acetate	Quantity 557	Units gallons	Person or Firm Responsible Specialty Chem		
Substance Involved	Quantity	Units	Contact Name Phillip Everhart	Telephone Number (715) 735-9033	

Physical Characteristics
 Solid Liquid Semisolid Gas
 Color _____ Odor _____

Address - Street or Route
2 Stanton St.
 City, State, Zip Code
Marinette, WI 54143

Cause of Incident
Operator error

Exact Location Description (intersection, mileage, etc.)
City of Marinette

County Location
Marinette

Groundwaters Affected
 Yes No Potential

Surface Waters Affected
 Yes No Potential

Name of Surface Water _____

Action Taken By Spiller
 No Action Taken No Notification Investigate
 Containment; Type Dike
 Cleanup; Method pump
 Amount Recovered ALL
 Monitor _____
 Contractor Hired; Name _____
 Other Action _____

Date District Notified
12-25-95

Day of Week
Mon.

Time District Notified
 A.M. P.M.

District Person Notified
Randall J. Stark

Telephone Number
(715) 732-5510

Date Investigated
12-27-95

Day of Week
Wed.

Time Investigated
10:00 A.M. P.M.

Person Investigating
Randall J. Stark

Telephone Number
(715) 732-5510

Action Taken By DNR
 No Action Taken Investigation Supervise/Conduct Cleanup
 Spiller Required To Take Action; Type _____
 Contractor Hired By DNR; Name _____
 Amount Recovered _____
 29.29 Enforcement _____

Spill Location
 Industrial Facility/Paper Mill/Chem. Co.
 Gas/Service Station/Garage, Auto Dealer, Repair Shop
 Ag Coop/Facility/Cheese Factory/Creamery
 Other Small Business (bank, grocery, insurance co., etc.)
 Public Property (city, county, state, church, school, etc.)
 Utility Co., Power Generating/Transfer Facility
 Private Property (home/farm)
 Pipeline, Terminal, Tank Farm, Oil Jobber/Wholesaler
 Transportation Accident, Fuel Supply Tank Spill
 Transportation Accident, Load Spill
 Construction, Excavation, Wrecking, Quarry, Mine
 Other _____

Spilled Substance Destination
 Air Soil Groundwater Surface Water Storm Sewer Sanitary Sewer
 Contained/Recovered Spills Coordinator
 Other _____

Person Filing This Report (print name)
Randall J. Stark

Signature
Randall J. Stark

Date Signed
12-27-95

Additional Comments:
Operator was transferring chemical from a bulk tank into a day tank (@ 500gal tank at 35 gal/min rate) and left the area and failed to monitor the transfer. The tank subsequently over flowed. 557 gallons spilled - which translates to @ 15 minute absence.

December 29, 1995

Two Stanton Street
Marinette, WI 54143
Phone: 715 735-9033
Fax: 715 735-5304

Mr. Randy Stark
State of Wisconsin
Department of Natural Resources
1636 Industrial Parkway, Box 16
Marinette, WI 54143

CONFIDENTIAL

Dear Randy:

Regarding the inadvertent discharge of vinyl acetate to one of our dikes on December 25, 1995, we have taken the following actions in the hope of avoiding this situation in the future.

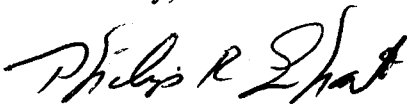
- 1) Retrain all operators in the importance of following procedures as written and in monitoring day tank filling.
- 2) Disciplinary action against the operator responsible consisting of six (6) twelve (12) hour days off without pay. This is equal to nearly one-half month off. The operator violated both personal safety and operating procedure requirements.

During your visit to the site you met with the following people, Mr. J. Harris, Mr. G. Kandow, Mr. J. Lloyd (Building 52 Supervisor) and myself. I am enclosing business cards for everyone but Mr. Lloyd as he does not have business cards for his position.

I continued to pursue the issue of why there was water in the dike, when we were led to believe it should be dry. The water we saw was a final wash after a propylene glycol decontamination. It hadn't frozen due to residual propylene glycol (anti-freeze), the reason for the wash. Analysis of this water showed no vinyl acetate and a small amount of propylene glycol with the remaining water. I estimate we were just above the water's freezing point at the time of our review.

