

PERRY

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This memorandum summarizes what we know about the papers that will be presented at the Perry Conference on June 13 through 15.

I. Journal articles

1. The article by Seuss from WHO describes generally, and quite helpfully, the broad range of substances and conditions that can interfere with good indoor air quality. Only one sentence of the entire article refers to ETS, and that notes only that ETS as well as many other substances need additional study. The Seuss article will be the leadoff article in the June 3 edition of the journal.

2. The article by Holcomb assesses the significance from a health perspective of the small quantities of ETS related materials that can be found on commercial airliners where smoking is permitted. The article concludes, in pertinent part, that ETS is present in such small quantities that adverse health effects are highly unlikely, that the irritation sometimes attributed to smoking on airliners may well be due to other conditions (such as low humidity) of which passengers are unaware and that the separation of smokers and nonsmokers is effective.

3. The Carson paper reports on a study, funded by Reynolds and involving Reynolds personnel, of offices in Ottawa, Canada. The paper notes that very little ETS was found in the offices that were studied -- indeed, that a nonsmoker would have to spend several hundred hours in an office where smoking is permitted to be exposed to the nicotine equivalent of a single cigarette.

4. The Letzel paper deals with the ETS/lung cancer claims of the U.S. National Academy of Sciences, concluding that the claims cannot be supported.

5. The article by Aviado discusses the notion that ETS must be presumed to increase the nonsmoker's risk of lung cancer because it contains proven carcinogens. The article concludes that claim is unsupportable.

6. The Schwartz/Balter paper points out and discusses certain mathematical errors and emphasizes the unsupported assumptions that were made by the NAS in concluding that ETS increases the nonsmoker's risk of lung cancer.

7. The Crook paper discusses airborne micro-organisms that can be found in the work environment, thus lending support to the notion that ETS is not the only substance in the workplace deserving study.

8. The Pritchard paper raises questions about certain assumptions that have been made in attempting to perform risk assessments on ETS. The questions relate principally to certain assumptions that have been made concerning the behavior of the particulate component of the ETS. The paper is highly technical, and thus may not be understood much beyond the scientific community, but nonetheless may prove to be important.

9. The Galvin paper is a highly technical measurement paper of no immediate importance to us.

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10. The Proctor paper, from BAT scientists, is a highly technical measurement paper of no immediate importance to us -- other than in demonstrating that the tobacco companies employ first-rate scientists who are prepared to pursue, and are pursuing, basic science.

11. The Boleij paper deals with biomass fuel combustion and indoor air quality in developing countries. The paper is of no immediate importance to us, other than in demonstrating that ETS is not the only indoor substance needing further study.

12. The Bell article suggests, rather strangely in my view, that scientists may be able to devise experiments to test the biological significance of a range of substances found in the indoor air by using plants, rather than people, as the experimental subjects.

13. The Harrison paper compares indoor and outdoor air quality, making a number of points that are of no immediate importance to us.

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II. Other Significant Presentations that Will Appear in the Printed Proceedings

1. Gray Robertson -- discusses the ACVA approach and experience

2. Sterling, E.M. -- a useful article reporting on typical pollutant concentrations in public buildings, particularly in Canada

3. Sterling, T. -- discusses ETS concentrations under different conditions of ventilation and smoking regulation/not reviewed, may be helpful but should be read carefully concerning recommendations about separating smokers and nonsmokers in the workplace

4. Baker (BAT) -- reportedly discusses the buildup and decay of ETS as a function of room conditions/not reviewed, may be quite technical

5. Piade (PM Europe) -- assesses the impact of ETS on office air quality/not reviewed

6. Perry and colleagues -- reports on the study, funded by the industry in the UK, of the levels of ETS found in the office environment and in public places/not reviewed in final form, should be useful

7. Shanmuganandan -- presentation is entitled "Tobacco Smoke and Passive Smoking"/not reviewed, probably negative from our point of view

8. Robertson, A.S. -- reports on the results of a questionnaire study, concluding (in opposition to people like Gray Robertson and NIOSH in the U.S.) that the incidence of sick building syndrome is related to the presence of tobacco smoke/the methodology used in the study is quite poor, the article is obviously not helpful, my understanding is that it also has been submitted to the British Medical Journal for publication

9. Lee -- like the Schwartz/Balter paper, raises serious

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questions about the claim that exposure to ETS increases the nonsmoker's lung cancer risk

10. Scherer (VdC) -- reportedly raises questions about the biological plausibility claims that ETS is related to adverse health effects by comparing the exposure levels of active smokers to exposure levels of nonsmokers/not reviewed, should be used with caution

11. Kilpatrick -- a useful, but highly technical paper, raising questions about the Hirayama paper because of the latter's failure to adjust results by age of the respondent

12. Crawford -- an excellent article concluding that workplace exposure to ETS has not been shown to have any adverse health effects

13. Fisher/Leone papers -- two papers, both reportedly not helpful, but also reportedly only 4 pages long and containing no original analyses

14. Arundel -- paper raising questions about the Repace/Lowery risk analysis/could be misconstrued by some, however, as suggesting that ETS gives risk to some increased risk of nonsmoker lung cancer

15. Uberla -- a further, and very useful, reanalysis of the Hirayama lung cancer claims

In addition to the papers noted above, the proceedings of the conference will contain a number of papers emphasizing the potential importance of a number of substances that can be found indoors having nothing whatever to do with ETS. As a group, such papers tend to support the Robertson/ACVA thesis. The proceedings also will contain a number of technical papers having no immediate significance from a public affairs standpoint but laying the groundwork for helpful research in the ETS area.

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