

Photo No. 9
View of air tank exterior showing drain plug at upper right corner. As can be seen the tank did not rupture at the weld joint, but along a lateral line adjacent to the drain plug. The exact bottom of the tank would be along a line between the rupture and the weld joint. The slot below the drain plug is probably an attachment point for the supporting stand.

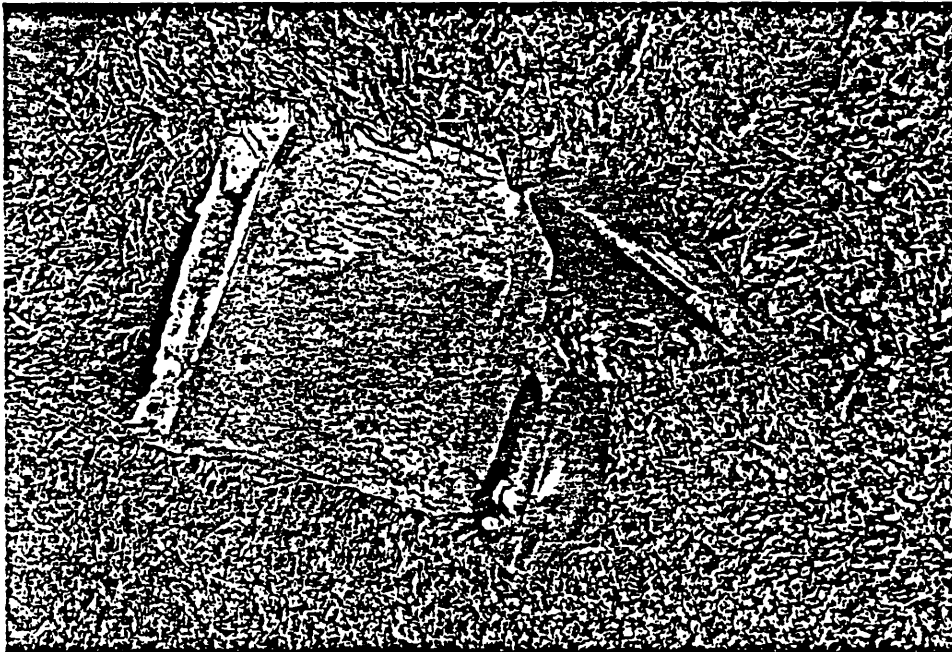


Photo No. 10
View of tank interior showing that the weld joints around the ends of the tank did not break, except for one section seen in the upper right of the photo. Corrosion was most evident along the bottom of the tank.

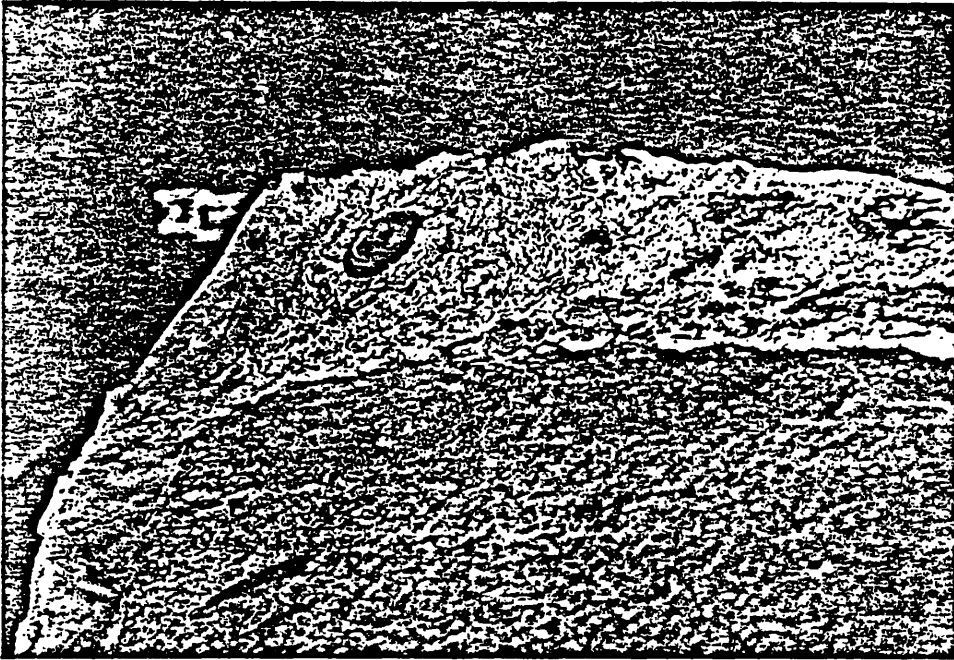


Photo No. 11
Closer view of tank interior
at drain plug end showing
the effects of corrosion.
The weld joint runs across
the center of the photo.
The absence of corrosion was
noted along the exact bottom
of the tank.

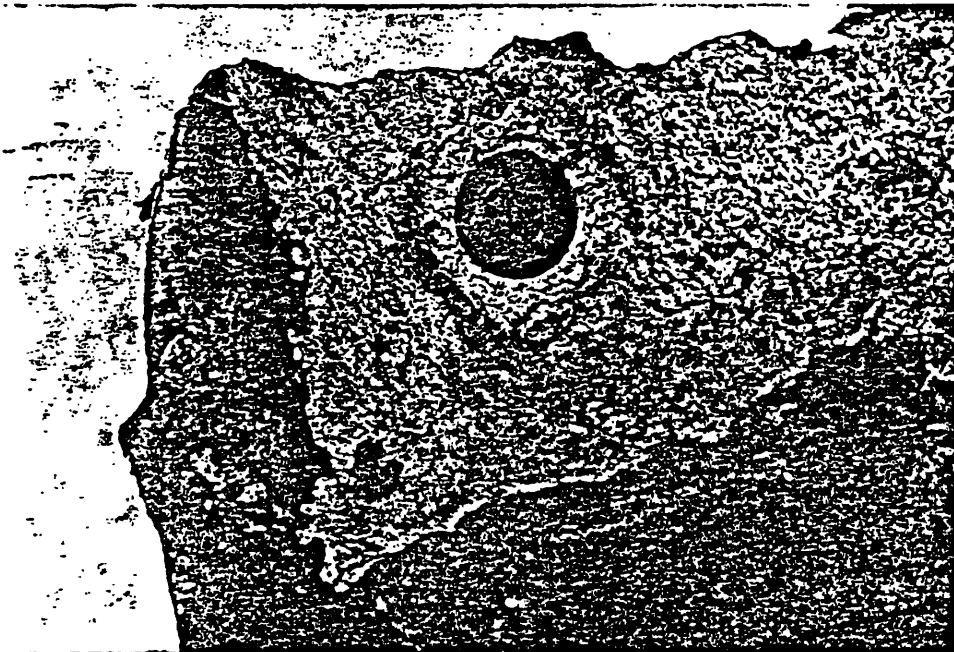


Photo No. 12
Another view of the drain
plug area of the tank.

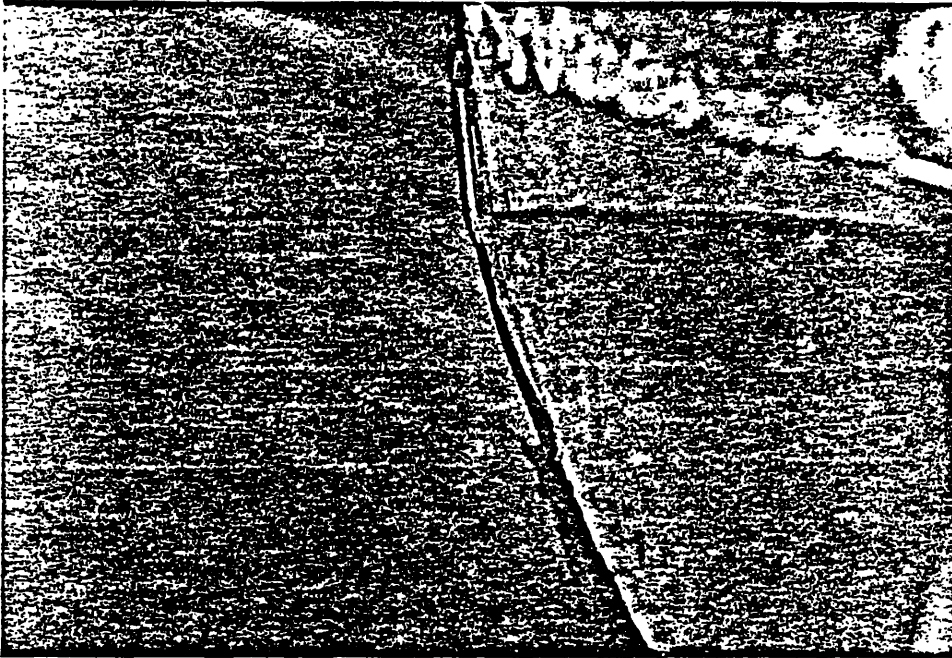


Photo No. 13
Closeup view of a ruptured section of the tank where little corrosion was evident. Thickness of the steel at this area averaged 2 cm.

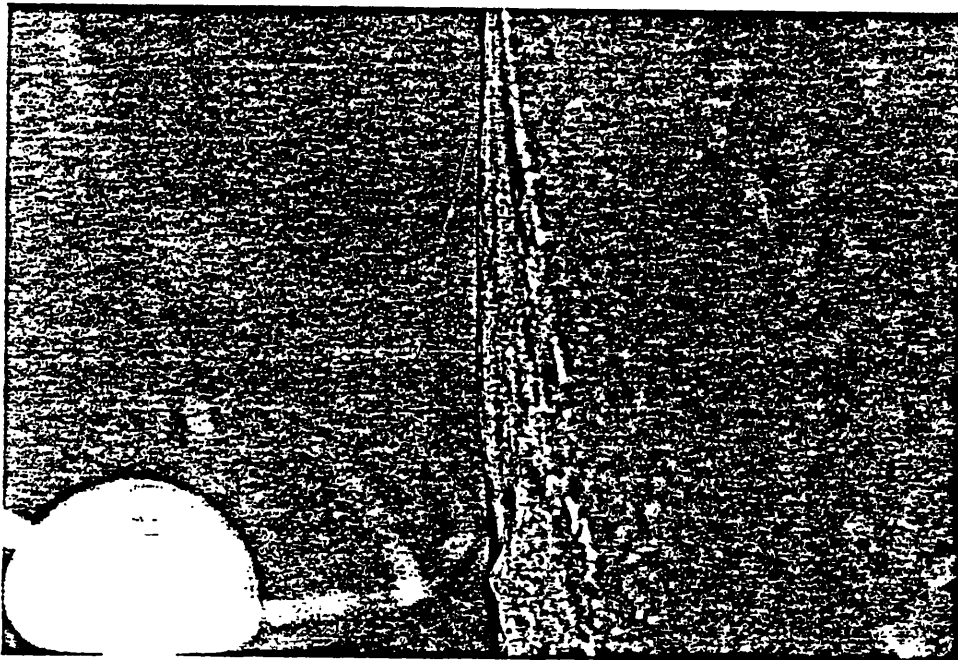


Photo No. 14
Closeup (same magnification) as above photo showing a ruptured section near the bottom of the tank where corrosion was most severe. Thickness of the steel at this point averaged slightly more than 1 cm.