If you have any additional questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Philip R. Everhart, C.S.P.
Safety & Training Manager

CASE ACTIVITY REPORT

Form 4100-160

1-89

State of Wisconsin
Department of Natural Resources
Law Enforcement

Case Number	Case Title
95238050.A	Specialty Chem Vinyl Acetate Spill
Activity	Date of Activity
Investigation of Spill	12-27-95

Narrative

On Monday, 12-25-95 at approximately 8:22 a.m. Conservation Warden Supervisor Randall J. Stark was informed by telephone at his residence by Phillip Everhart of Specialty Chem in Marinette that a 557 gallon vinyl acetate spill had occurred at that facility. Mr. Everhart stated that the spill was contained in a secondary containment structure and that the vinyl acetate had been completely recovered and posed no threat to the environment.

On Wednesday, 12-27-95 Warden Stark went to Specialty Chem located at 2 Stanton Street, Marinette, Wisconsin and met with Phillip Everhart to complete a spill report. At this time Everhart informed Warden Stark that the spill had occurred at approximately 3:00 a.m. on 12-25-95 and involved 557 gallons of vinyl acetate. Mr. Everhart stated that the cause of the spill was operator error. Mr. Everhart stated that the operator was transferring vinyl acetate from a bulk tank into a day tank and had apparently left the area and failed to monitor the transfer of the chemical, as a result the prolonged absence from the monitoring station, the day tank overflowed and approximately 557 gallons of vinyl acetate spilled. Warden Stark inquired of the pump rate of the pump that is used to transfer the chemical from the bulk tank to the day tank. Mr. Everhart stated the pump rate is approximately 35 gallons per minute. Given the fact that 557 gallons of product had spilled at a 35 gallon pump rate, this translates to approximately 16 minutes time having elapsed without the operator present after the tank been completely filled to capacity which is 500 gallons. Warden Stark informed Mr. Everhart that he had recalled investigating a similar situation approximately 2 or 3 years ago. Warden Stark recalled that operator error was the cause in that particular accident also. Warden Stark recalled meeting with company President and General Manager Joseph Acker as well as Environmentalist Affairs President Leonard Moore concerning that spill. Warden Stark asked Mr. Everhart whether there was any procedure in place requiring an employee to stay at the pump station and monitor the transfer of chemicals from a bulk tank to the day tank. Mr. Everhart conferred with other individuals at the plant and came to the consensus that there is no policy per se requiring an employee to physically be present to continually monitor chemicals being transferred from the bulk tank to a day tank. Mr. Everhart did state however, that it is implied that the employee stay at the station. Warden Stark inquired as to whether or not Specialty Chem plant would take any disciplinary action against the employee. Mr. Everhart stated that Specialty Chem was going to call the employee in and in all likelihood would take disciplinary action. Warden Stark requested that the name of the employee and well as the outcome of the disciplinary process be forwarded to him as part of the spill investigation. At this time Warden Stark went out along with Mr. Everhart and two other employees to containment structure where the vinyl acetate had spilled. Mr. Everhart had previously told Warden Stark that the secondary containment structure was dry and had been completely cleaned out, however, upon arrival at the secondary containment structure Warden Stark observed a yellow liquid in the containment structure. Warden Stark

Warden Reporting:	RANDY STARK WARDEN SUPERVISOR P.O. BOX 16 MARINETTE, WI 54143	Date of Report 12-27-95
Randall J. Stark		

inquired of Mr. Everhart what this material was, and Mr. Everhart was unable to answer Warden Stark's question. Warden Stark had expected it to be completely dried out as Everhart had indicated earlier. Upon investigating the situation Mr. Everhart determined that the yellowish liquid in the containment structure was a combination of water and snow and some salt from having washed out the structure. Mr. Everhart stated that this material would be recovered and run through the Specialty Chem waste water treatment facility.

On December 30, 1995 Warden Stark received a memo from Everhart concerning the disciplinary action that Specialty Chem had taken against the employee responsible for the spill. The memo stated the employee was to receive (6) twelve hour days off without pay. It should be noted that Warden Stark also had a discussion with Everhart concerning the five hour delay in initially reporting the spill. Mr. Everhart accepted responsibility for the delay citing confusion on his part as to what constituted a spill. Warden Stark explained the spill reporting requirements to Everhart who stated he now understands the reporting requirements. Other individuals contacted by Warden Stark during the investigation of this spill were Gordon Kadow - Director of Fine Chemical Manufacturing, John Harris - Director of Regulatory Affairs and J. Lloyd - Building 52 Supervisor

