

**Dear LANXESS Neighbor:**

You may know us as Bayer or Monsanto, but our new company name, as of last July, is LANXESS (pronounced LANK-SESS). We still make plastics and resins and have since 1952. Other companies buy our products and use them to make refrigerators, computers, automobiles, hospital IVs, etc. LANXESS global headquarters are in Germany, while our U.S. corporate base is in Pittsburgh.

The LANXESS corporation and its facilities are committed to continual improvement in environmental, health and safety practices. We are also committed to working with our neighbors to address their concerns.

This is the 11th issue of our community newsletter, so we can't call it new, but it does have a new look and a renewed focus on communicating with our neighbors. We hope you like it.

If you have any questions or concerns, please call me at 467-2208. If you need immediate or after hours assistance, please call the plant at 467-2400.

Sincerely,

*Bill Ward*

Bill Ward  
Addyston Plant Manager

## Plant Taking Action To Improve Environmental Performance

The LANXESS plant in Addyston is taking aggressive action to improve its environmental performance, with full support and direction from corporate management.

"The number of chemical incidents we have had here in the last six months is unacceptable to us and to the community," says Plant Manager Bill Ward. "We take this matter very seriously, and we are going to make definite improvements."

The Addyston facility has experienced three chemical releases since October 2004. The frequency of these events has heightened concerns within the community.

Over the years, the plant has worked hard to perform at a high level of environmental performance. Since 1987, the facility has reduced its emis-

sions to the air by 71%. The plant uses an extensive array of air pollution control equipment to remove and destroy the emissions.

The plant wants to demonstrate its continued commitment to the environment and to the community by addressing its recent chemical releases.

As a result, the plant will take the following actions:

- Use corporate experts to perform a comprehensive evaluation of all plant operations.
- Conduct an in-depth review of all chemical release incidents that have occurred over the last three years. This effort will look for similarities between the events.
- Convene a team of engineers to improve the reliability of air pollution control devices.

## Plant To Reduce Sewer Odors

The Addyston Plant is developing plans to significantly reduce unpleasant odors from its wastewater treatment plant by this summer.

These odors — which are not harmful to breathe but are a nuisance — have been the main source of complaints from neighbors in Addyston, Sayler Park and other nearby communities.

"This is a major step by our facility to address community concerns about these odors," says Ken Perica, the Addyston plant's director of Health, Environment, Safety &

Engineering and Utilities. "We are looking forward to a more pleasant summer for our neighbors."

The plant has hired Webster Environmental Associates, Inc. of Louisville, Ky., an engineering firm that specializes in odor control at wastewater treatment facilities. Webster recently submitted a report to the plant, with the following recommendations:

- Install piping to collect odors from key locations and inject them under water into the aeration tanks, where they will break down.

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## Sewer Odors...

- Increase oxygen levels in the wastewater to prevent the generation of sulfur compounds.
- Evaluate the use of non-sulfur containing treatment compounds that are potentially contributing to the odor problem.

Webster Associates is confident these controls and process changes will significantly reduce the odors.

*Note: The Addyston plant has been actively working to control odors for several years. In May 2002, a new furnace was installed to better control burnt plastic odors. As a result, this odor has been virtually eliminated.*

## Safety Performance Good in '04

The Addyston facility continued to improve its safety performance in 2004. The plant experienced only three OSHA recordable incidents, and its Total Recordable Incident Rate was 0.63 incidents per 200,000 man-hours. OSHA recordable incidents and incident rates are the government standard for measuring employee safety at manufacturing facilities. The Addyston plant's safety record far exceeds the average for the chemical and construction industries (see graph below).



## Public Advisory Group Expands

New voices are being heard on the plant's Public Advisory Group or PAG. Six new community members have joined the group since last fall and more are expected in 2005. In addition, the group is now moderated by a third-party facilitator.

The PAG, whose 21 members include local community leaders, emergency responders and area citizens, has been meeting every other month since 1989.

The group addresses environmental, health and safety issues at the plant, including odors and releases.

*"I've been a member of the PAG for 16 years," says Don Larrick, principal of Hitchens Elementary School. "We are working closely with the plant to help them improve their environmental performance."*

If you would like more information, please contact the PAG facilitator, Deb Leonard, at 513-772-7903.

## Community Outreach

- The plant is helping fund a Miami Township Fire Department project to improve the visibility of street addresses on homes in Addyston.
- The plant and its employees pledged \$99,000 to United Way of Greater Cincinnati and United Way of Dearborn Co., IN.
- Plant employees volunteered at Taylor High School's Career Day and the Cincinnati area Math Counts event.
- Plant employees served as judges at Our Lady of Visitation and St. Jude science fairs.
- The plant is helping sponsor the Western Wildlife Corridor's Flower-A-Thon on April 30. Call Rebecca Sisson for more information, (859) 746-8671.

# LANXESS

Energizing Chemistry

LANXESS Corporation  
356 Three Rivers Parkway  
Addyston, OH 45001-0039

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