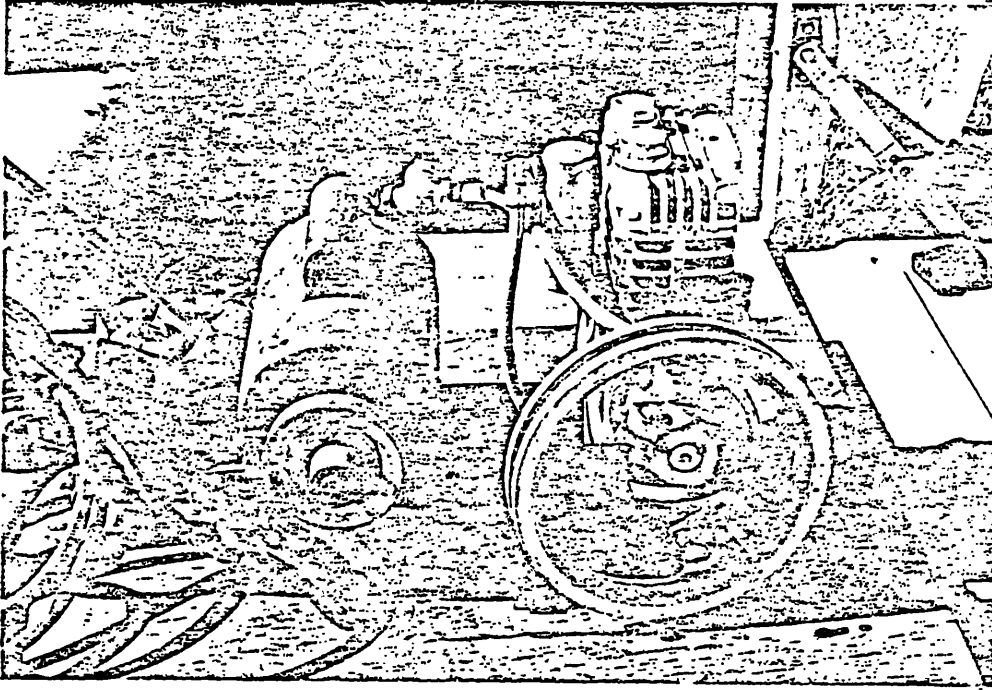


Photo No. 3
Another view of the motor
and pump

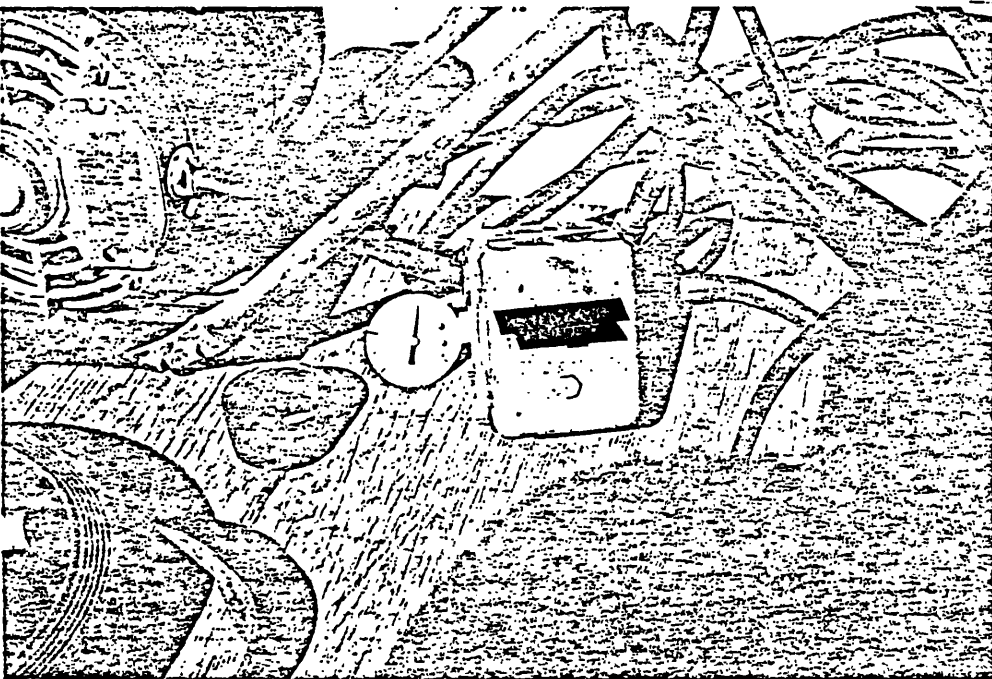


Photo No. 4
View of pressure regulator
and gauge. The bezel was
blown off by the force of
the explosion.

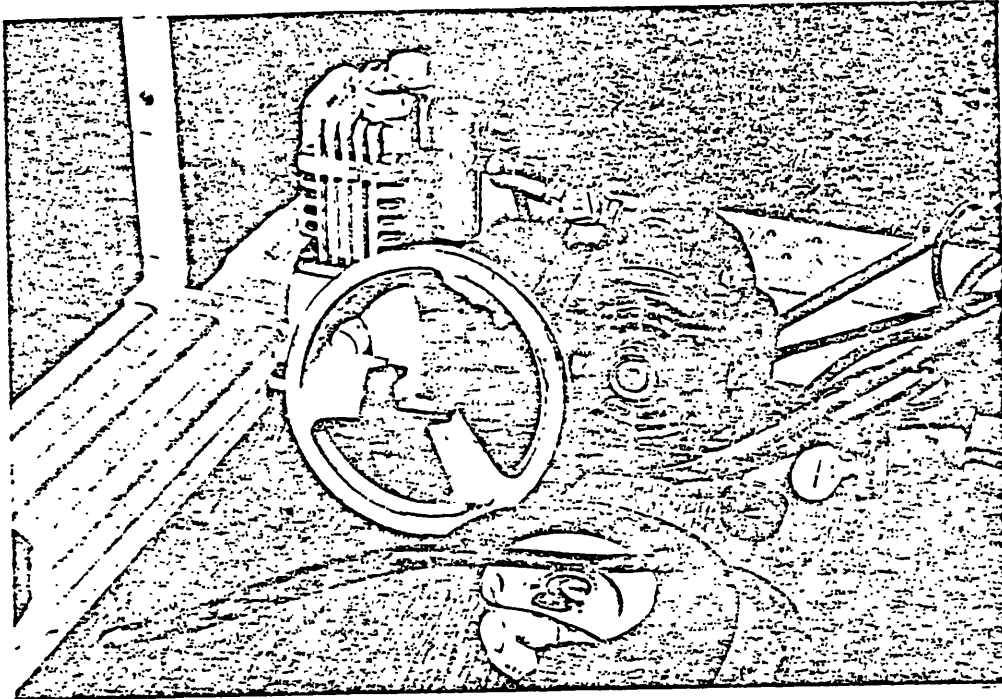


Photo No. 1
 overall view of the pieces of the compressor that remained after the explosion, with the exception of the air tank. The bent axle and one damaged wheel are in the foreground. The shattered pulley is from the pump.

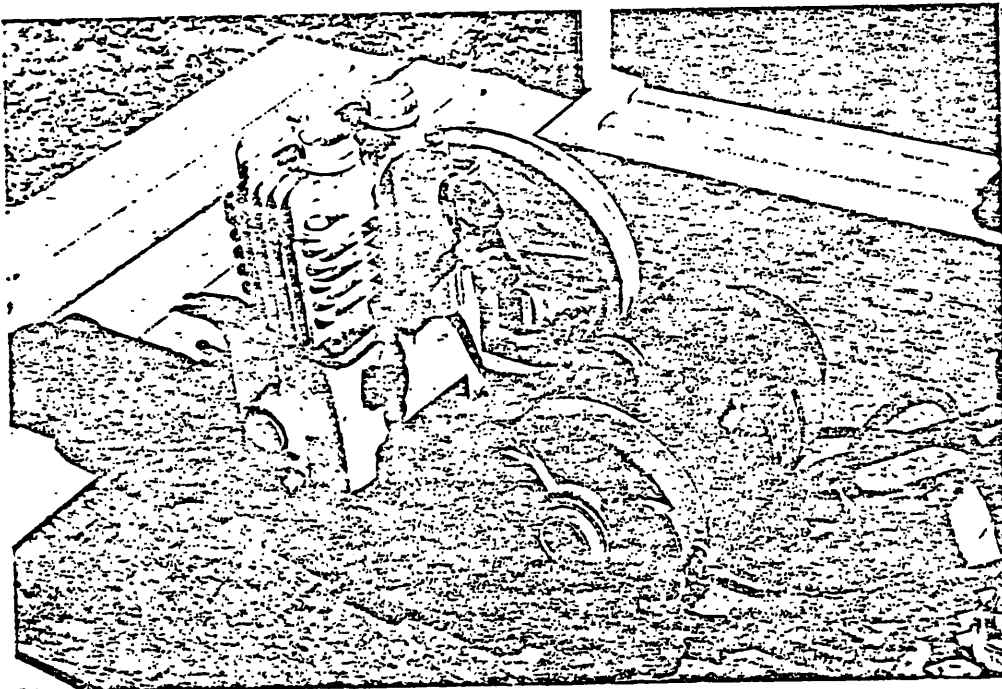


Photo No. 2
 A closer view of the same side of the compressor. The pump pulley is placed in the approximate position where it was prior to the explosion.

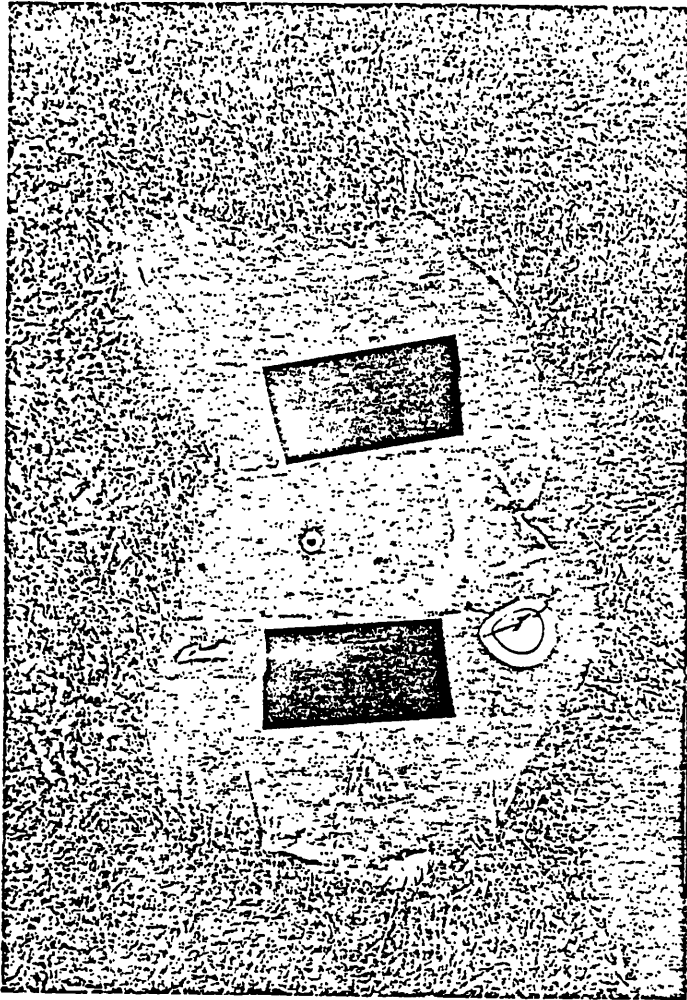


Photo No. 5
Remains of compressor air tank. The flattened section in the center of the picture was the top of the tank where the motor and pump platform was located. The drain plug can be seen at the upper right corner.