State of Wisconsin Substance Release Notification Form

24-Hour Emergency Hotline Number: 1-800-943-0003

Form 4400-91 Rev. 11-95

Date and Mil. Time of Incident <i>12-25-95 0330</i>	Date and Mil. Time Reported <i>12-25-95 0829</i>
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Person Reporting <i>PHILLIP EVERHART</i>	Telephone # <i>(715) 732-2442</i>
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Representing Agency, Firm, or Citizen <i>SPECIALITY CHEM PRODUCTS</i>

Responsible Party <i>SAME</i>

Contact Name <i>SAME</i>	Telephone # () <i>SAME</i>
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Address <i>2 STANTON ST.</i>	City, State, Zip Code <i>MARINETTE WI</i>
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Substance Involved <i>VINYL ACETATE</i>	Amount & Units Released <i>600 GALS</i>	Amt. Recovered <i>"All"</i>	Is this a 904 (1700 mg USC) spill? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown
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Solid Semisolid Liquid Gas Color _____ Odor _____

Exact Location (inc. address, facility name, mileage, bldg. #, etc.)
OUTSIDE DAY TANK DIKE

City <i>Marquette</i>	County <i>Marquette</i>
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DNR Region *THE LAND*

Cause of Incident *OVER-FILL*

Spilled Substance Impact To: Check (✓) all that apply <input type="checkbox"/> Air <input type="checkbox"/> Potential <input type="checkbox"/> Soil <input type="checkbox"/> Potential <input type="checkbox"/> Groundwater <input type="checkbox"/> Potential <input type="checkbox"/> Surface Water <input type="checkbox"/> Potential Name: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Storm Sewer <input type="checkbox"/> Potential <input type="checkbox"/> Sanitary Sewer <input type="checkbox"/> Potential <input type="checkbox"/> Concrete/Asphalt <input type="checkbox"/> Potential <input type="checkbox"/> Private Well <input type="checkbox"/> Potential <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Contained/Recovered <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____	Spill Source: <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation Accident, Fuel Supply Tank Spill <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation Accident, Load Spill <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Industrial Facility <input type="checkbox"/> Paper Mill <input type="checkbox"/> Chemical Co. <input type="checkbox"/> Ag Coop/Facility/Pool Factory/Facility <input type="checkbox"/> Gas/Service Station/Garage/Auto Dealer, Repair Shop <input type="checkbox"/> Pipeline, Terminal, Tank Farm, Oil Jobber/Wholesaler <input type="checkbox"/> Public Property (city, state, church, school, etc.) <input type="checkbox"/> Utility Co., Power Generating/Transfer Facility <input type="checkbox"/> Private Property (home/farm) <input type="checkbox"/> Construction, Excavation, Wrecking, Quarry, Mine <input type="checkbox"/> Airport Facility <input type="checkbox"/> Railroad Facility <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	Action Taken By Spiller <input type="checkbox"/> No Action Taken <input type="checkbox"/> No Action Needed <input type="checkbox"/> Monitor <input type="checkbox"/> Cleanup Method: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Waste Destination: _____ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Containment <input type="checkbox"/> Contractor Hired Name: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
		Injuries? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No If yes, how many? _____ Has an evacuation occurred? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Potential? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

Are there any resource damages? Yes No Potential What kinds? _____

Other Agencies Notified (✓ first column if notified); Check (✓) both columns if on scene <input type="checkbox"/> Fire Department/Hazmat <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local DNR <input type="checkbox"/> BPA <input type="checkbox"/> Local Law Enforcement <input type="checkbox"/> Div. Emer. Gov. <input type="checkbox"/> Nat'l Resp. Ctr. 800-442-8802 <input type="checkbox"/> LBPC or Local Emer. Gov. <input type="checkbox"/> DATCP 608-224-4500 <input type="checkbox"/> Chemtrec 800-424-9300 <input type="checkbox"/> Regional Response Team <input type="checkbox"/> DIISS 608-266-2830 <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	Incident Commander known _____ Phone: _____
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Prepared By: (Print) <i>Elgin Hunter</i> (Sign) <i>Elg Hunter</i> Date: <i>12-25-95</i>	Rpt'd to DATCP? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
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Person Notified: <i>Randy Stark By Spiller</i> Region Notified: <i>Marquette</i> Time: <i>0840</i> Date: <i>12-25-95</i>
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Invstgtd By: (Print) _____ (Sign) _____ Date: _____	Site Closed? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
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Spill Coordinator Signoff: _____ Date: _____	Transferred to ERP? <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, Case # _____	NFA Letter Sent? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Spill Packet Sent? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
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Additional Comments on Reverse