

Permitting

Florida Department of  
**Environmental Protection**

**Memorandum**

TO: Chemical Conservation Corporation File

THROUGH: Bob Snyder, P.E.  
Program Manager  
Hazardous Waste Section

THROUGH: John White  
Environmental Specialist  
Hazardous Waste Section

FROM: Mary McGehee  
Permitting Engineer  
Hazardous Waste Section

DATE: September 23, 1997

FLD-980-559-728

This morning, John White passed on information he had received from Mr. Dan Carrington, Orange County Environmental Protection Department. Mr. Carrington was responding to a telephone call by an employee of Cook Composites & Polymers. Cook Composites & Polymers is a business located at 10124 Rocket Boulevard, adjacent to Chemical Conservation Corporation (Chemcon).

On September 22nd, Cook Composites & Polymers voluntarily evacuated their facility due to an alleged chemical release at the Chemcon facility. I called Mr. Armando Gonzalez, Environmental Manager at Chemcon to get details on the alleged event. From the information I have received at this time, it appears Chemcon had a tanker truck emit fumes caused from a chemical reaction involving incompatible acids being bulked in a tanker truck.

Mr. Gonzalez stated he was just about to call the Department to discuss modifying their permit application (Intent to Issue & draft permit in review of signatures) to address the installation of a venting apparatus which will connect to a scrubber. He did state there was a reaction, not a major one in a tanker truck which the tote tanks were being pumped into. This all happened about 3:00 p.m. yesterday, (September 22, 1997). Drums (55-gallon) of acid waste are bulked into tote tanks at the facility. The tote tanks are then further bulked by being pumped into a tanker truck for transportation to an off-site TSD facility. Chemcon is looking into what caused this reaction. I asked if Chemcon notified any agency (Emergency Response, FDEP, County EPD, National Response Center, etc.) about the release and the answer was no. According to Mr. Gonzalez, by the time Chemcon noticed the fumes coming from the tanker truck they had already stopped bulking the acid material. Chemcon moved the tanker truck into their building. After putting the truck inside, Mr. Arthur Hansen, plant manager at Cook Composite & Polymers came over to Chemcon to investigate the odor. Mr. Gonzalez stated Mr. Hansen asked Mr. Labadie if he should evacuate his facility and I believe since it was the end of the work shift anyway the

decision was made to voluntarily evacuate. I have not called Mr. Hansen to document this fact. Mr. Hansen may be contacted at (407) 851-3030.

The tanker truck stopped fuming around 7:00 p.m. Today, Mr. Gonzalez could not find documentation indicating the compatibility test was followed. Mr. Gonzalez stated Chemcon will need to modify the compatibility test to include reaction time and temperature factors.