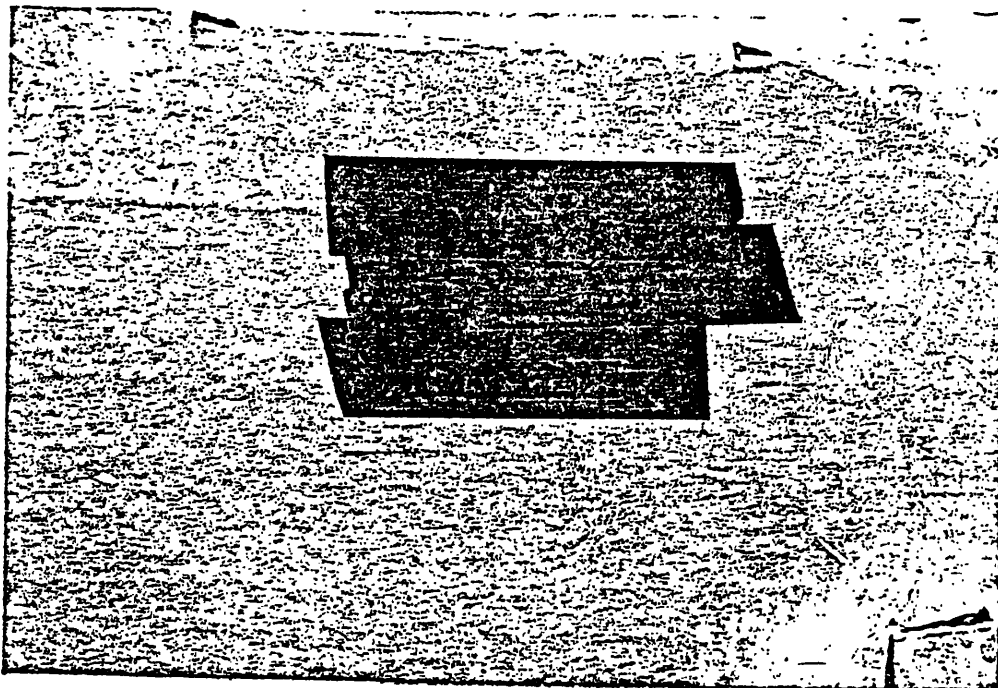


Photo No. 6
Closeup of the distributor label on the tank. The two metal projections at the top of the photo are weld attachments for the platform.

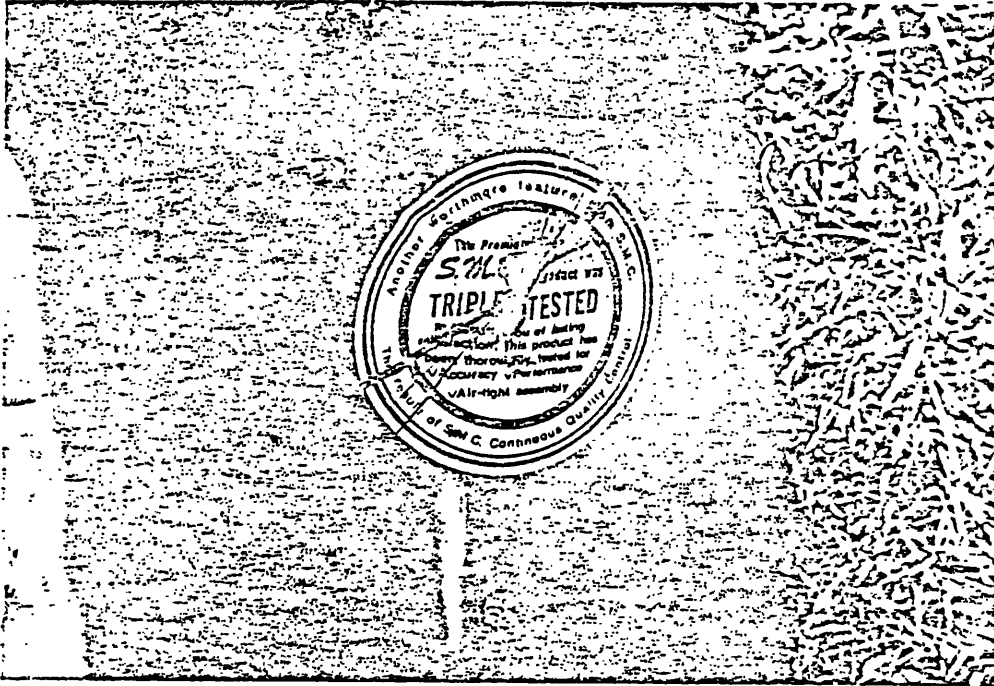


Photo No. 7
Manufacturer's label re-
garding quality control
testing.

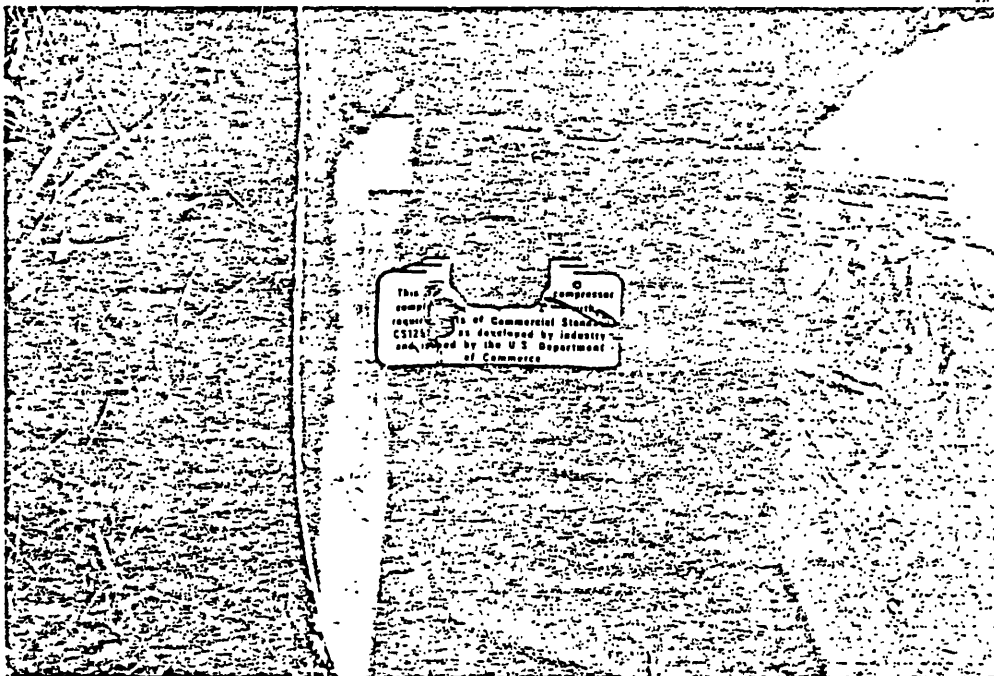


Photo No. 8
Manufacturer's label certi-
fying compliance with U.S.
Dept. of Commerce standard
and membership in the Air
Compressor Research Council

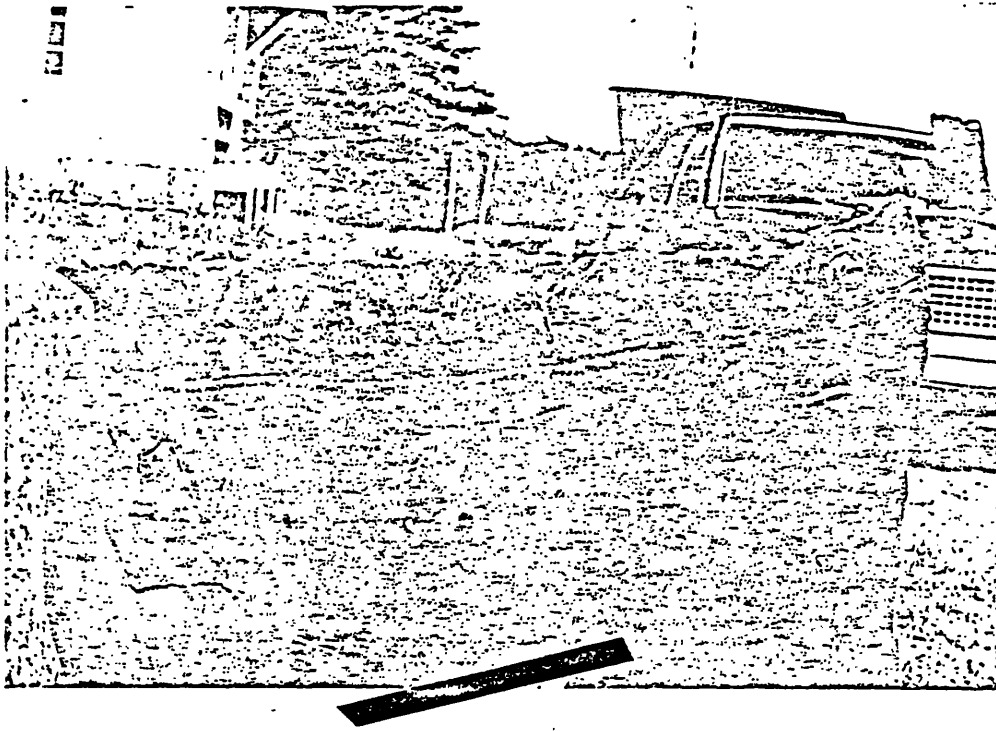


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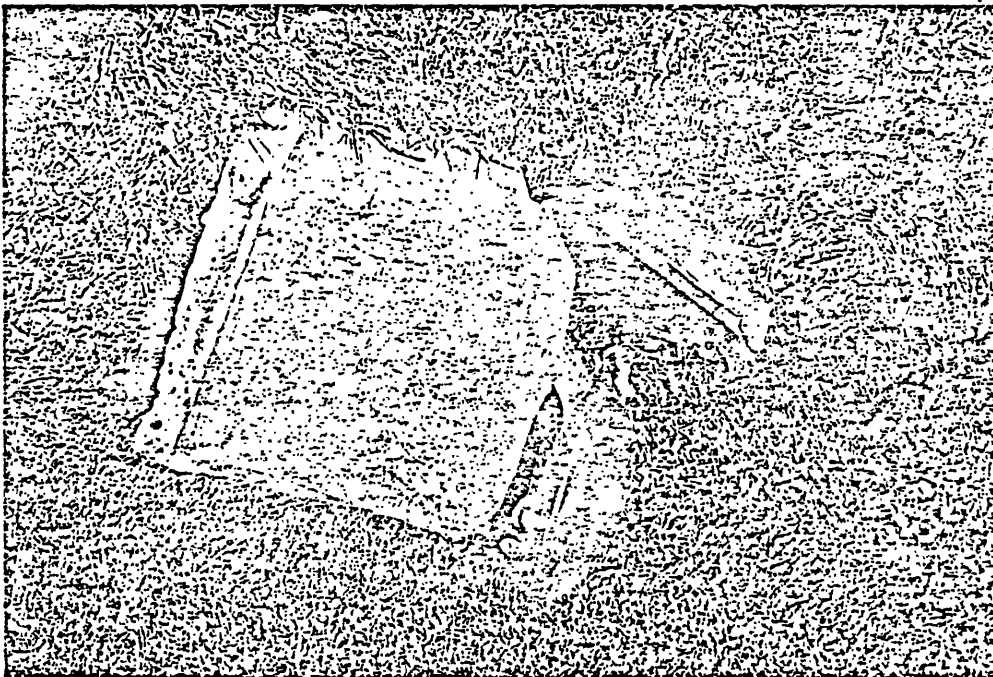


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View of tank interior showing that the weld joints around the ends of the tank did not break, except for one section seen in the upper right of the photo. Corrosion was most evident along the bottom of the tank.

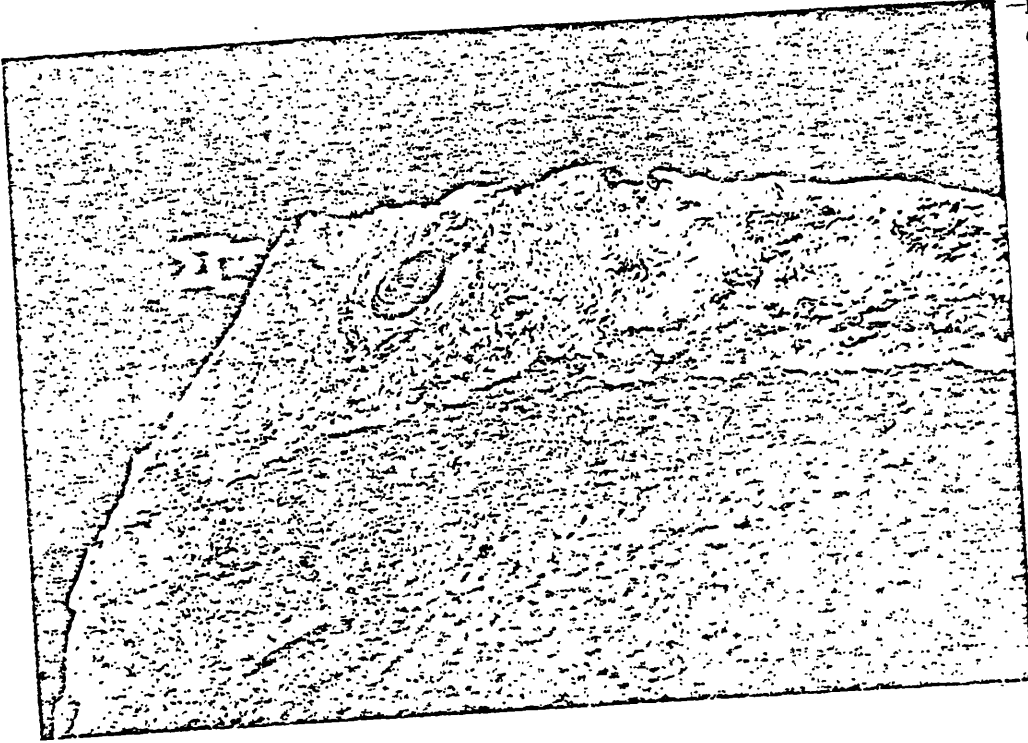


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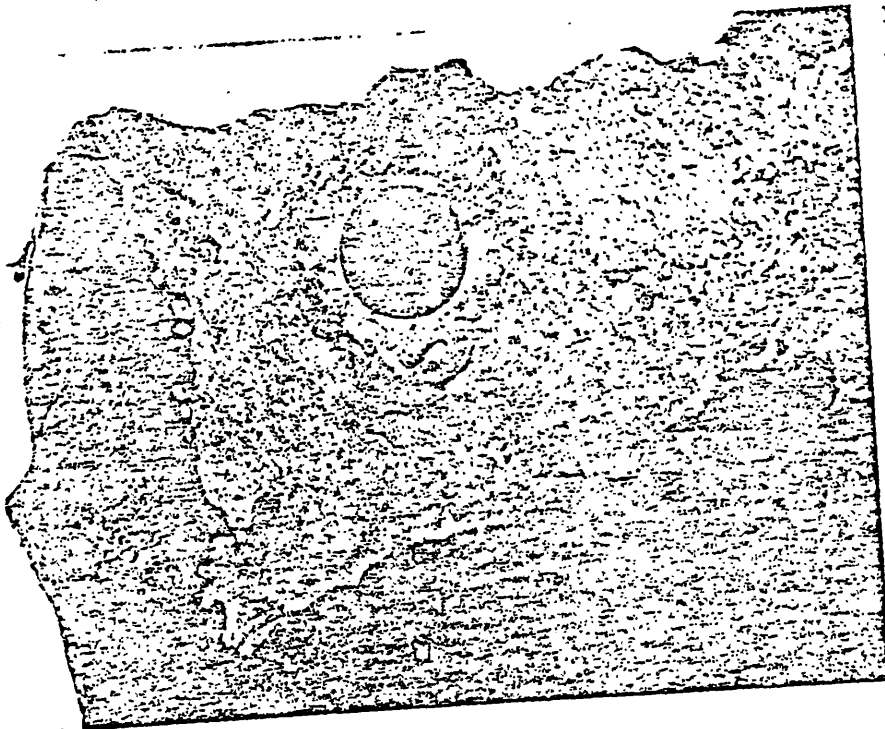


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Another view of the drain
plug area of the tank.

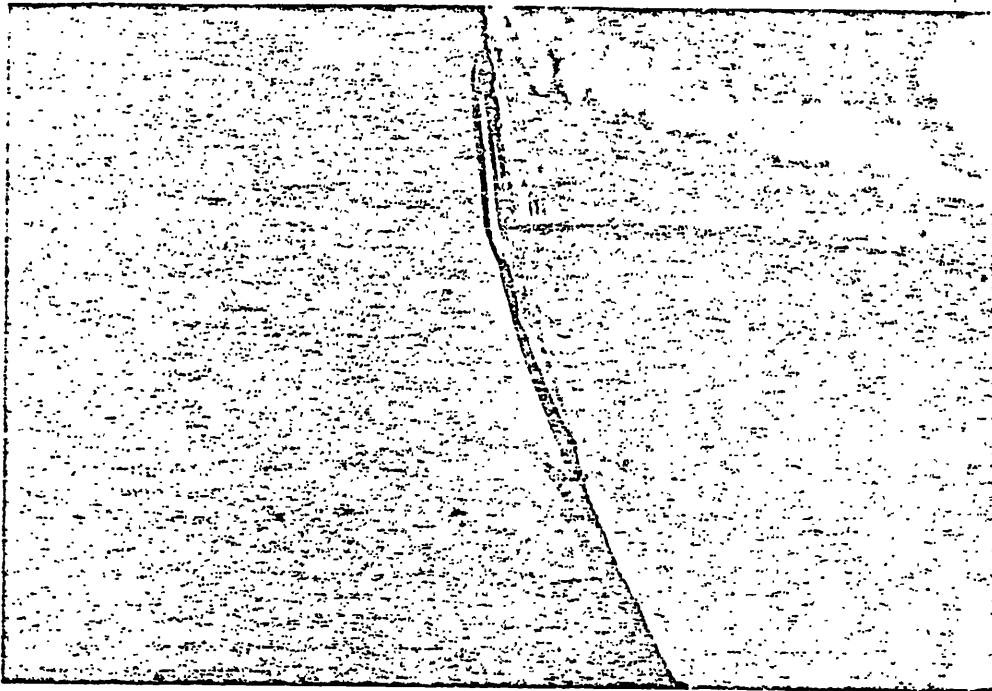


Photo No. 13
Closeup view of a ruptured section of the tank where little corrosion was evident. Thickness of the steel at this area averaged 2 cm.

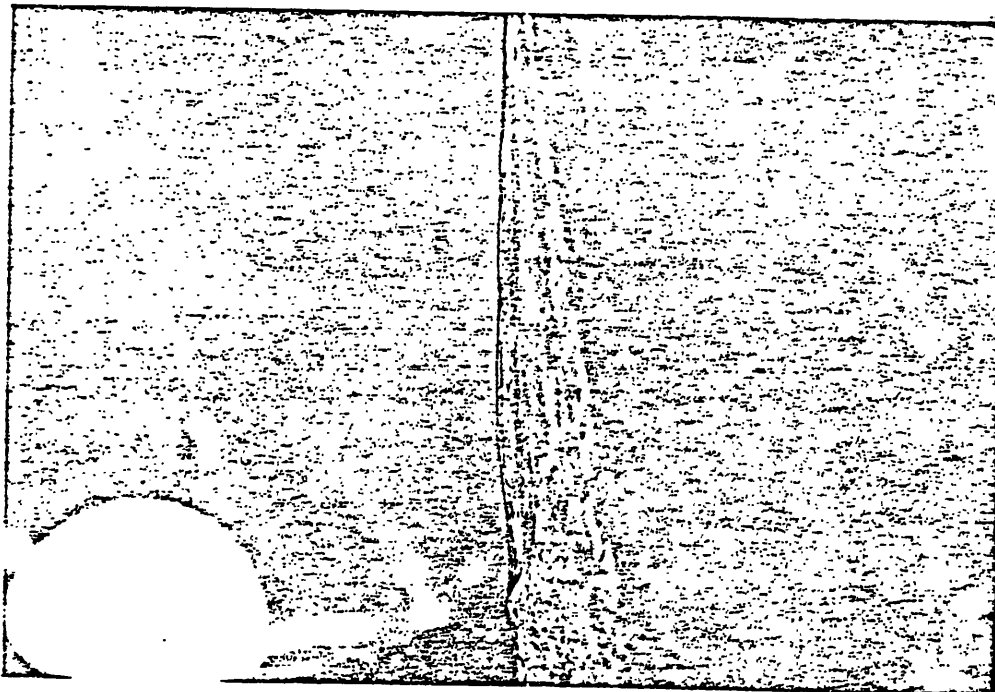


Photo No. 14
Closeup (same magnification as above photo) showing a ruptured section near the bottom of the tank where corrosion was most severe. Thickness of the steel at this point averaged slightly more than 1 cm.

Gary A. Kamp
Associate

3 MAR 1986

Phone 314 / 238-2641

KENNETH W. SHRUM

ATTORNEY AT LAW

P. O. Box 338

Marble Hill, Missouri 63764

February 10, 1986

EPDS
OSFOC

0625037

MFR/PRVLR NOTIFIED 11/21/91
No Comments made
Comments attached
Excisions/Revisions
Firm has not requested further notice
2/19

EPDS

FEB 19 1986

U. S. Consumer Product Safety Commission
Washington, D. C. 20207

Gentlemen:

I represent a Mr. Terry Conrad who was seriously injured when a 22 gallon air compressor which was sold and advertised for use as a 'farm and home use', type item ruptured and blew a small wheel off of the compressor, striking Mr. Conrad in the head. This occurred in September, 1983. The manufacturer was Sanborn Manufacturing Company of Springfield, Minnesota.

It has come to my attention that there were at least 173 failures which involved property damage or personal injury which Sanborn settled themselves without referring the matter to their insurance carrier. I know of my own knowledge that there have been numerous failures and ruptures to the tank in addition to the 173 and I know of five (5) lawsuits filed in which there have been serious injuries.

15

The Sanborn Manufacturing Company engaged in a 'Product Review Campaign' and a 'Field Safety Program'.

CA/S
EPDL

My expert advises that there was a serious design defect in the manufacture of the tanks originally because the method of putting the tank together involved lap-welding and the tanks were put together so that the lap was welded on the inside of the tank. This then created a crevice or trough on the inside of the tank where moisture would gather where the moisture could not be drained from the tank. This resulted in severe corrosion of the tank and ultimately when the tank was used and air pressure was put on the tank it would fail or rupture. The rupture of these tanks when they contain 100+ pounds of pressure creates a serious and high potential for harm and damage to person and property.

As you can see from the Field Safety Notice published and the Product Review Campaign Notice, Sanborn has chosen to ignore the real problem, namely, the corrosion of the tanks and has, instead, attempted to focus their attention on a pressure relief valve. The pressure relief valve cannot come into play or be expected to function until there is also a failure of the pressure switch.

Consumer Product Safety Commission
Office of the Secretary
Freedom of Information

0823 FEB 17 1986

5602091

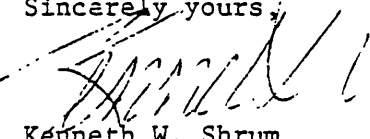
C625037

U. S. Consumer Product Safety Commission
Page Two
February 10, 1986

In any event, I write you this letter for the following reasons:

- a) To ask the Consumer Product Safety Commission for information, files or reports on the violent rupture or failure of the non-industrial air compressor tanks;
- b) Data and reports of failure of the non-industrial air compressor tanks manufactured by Sanborn Manufacturing Company;
- c) Has the 'Injury Information' concerning each investigation, analysis, or disseminated data, and information relative to air compressor tank failures, been maintained, and if so, would you send me these materials?
- d) Has the Commission conducted research, studies, investigations on the safety of air compressors and in particular, the air compressors manufactured by Sanborn? If so, will you send me the results?
- e) Has Sanborn reported failures of their tanks to the Commission and if so, would you give me copies of those reports?

In general, I would like any information that the Consumer Product Safety Commission has concerning the failure of air compressor tanks and in particular, tanks manufactured by Sanborn Manufacturing Company.

Sincerely yours,

Kenneth W. Shrum

KWS/msv

EPDS
FEB 19 1986

N

If you have any changes, additions, or comments you wish to make concerning your attached report, please make them in the space below.

Our investigation indicates that there were some 173 reports of ruptures or failures of Sanborn air compressor tanks before 1980. Most of these were handled by and settled by Sanborn without reporting same to their insurance company. My investigation also indicates that in 1981 Sanborn undertook a limited program which they called a product review campaign in which they admitted knowing that there was an unsafe condition which had arisen with their tanks, a copy of the type notice published and disseminated in 1981 is attached. Our investigation would indicate that one of the primary problems with the tank is a lap welded joint in the tank which allows the accumulation of water which cannot be drained and which results in severe corrosion. Our investigation further reveals all the tanks which failed did so with approximately one-half inch above the well and one-sixteenth to one-eighth inch above the upper line of the inside lap well. Our investigation indicates that the primary cause of the repeated ruptures of these tanks is corrosion--a fact which Sanborn founder, George Besse, has admitted. Despite that fact, when Sanborn ultimately began an attempt at a recall campaign (which they called a field safety program), they claim to have done so because of an alleged faulty pressure relief valve. In truth, the pressure relief valve may have in some instances been faulty, but our investigation indicates the primary cause for concern is not the faulty pressure relief valve. They are simply "retro-fitting" the pressure relief value and pressure switch so as to lower the limits of the air pressure in these tanks. The truth is, if in fact corrosion is the primary problem, to mislead the public into believing that they have solved the problem by putting new relief valves on the tank when the ultimate problem is corrosion and when the tank may very well rupture at the reduced pressure, is grossly unfair to the public at large.

I confirm that the information in the attached report (including any changes, additions, or comments I have made) is accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Larry Conrad
Signature

3/28/86
Date

MAILED
APR 15 1986
FBI - MEMPHIS

-
-
-

Do not release my name.

You may release my name to the manufacturer but not to the general public.

You may release my name to the manufacturer and to the public.

C-625037/0823
3-3-86

CONSUMER PRODUCT INCIDENT REPORT

1. Name of Respondent Terry Conrad	2. Telephone No. (Home) 314-866-2880	(Work) same-self-employed
3. Street Address	4. City, State, Zip Code Patton Missouri 63662	

5. Give details of accident, injury, or illness. Describe how incident occurred. (Use reverse side if necessary.)

Terry Conrad had been working in farm shop. He had been using Model 84A100-22 air compressor manufactured by Sanborn Manufacturing Company as an air source to blow limestone dust from around a planter. After having completed that job and while approximately 15 feet away from the air compressor and without any knowledge that there were any problems or dangers to the air compressor or any of its component parts, the air compressor ruptured and failed with a tremendous force. The force of the rupture of the tank blew a wheel off the air compressor striking Terry Conrad in the head causing severe and permanent facial injuries, skull fracture, concussion and ultimate tramatic epileptic conditions.

6. If injury or illness: Victim's Name Terry Conrad Relationship same

Age 34 Sex male Date 9/14/83 Type Injury Head and face injuries

Body Part Involved Head and face Treatment Hospitalization, surgery, medication & psychiatric treatment

7. Description of Product: Model 84A100-22 air compressor designed for farm use. The compressor was approximately 8.4 cfn. in size, 1 horsepower motor, 22 gal. air receiver	8. Was the product: Damaged before incident? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Repaired before incident? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Repaired after incident? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
--	--

9. Brand Name Sanborn Manufacturing Company	10. Identifying Numbers, Letters, etc. Model #84A100-22; Serial #10140
11. Manufacturer's Name and Address Sanborn Manufacturing Company Springfield, Minnesota	12. Dealer's Name and Address Midstates Distributing Company (address unknown)

13. How product acquired? Purchased New Second Hand Other Terry Conrad borrowed same from his father-in-law, who purchased

14. Age of Product approx. 10 yrs.

15. Is product available for inspection? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	16. Does product have warning labels or instructions? ^{if new} Are they available? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
--	--

17. Have you contacted the manufacturer? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> If not, do you plan to contact them? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	18. Do you object to the use of your name? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
---	--

FOR ADMINISTRATIVE USE ONLY

19. Receiving Office	20. Date Received	21. Received by	22. Reporting Office
23. Source of Report Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Phone <input type="checkbox"/> Visit <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____			24. Document No. <u>C 625037</u>
25. Follow-Up Action			26. Product Code(s) A. <u>0823</u> B.
			27.

28. Distribution	29. Endorser's Name/Title
------------------	---------------------------

Gary A. Kamp
Associate

Phone 314 / 238-2641

KENNETH W. SHRUM

ATTORNEY AT LAW

P. O. Box 338

Marble Hill, Missouri 63764

April 10, 1986

Ms. Nancy S. Johnston, Director
National Injury Information Clearinghouse
Room 625, 5401 Westbard Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20207

Mr. Stephen Joyce
Consumer Product Safety Commission
Room 246, 5401 Westbard Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20207

Dear Ms. Johnston and Mr. Joyce:

I enclose herewith a Consumer Product Incident Report with attachments which has been signed by my client, Terry Conrad. I also enclose certain excerpts from depositions evidencing the fact that since 1978 Sanborn Manufacturing Company has been aware of the rupture of their air compressor tanks in the field and have been aware of the potential for personal injury and property damage.

I know of the following litigations:

1. Conrad vs. Sanborn Manufacturing Company
United States District Court, Eastern District
of Missouri, Southeast Division - #S84-0126D

I am shown as attorney of record for plaintiff.

2. Dawson vs. Sanborn Manufacturing Company
Circuit Court of St. Louis County, Missouri
#461 775

Plaintiff's attorney:
Joseph E. Welch
P. O. Box 710
Hannibal, MO

3. Kessler vs. Sanborn Manufacturing Company
United States District Court, Northern District
of Ohio - #40564-85-402

Plaintiff's attorney:
Spangenberg, Shibley, Traci & Lancione
Attorneys at Law
1500 National City Bank Building
Cleveland, Ohio 44114-3062

Ms. Nancy S. Johnston
Mr. Stephen Joyce
April 10, 1986
Page 2

4. Brown vs. Sanborn Manufacturing Company
United States District Court, District of
Minnesota, Third Division - #3-85-1006

Plaintiff's attorney:

Arthur Beeman
Robins, Zelle, Larson & Kaplan
Attorneys at Law
1800 International Centre
900 Second Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55402

5. Witte vs. Sanborn Manufacturing Company
Illinois Twelfth Judicial Circuit - #83-L-730

Plaintiff's attorney:

Bell, Razano, Blunk, Kinzer & Lustfeldt

Yet another person who is reported to have been injured by an exploding tank
is Ellen Christian of Columbia, Missouri.

If I can furnish any further information, please advise.

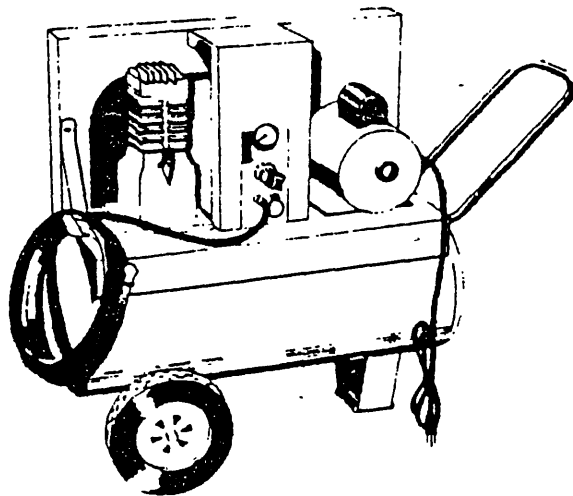
Sincerely,

Kenneth W. Shrum

KWS/gml
Enclosures

ATTENTION

AIR COMPRESSOR OWNERS



If you are an owner of an SMC portable air compressor, you will be interested to know that SANBORN MANUFACTURING COMPANY is conducting a program in an effort to improve the performance and quality of their air compressors.

Questions have arisen as to the effects caused by the lack of adequate and regular maintenance which can and does create an unsafe condition. The unsafe condition being the possibility of a tank rupture, which could result in property damage and/or personal injury.

SANBORN MANUFACTURING COMPANY will replace your SMC air compressor, at no charge to you, with a reconditioned compressor of comparable Horse Power, in order that our Engineering Department and Testing Laboratory can evaluate your field operated SMC air compressor.

SMC air compressor owners are urged to contact us for further details.



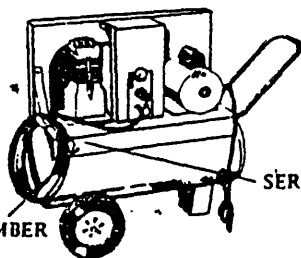
SANBORN MANUFACTURING COMPANY
Springfield, Minnesota 56087
Call - 1-800-533-0365 (extension 223)
In Minnesota Call - 1-800-722-9363 (extension 223)

PLTF'S 63

PLF's 14
9/23/85
KCP

WARNING NOTICE

AIR COMPRESSOR OWNERS



MODEL NUMBER

SERIAL NUMBER

SANBORN MANUFACTURING COMPANY recently conducted a "Product Review Campaign" (PRC) on SMC air compressors. Our campaign disclosed that the pressure relief valves on compressors manufactured (under the SMC label and for other private labels) between January 1, 1972 and August 31, 1978, failed to operate properly in a number of cases. If the relief valve fails to operate properly, an unsafe condition may be created and the tank could rupture causing personal injury and/or property damage.

If you own a SMC (or SMC private label) air compressor which may have been manufactured during this period, **DO NOT USE THE COMPRESSOR.**

Determine the model number and serial number of your air compressor and give the information to our dealer or phone the toll-free number shown below. The date your compressor was manufactured will be determined from the information you furnish (model and serial number preferably).

If your compressor is one of those affected, Sanborn Manufacturing Company, or the dealer listed below will immediately make arrangements to replace the relief valve at no cost to you.

We are sorry to cause you this inconvenience, however, we are taking this action in the interests of your safety and continued satisfaction with our products. Our dedication to quality and safety does not end when you buy our products. The steps we have taken to correct this potential problem are indicative of a continuing commitment to you. Your cooperation and support in conducting this FIELD SAFETY PROGRAM (FSP) is genuinely appreciated.

BAILLYS

2601 East 4th

Hutchinson, KS 67501

SANBORN MANUFACTURING COMPANY
118 West Rock Street P.O. Box 206
Springfield, Minnesota 56087
National toll-free: 800-533-0365, Extension 223 or 261
In Minnesota: 800-722-9363, Extension 223 or 261

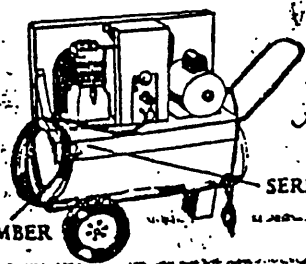


Hutchinson (Kansas) News Page 3
Sept 2, 1984

PLF's 15
9/23/85
KLP

WARNING NOTICE

AIR COMPRESSOR OWNERS



Miller Journal
7/27/1984
Thursday

MODEL NUMBER

SERIAL NUMBER

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If your compressor is one of those affected, Sanborn Manufacturing Company, or the dealer listed below will immediately make arrangements to replace the relief valve at no cost to you and give your entire unit a free safety check.

We are sorry to cause you this inconvenience, however, we are taking this action in the interests of your safety and continued satisfaction with our products. Our dedication to quality and safety does not end when you buy our products. The steps we have taken to correct this potential problem are indicative of a continuing commitment to you. Your cooperation and support in conducting this FIELD SAFETY PROGRAM (FSP) is genuinely appreciated.

FARM & FLEET

WAUKESHA • STURTEVANT • WATERTOWN

SANBORN MANUFACTURING COMPANY
118 West Rock Street P.O. Box 206
Springfield, Minnesota 56007
National toll-free: 800-633-0365, Extension 223 or 261
In Minnesota: 800-722-9363, Extension 223 or 261



PLF's 15
9/23/85
KLP

In the deposition of William Besse, taken November 25, 1985, in a case styled Kessler v. Sanborn Manufacturing Company, U. S. District Court, Northern District of Ohio, File No. 40564-85-402, the following is found at pages 22, 23 and 24:

Q. When was the first time that Sanborn was made aware of the fact that they had tanks rupturing in the field?

A. That date I -- I don't know the call, the first call on that

Q. I'm not particularly concerned if it was a particular day in May but if you can give about the year.

A. My best guess would be 1981.

* * *

Q. Are we talking about more than a hundred calls?

A. I believe that could be.

Q. Could it be more than 500 calls?

A. I don't believe so.

Q. So somewhere between 100 and 500 reports of tank failures in the field?

A. That may be accurate.

* * *

Q. Do you now keep any records of any such field reports?

A. We have records on some, yes.

Q. And who has custody of those records?

A. They would be at the Sanborn Manufacturing factory location.

Q. Any who at Sanborn has custody of those . . . or keeps them in his custody?

A. Administrative Assistant Sandra Hesse."

William Besse also testified in the instant case that on or about the 1981 time frame, Sanborn had "several other reported tank ruptures in the field." (Wm. Besse Dep., page 79).

5 Q. CAN YOU TELL ME FIRST OF ALL WHEN THAT
6 CHANGE WAS MADE?

7 A. I BELIEVE IT WAS IN THE '80'S PROBABLY,
8 INSTEAD OF THE '70'S.

9 Q. CAN YOU TELL ME WHY THAT CHANGE WAS MADE?

10 A. I BELIEVE THAT IT WAS MADE BY A
11 RECOMMENDATION FROM AN ENGINEERING FIRM THAT WE HAD.

12 Q. WHAT WAS THAT ENGINEERING FIRM, THE NAME OF
13 IT, PLEASE?

14 A. I THINK IT WAS CRAIN, CRAIN SOMETHING.

15 Q. WERE YOU STILL ASSOCIATED WITH AND AS PART
16 OF THE ACTIVE MANAGEMENT OF SANBORN WHEN THAT CHANGE
17 WAS MADE?

18 A. YES AND NO.

19 Q. WHAT DOES THAT MEAN, SIR?

20 A. THAT IS A GOOD QUESTION. I WAS GIVING THE
21 RESPONSIBILITY, THE LAST YEAR OR SO THAT I WAS THERE
22 TO MY SON. SO I'M NOT REALLY SURE IF I WAS, YOU KNOW,
23 RESPONSIBLE FOR THE THE THE CHANGE OR NOT.

24 Q. MR. BESSE, IN THE TIME FRAME OF '75 THROUGH
25 1980, DID SANBORN BEGIN TO GET SOME COMPLAINTS ABOUT
26 TANKS WHICH HAD RUPTURED IN THE FIELD?

27 MR. PEDERSON: WHAT PERIOD OF TIME?

28 MR. SHRUM: '75 TO '80.

Deposition of George Besse, founder and long-
time officer of Sanborn Manufacturing Company
(now retired but on board of directors)

1 THE WITNESS: YEAH, THEY GOT SOME CALLS, I DON'T
2 KNOW IF IT WAS COMPLAINTS. I GUESS YOU WOULD CALL IT
3 COMPLAINT CALLS.

4 BY MR. SHRUM:

5 Q. DID MOST OF THOSE CALLS, DID YOU HAVE A
6 DIRECTION TO PERSONNEL AT SANBORN THAT YOU WERE TO
7 RECEIVE MOST OF THOSE CALLS?

8 A. YES.

9 Q. DID SOME OF THOSE CALLS IN THE TIME FRAME
10 '75 TO '80 INVOLVE CLAIMS THAT THERE HAD BEEN A
11 RUPTURE OR, OF THE AIR RECEIVER THAT HAD RESULTED IN
12 SOME INSTANCES IN DAMAGES TO CONSUMER OR CUSTOMER'S
13 PROPERTY?

14 A. YES, I BELIEVE SO.

15 Q. AS A MATTER OF FACT, MR. BESSE, IN THE TIME
16 PERIOD '75 TO 1980 DID YOU HANDLE MOST ALL OF THOSE
17 NEGOTIATIONS AND THE SETTLEMENT OF THOSE CLAIMS?

18 A. YES.

19 Q. CAN YOU TELL ME APPROXIMATELY, AS BEST YOU
20 RECALL, HOW MANY OF THOSE CLAIMS YOU SETTLED IN THAT
21 TIME FRAME OF 1975 TO 1980?

22 A. NO, NOT REALLY.

23 Q. WOULD IT HAVE BEEN MORE THAN 150?

24 A. I'M A LITTLE CONFUSED ON WHAT YOU CALL A
25 CLAIM.

26 Q. A PERSON CALLS AND SAYS I HAVE AN AIR
27 COMPRESSOR, I'M SURE THEY USE THE TERM OFTEN, BLEW UP,
28 BUT RUPTURE. THEY EITHER WANTED A NEW AIR COMPRESSOR

1 OR AS A PART OF THE RUPTURE IT DID SOME DAMAGE TO
2 THEIR BUILDING OR HURT SOMEBODY. AND THEY WANTED
3 SOME COMPENSATION?

4 A. IT WOULD BE LESS THAN 150.

5 Q. MORE THAN 100?

6 A. LESS THAN 100.

7 Q. NOW, DID YOU KEEP ANY KINDS OF RECORDS OF
8 THOSE PEOPLE WITH WHOM YOU SETTLED THOSE CLAIMS?

9 A. NO.

10 Q. DID YOU SETTLE WITH THEM BY WRITING THEM A
11 CHECK?

12 A. POSSIBLY A COUPLE OF THEM WE MIGHT HAVE.

13 Q. DID YOU SETTLE WITH SOME OF THEM BY GIVING
14 THEM A NEW AIR COMPRESSOR?

15 A. YES.

16 Q. DID YOU DO THAT IN MANY INSTANCES THROUGH
17 YOUR WHOLESALERS, THAT IS THE PEOPLE THAT YOU HAD
18 SOLD THE TANKS TO?

19 A. YES.

20 Q. DID SOME OF THOSE CALLS COME FROM YOUR
21 WHOLESALERS, THE PEOPLE YOU SOLD YOUR TANKS TO?

22 A. MOST OF THEM DID.

23 Q. CAN YOU TELL ME THE NAMES OF WHO SOME OF
24 THOSE WHOLESALERS WERE THAT WERE CONTACTING YOU IN
25 THE '75 TO '80 PERIOD ADVISING YOU THAT SOME CUSTOMER
26 WAS COMPLAINING ABOUT A TANK THAT HAD RUPTURED OR --

27 A. ORSHLAN FARM SUPPLY AND QUALITY WHOLESALE.

28 Q. WHERE IS QUALIFY FROM, SIR, THEIR

1 HEADQUARTERS?

2 A. MICHIGAN HEADQUARTERS.

3 Q. IS THAT THE ONE THAT IS MUSKEGON, MICHIGAN?

4 A. MUSKEGON, MICHIGAN.

5 Q. WHAT WERE SOME OF THE OTHERS?

6 A. GEBO DISTRIBUTING COMPANY IN TEXAS, G E B O.

7 Q. MIDSTATES DISTRIBUTING COMPANY?

8 A. NO. THESE PEOPLE THAT I MENTIONED ARE ALL
9 MEMBERS OF MIDSTATES DISTRIBUTING COMPANY, SO TO
10 SPEAK. THE COAST TO COAST ORGANIZATION WE SOLD, THEY
11 HAD INDIVIDUAL STORES THAT MAY HAVE CALLED.

12 THAT IS ABOUT WHAT I CAN REMEMBER ORIGINALLY.

13 Q. DID YOU, YOURSELF, GO OUT INTO THE FIELD AND
14 LOOK AT SOME OF THESE TANKS WHICH HAD RUPTURED?

15 A. YES.

16 Q. DID YOU GATHER INTO AND TAKE INTO YOUR
17 POSSESSION SOME OF THE TANKS WHICH HAD RUPTURED IN
18 THIS TIME PERIOD OF '75 THROUGH 1980?

19 A. YES.

20 Q. WHAT DID YOU DO WITH THOSE TANKS WHEN YOU
21 BROUGHT THEM BACK TO SANBORN; THAT IS, DID YOU
22 YOURSELF EXAMINE THEM?

23 A. YES.

24 Q. DID ANYONE ELSE ACTING ON BEHALF OF SANBORN
25 EXAMINE THEM?

26 A. JERRY RAMSBACHER AND MYSELF PRIMARILY WOULD
27 BE THE EXAMINERS.

28 Q. WHAT DID YOU FIND, AS A RESULT OF THIS --

1 MR. SHRUM: I UNDERSTOOD WHAT HE'S SAYING. I'M
2 ASKING HIS OBSERVATIONS.

3 MR. PEDERSON: OTHER THAN THE WATERLINE?

4 THE WITNESS: YEAH, THE WATERLINE WAS THE ONLY
5 THING.

6 BY MR. SHRUM:

7 Q. DID YOU NOTE WHERE THE WATERLINE WAS, WAS
8 THERE CORROSION AND RUSTING ON THE INSIDE OF THE TANK?

9 A. A LITTLE SORT OF A SCUM. THERE IS A LITTLE
10 OIL AND LITTLE SCUM INSIDE OF A TANK USUALLY WHERE
11 THE WATER STOOD, LITTLE SCUM LINE WOULD GO LIKE IN A
12 WATER TANK OR BATHTUB OR WHATEVER. THAT IS THE WAY
13 WE OBSERVED THE TANK INSIDE.

14 Q. DID YOU OBSERVE ANY CORROSION AT THOSE WATER-
15 LINES?

16 A. YES.

17 Q. RUSTING?

18 A. IN A LOT OF CASES WE DID, YEAH.

19 Q. THOSE TANKS THAT YOU HAVE DESCRIBED WHERE
20 YOU HAD, YOURSELF, WENT OUT AND LOOKED AND OBSERVED
21 IN THE PERIOD OF '75 TO '80, WHERE DID MOST OF THOSE
22 TANKS RUPTURE? WAS THERE ONE PARTICULAR PLACE OR
23 ANOTHER ON THE TANK ITSELF SO AT THE 6:00 O'CLOCK,
24 7:00 O'CLOCK POSITIONS?

25 A. NOT NECESSARILY. JUST WITHIN THE LOWER ONE
26 FOURTH OF THE TANK ORDINARILY.

27 Q. DO YOU KNOW ON THOSE TANKS WHICH WERE -- YOU
28 TOOK INTO YOUR POSSESSION OR TOOK INTO THE POSSESSION

1 Q. DID YOU TELL THE -- DID YOU TELL YOUR SON OF
2 YOUR OBSERVATIONS OF THE TANKS THAT YOU HAD GOTTEN IN
3 IN THE '75 THROUGH THE END OF 1980 PERIOD?

4 A. I'M SURE WE DISCUSSED IT, SURE.

5 Q. WHAT DID YOU TELL HIM OF YOUR OBSERVATIONS
6 AND ANY CONCLUSIONS THAT YOU HAD REACHED CONCERNING
7 THOSE TANKS?

8 A. I DON'T REMEMBER EXACTLY WHAT I TOLD HIM.

9 Q. DID YOU TELL HIM ANYTHING ABOUT THE
10 CORROSION PROBLEMS THAT YOU HAD SEEN IN THESE TANKS?

11 A. I'M SURE WE DISCUSSED IT, YES.

12 Q. WHAT DO YOU RECALL TELLING HIM ABOUT THE
13 CORROSION PROBLEMS THAT YOU HAD SEEN AND OBSERVED IN
14 THOSE UNITS WHICH HAD BEEN GOTTEN IN, IN THE PERIOD
15 '75 THROUGH THE END OF 1980?

16 A. I'M SURE WE DISCUSSED THE WATERLINES IN THEM
17 AND THE FACT THAT A LOT PEOPLE DON'T TAKE CARE OF
18 THEIR UNIT WHEN THEY OWN IT.

19 Q. AS OF 1980, HAD SANBORN EVER STARTED PLACING
20 ANY TYPE OF WARNING OR DECAL OF ANY TYPE ON THE UNIT
21 OTHER THAN THE OPERATORS MANUAL OR THE FACT TAG, IF
22 WE CAN CALL IT THAT, SUCH AS PLAINTIFFS' EXHIBIT 30,
23 DIRECTING PEOPLE CONCERNING THE DRAINAGE OF THE TANKS?

24 A. BEFORE 1980?

25 Q. YES, SIR.

26 A. I DON'T BELIEVE SO.

27 Q. WERE THE NOTICES WHICH WERE DISSEMINATED BY
28 SANBORN RELATING TO THE PRODUCT REVIEW CAMPAIGN, WERE

1 THEY REVIEWED BY YOU BEFORE THEY WERE PUT OUT?

2 A. NO.

3 Q. LET ME HAND YOU, MR. BESSE, WHAT HAS BEEN
4 MARKED AS PLAINTIFFS' EXHIBIT NO. 38 AND ASK YOU TO
5 READ THAT AND THEN I WILL ASK YOU A QUESTION ABOUT IT,
6 SOME QUESTIONS ABOUT IT.

7 A. NOW I NEED THE QUESTION AGAIN.

8 MR. PEDERSON: THERE IS NONE YET.

9 BY MR. SHRUM:

10 Q. NOW, THE TYPE NOTICE THAT IS EVIDENCED BY
11 PLAINTIFFS' EXHIBIT 38, WERE THOSE REVIEWED WITH YOU
12 BEFORE THEY WERE PUBLISHED OR DISSEMINATED BY SANBORN?

13 A. I CAN'T SAY FOR SURE IF THEY WERE OR NOT. I
14 DON'T REMEMBER WHO MADE THOSE UP. I SAW THEM, BUT I
15 CAN'T REMEMBER A CONVERSATION ABOUT THEM OR WHO MADE
16 THEM UP REALLY.

17 Q. NOW, AT THAT TIME, IN 1981 AND 1982, WERE
18 YOU STILL AN OFFICER OF THE CORPORATION?

19 A. RIGHT.

20 Q. WHAT OFFICE DID YOU HOLD?

21 A. BOARD CHAIRMAN.

22 Q. DO YOU RECALL WHETHER OR NOT THE PRODUCT
23 REVIEW CAMPAIGN WAS DISCUSSED AT A BOARD MEETING OF
24 SANBORN MANUFACTURING COMPANY?

25 A. I DON'T BELIEVE IT WAS.

26 Q. IN THE NOTICE PLAINTIFFS' EXHIBIT 38, IT
27 SAYS, "DUE TO INADEQUATE MAINTENANCE HABITS,
28 POTENTIAL UNSAFE CONDITIONS MAY EXIST ON CERTAIN

1 MODELS."

2 BASED UPON YOUR EXPERIENCE AND KNOWLEDGE AS
3 OF THE TIME THESE NOTICES WERE PUBLISHED, WAS THAT
4 CORRECT AND TRUE?

5 A. I HOPE IT WOULD BE TRUE IF WE PRINTED IT.

6 Q. YES. BASED UPON YOUR EXPERIENCE AND WHAT
7 YOU KNEW, THIS WAS A CORRECT STATEMENT?

8 A. THAT'S CORRECT.

9 Q. WHAT WERE THE POTENTIAL UNSAFE CONDITIONS
10 THAT MAY EXIST ON CERTAIN MODELS?

11 A. THE TANK COULD RUPTURE.

12 Q. FROM WHAT CAUSE?

13 A. FROM CORROSION.

14 * Q. THE CORROSION, IN WHAT MANNER WOULD THE
15 CORROSION RESULT IN A POTENTIAL UNSAFE CONDITION ON
16 THESE MODELS?

17 MR. PEDERSON: HE JUST ANSWERED THAT QUESTION,
18 ASKED AND ANSWERED. OBJECT TO THE QUESTION.
19 INSTRUCT YOU DON'T HAVE TO ANSWER IT ONE MORE TIME.

20 MR. SHRUM: THAT IS NOT THE SAME QUESTION.

21 MR. PEDERSON: YOU WANT TO READ THE OTHER ONE
22 BACK AGAIN.

23 MR. SHRUM: YES, LET'S DO THAT.

24 (WHEREUPON THE REQUESTED PORTION OF THE RECORD
25 WAS READ BY THE REPORTER.)

26 MR. PEDERSON: BEEN ASKED AND ANSWERED. MY
27 OBJECTION AND INSTRUCTION STANDS.

28 BY MR. SHRUM:

1 ARISEN AT SANBORN AS TO THE EFFECT CAUSED BY THE LACK-
2 OF ADEQUATE AND REGULAR MAINTENANCE?

3 MR. PEDERSON: AT WHAT TIME?

4 MR. SHRUM: 1981, 1982.

5 THE WITNESS: I'M SURE I ANSWERED THAT QUESTION
6 BEFORE.

7 BY MR. SHRUM:

8 Q. HAD QUESTIONS ARISEN?

9 A. I ANSWERED THE QUESTION, BEFORE, TODAY.

10 Q. WHAT, TELL ME WHAT QUESTIONS HAD ARISEN AS
11 FAR AS YOU KNEW AS AN OFFICER AND DIRECTOR OF THE
12 CORPORATION?

13 A. THE QUESTIONS THAT HAD ARISEN WAS THE EFFECT
14 ON THE SHEET METAL FROM LEAVING THE WATER STAYING IN
15 THE RECEIVER.

16 Q. SO SANBORN WAS AWARE AS OF 1980 AND '81,
17 THEN, THAT THIS WAS AN UNSAFE CONDITION BEING THE
18 POSSIBILITY OF A TANK RUPTURE?

19 MR. PEDERSON: ARE YOU GOING BACK INTENTIONALLY
20 NOW, ASKING A DIFFERENT QUESTION? NOW YOU SAID '80,
21 '81; BEFORE YOU SAID '81, '82.

22 THE WITNESS: WHAT IS THE QUESTION NOW?

23 BY MR. SHRUM:

24 Q. WERE YOU AWARE, CONFINE IT TO '81, '82, THAT
25 THE UNSAFE CONDITION, THAT IS REFERRED TO IN THIS
26 PLAINTIFFS' EXHIBIT 63 WAS THE POSSIBILITY OF A TANK
27 RUPTURE?

28 A. I WAS AWARE OF THE POSSIBILITY OF A TANK

1 RUPTURE, YES.

2 Q. YOU WERE ALSO AND WAS SANBORN AWARE, ITS
3 MANAGEMENT AWARE THAT THAT COULD RESULT IN PROPERTY
4 DAMAGE AND/OR PERSONAL INJURY AS OF 1981 AND 1982?

5 A. YES.

6 Q. BEING AWARE THAT THERE WAS AN UNSAFE
7 CONDITION, BEING THE POSSIBILITY OF A TANK RUPTURE
8 WHICH COULD RESULT IN PROPERTY DAMAGE AND/OR PERSONAL
9 INJURY, DID SANBORN, AS OF 1981 AND '82 UNDERTAKE ANY
10 PROGRAM TO RECALL OR GET THOSE UNITS BACK FOR
11 REPLACEMENT OF TANKS THAT WERE RUSTED?

12 MR. PEDERSON: OBJECT TO THE FORM OF THE QUESTION.

13 THE WITNESS: RESTATE THE QUESTION.

14 MR. SHRUM: WOULD YOU READ THE QUESTION BACK,
15 PLEASE.

16 (WHEREUPON THE REQUESTED PORTION OF THE RECORD
17 WAS READ BY THE REPORTER.)

18 THE WITNESS: I GUESS A PROGRAM WOULD BE, WHAT I
19 WOULD QUESTION IF WE WERE TALKING PROGRAM. I DON'T
20 KNOW WHAT YOU MEAN BY PROGRAM.

21 BY MR. SHRUM:

22 Q. DID YOU TRY TO GET THEM BACK IN, THOSE THAT
23 HAD BEEN SOLD AND WERE RUSTED TO THE POINT OF BEING
24 UNSAFE, DID YOU ATTEMPT TO GET THEM BACK IN OR
25 OTHERWISE WARN PEOPLE ABOUT THEM?

26 A. WE ATTEMPTED TO GET THEM IN, SURE.

27 Q. HOW DID YOU DO THAT?

28 A. WHEN WE TALKED TO THE DEALERS WE SUGGESTED

1 THAT THEY RETURN THE TANK THAT WAS DEFECTIVE. AND --
2 REPLACE IT WITH A NEW ONE.

3 Q. THE CORROSION THAT WE'RE TALKING ABOUT THAT
4 THE QUESTION HAD ARISEN ABOUT, WAS CORROSION NORMALLY
5 INSIDE OF THE TANK, WAS IT NOT?

6 A. THAT IS CORRECT.

7 Q. AND THERE WERE NO OPENINGS OR HOLES WHERE A
8 PERSON COULD OPEN A PLUG AND EXAMINE THE INSIDE OF
9 THE TANK, WAS THERE?

10 A. NO.

11 Q. SO A CUSTOMER OR CONSUMER, HOW WOULD HE KNOW
12 THAT IT WAS RUSTED INSIDE UNTIL IT HAD FAILED UNLESS
13 HE WERE WARNED ABOUT IT?

14 A. HE WOULDN'T UNLESS HE EXAMINED IT.

15 Q. HOW WOULD YOU EXAMINE THE INSIDE OF THE TANK?

16 A. FROM THE OUTSIDE.

17 Q. IN WHAT MANNER?

18 A. WITH A, TAP IT WITH A SCREWDRIVER HANDLE OR
19 SOMETHING. YOU CAN FEEL IF IT'S LIGHTER, METAL IS
20 LIGHTER. IT'S LIKE A RUSTY SPOT ON AN AUTOMOBILE OR
21 ANYTHING ELSE.

22 Q. WAS THERE ANY DIRECTIONS, EITHER IN THE
23 OWNERS MANUALS OR THE TAGS THAT WERE PUT ON THEM BY
24 THE STRING, SUGGESTING OR TELLING PEOPLE THEY SHOULD
25 CHECK THEM IN THAT MANNER?

26 A. I THINK WE READ THE MANUAL, THAT IS WHAT WAS
27 IN THE MANUAL RIGHT THERE.

28 Q. YOU ARE REFERRING NOW TO, YOU'RE POINTING TO

1 Q. IF I UNDERSTAND YOUR ANSWER SOME OF THEM ---
2 MIGHT HAVE BEEN MANUFACTURED IN THE 1960'S DECADE AND
3 OTHERS THAT YOU HAVE RECOVERED BETWEEN '75 AND END
4 OF '81 HAD BEEN MANUFACTURED IN THE '70'S DECADE?

5 A. SOME WERE MANUFACTURED BY THE SUPPLIERS THAT
6 WE HAD PURCHASED FROM BEFORE WE MADE OUR OWN TANKS,
7 RIGHT.

8 Q. AS OF THE END OF 1980, MR. BESSE, WAS
9 SANBORN MANUFACTURING COMPANY AWARE THAT THERE WERE
10 DANGERS OF SOME OF THE TANKS THAT YOU HAD
11 MANUFACTURED AT SANBORN MANUFACTURED, RUPTURED?

12 A. REPEAT THAT AGAIN.

13 Q. AS OF THE END OF 1980, WAS SANBORN
14 MANUFACTURING COMPANY AND YOU AS AN OFFICER OF THAT
15 CORPORATION AWARE OF THE POTENTIAL RUPTURE OF SOME OF
16 THE TANKS THAT YOU HAD MANUFACTURED AND WERE IN THE
17 FIELD?

18 A. CERTAINLY WERE AWARE OF IT, YES.

19 Q. NOW, DID YOU PARTICIPATE IN OR HAVE ANYTHING
20 TO DO WITH THE REQUEST THAT, MADE BY SANBORN, FIRST
21 OF ALL TO ADVANCE DIE CASTING COMPANY THAT THEY
22 PARTICIPATE IN EITHER A FIELD SAFETY PROGRAM OR A
23 PRODUCT REVIEW CAMPAIGN?

24 A. NO.

25 MR. PEDERSON: OBJECT TO THE FORM OF THE QUESTION.
26 MISSTATES FACTS NOT IN EVIDENCE.

27 BY MR. SHRUM:

28 Q. DID YOU HAVE ANY, DID YOU PARTICIPATE IN ANY

1 DRAINING THE TANK AFTER EVERY USE, THAT SIMPLY WAS
2 ALSO IN LINE WITH THOSE TOOLS THAT YOU FELT NEEDED TO
3 BE PROTECTED AGAINST MOISTURE GETTING IN THEM?

4 A. IN MY OPINION, THAT WAS CORRECT.

5 Q. ALL RIGHT, SIR. I UNDERSTAND.

6 MR. BESSE, WERE YOU A PART OR DID YOU
7 PARTICIPATE IN THE DECISION TO USE A DIFFERENT
8 MATERIAL THICKNESS FOR THE STEEL OUT OF WHICH THE
9 TANK IS CONSTRUCTED?

10 A. NO, I DON'T BELIEVE I DID.

11 Q. ALL RIGHT, SIR. TO YOUR KNOWLEDGE, SIR, WAS
12 THAT DONE AFTER YOU HAD LEFT THE COMPANY, NOT BY
13 LEAVING THE COMPANY, I'M TALKING ABOUT AFTER YOU HAD
14 STEPPED DOWN?

15 A. IT WAS DONE IN THE PERIOD OF TIME THAT,
16 BEFORE I LEFT AND AFTER I HAD STARTED QUIT WORKING.

17 Q. LIKEWISE, SIR, THE DECISION TO USE A
18 DIFFERENT WELDING TECHNIQUE, THAT IS TO SAY, TO
19 EMPLOY THE USE OF A BUTT WELD RATHER THAN A LAP WELD,
20 THAT WAS NOT YOUR DECISION OR ONE THAT YOU
21 PARTICIPATED IN?

22 A. IT WAS MENTIONED AT THE TIME I WAS THERE BUT
23 I DIDN'T PARTICIPATE IN THE FINAL DECISION.

24 Q. ALL RIGHT, SIR. NOW, IF I MIGHT, LET ME
25 JUST WIND UP HERE, MR. BESSE, WITH FOLLOWING UP ON
26 SOMETHING THAT I DIDN'T QUITE UNDERSTAND.

27 I DID FOLLOW YOU WHEN YOU INDICATED THAT YOU
28 HAVE NO RECOLLECTION OF KEEPING ANY RECORDS RELATING

1 TO THOSE TELEPHONE CALLS THAT CAME IN, OR ANY OTHER
2 KIND OF WRITTEN RECORD, YOU DIDN'T RECORD ANYTHING ON
3 TAPE ABOUT THEM, DID YOU, SIR?

4 A. NO.

5 Q. ALL RIGHT, SIR. NOW, DURING THIS PERIOD OF
6 TIME, WERE THERE ANY OF THOSE COMPLAINTS WHERE PEOPLE
7 COMPLAINED OF DAMAGES TO THEIR PROPERTY OTHER THAN
8 JUST THE LOSS OF THE TANK.

9 MR. PEDERSON: ASKED AND ANSWERED.

10 BY MR. DICKERSON:

11 Q. WERE THERE SOME OF THEM?

12 A. THERE WERE SOME.

13 Q. DID YOU HAVE A LIABILITY INSURER THAT
14 INSURED SANBORN COMPANY AT THIS TIME FRAME AGAINST
15 LOSSES OR DAMAGES TO PROPERTY OR PERSON?

16 A. YES, WE DID.

17 Q. ALL RIGHT, SIR. WHO WAS YOUR CARRIER FROM
18 1978 THROUGH THOSE YEARS THAT YOU WERE TAKING THESE
19 CALLS AND GETTING THESE TANKS BACK AND LOOKING AT
20 THEM, SIR?

21 MR. PEDERSON: OBJECT TO THAT QUESTION ON THE
22 GROUNDS IT IS NOT RELEVANT. IF YOU KNOW, GEORGE.

23 THE WITNESS: I DON'T REALLY KNOW. I DON'T KNOW.
24 I KNOW WE HAD COVERAGE, BUT I DON'T KNOW WHO THE
25 COMPANY WAS.

26 BY MR. DICKERSON:

27 Q. DID YOU HAVE ANYONE, BY THAT I'M TALKING
28 ABOUT AN INDIVIDUAL, SIR, WHO WAS THE AGENT WHO WROTE

CONSUMER PRODUCT INCIDENT REPORT

NOV 20 1995

E HDS

1. Name of Respondent Frank Garrison		2. Telephone No. (Home) (Work) 612-926-9197	
3. Street Address 4420 Garrison Lane		4. City State Zip Code Edina, MN 55424	
5. Describe accident situation or hazard, including data on injuries. (Use second page if necessary.) The complainant had a 18 year old 2/4 HP electric air compressor that used ;at ;his home. He said it was stored in his garage and was used for putting air in tires and other small jobs were a small air compressor could be used. He said this model had an automatic moisture removal feature. On the ;day of the incident they were putting air in the tires of a mobile home. The air compressor had been running for about 5 minutes when the tank blew up. Pieces of metal from the tank flew all around the area. However, no one was injured from the flying pieces of the air compressor. The unit was turned into a local distributor of the air compressor. They examined the unit and found that the ruptured tank was caused by internal corrosion. The complainant has the remains of the air compressor and the report from the dealer.			
6. Date of Incident(s) 10-28-95	7. If injury or near miss, obtain Age [] Sex [] and describe injury	8. If victim different from respondent, provide Name:	
9. Description of Product 3/4 HP Electric Air Compressor		10. Brand Name Comet	
11. Manufacturer/Distributor Name, Address & Phone Sanborn Mfr'g Co. Springfield, MN		12. Model, Serial No.'s Mod#44A-75-15 Ser#27178	
		13. Dealer's Name, Address, & Phone Unk	
14. Was the product damaged, repaired or modified? Yes [] No [X] If yes, before or after the incident? Describe:		15. Product purchased New [X] Used []	
		16. Does product have warning labels? If so, Note:	
17. Have you contacted the manufacturer? Yes [] No [] If not, Do you plan to contact them?	18. Is the product still available? Yes [] No [] If not, its disposition	19. May we use your name with this report? Yes [X] No []	
FOR ADMINISTRATION USE			
20. Date Received 11-3-95	21. Received by (Name & Office) Jerome R. Boog, MSP-PR	22. Document No. G 5 B - 0019A d	
23. Follow-Up Action -E/F		24. Product Code(s) 0823	
25. Distribution FOCR, EHDS		26 Endorser's Name & Title Eric B. Ault, Regional Director	

MFR/PBYLBR NOTIFIED
OBJECTIVE'S
No comments made
Comments attached

Exclusions/Revisions
 Firm has not requested further notice 11/5/96 RTP

NOV 20 1995

CONSUMER PRODUCT INCIDENT REPORT

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13. Dealer's Name, Address, & Phone Unk		14. Was the product damaged, repaired or modified? Yes [] No [X] If yes, before or after the incident? Describe:	
15. Product purchased (New) x [] Used []		16. Does product have warning labels? If so, Note: none known	
17. Have you contacted the manufacturer? Yes [X] No [] If not, Do you plan to contact them?	18. Is the product still available? Yes [X] No [] If not, its disposition	19. May we use your name with this report? Yes [X] No []	
FOR ADMINISTRATION USE			
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25. Distribution FOCR, EHDS		26 Endorser's Name & Title Eric B. Ault, Regional Director	

**FRANK E. GARRISON
4420 GARRISON LANE
EDINA, MINNESOTA 55424
(612) 926-9197**

November 8, 1995

Jan Thell
State of Minnesota
Office of the Attorney General
Consumer Services Division
Law Enforcement Section
445 Minnesota Street
Suite 1400
St. Paul, MN 55101-2131

Dear Ms. Thell:

I am writing to you regarding a dangerous incident involving an air compressor that occurred recently. You may recall that we discussed this incident over the telephone last Friday, and you asked that I put my complaint in writing.

On Saturday, October 28, 1995 my son-in-law was helping me prepare my motorhome for a trip to Texas. One of the tires needed air, so he connected my air compressor to the valve stem of the tire and began airing up the tire. The air compressor is only a 3/4 horsepower model, so it takes some time to complete the process. The compressor is equipped with two safety devices. One is an automatic electric cutoff so the maximum pressure generated is 125 pounds per square inch. The other is a pressure relief valve which is supposed to relieve any excess air.

My son-in-law was working on other items around the motorhome, and several other people were in the area from time to time. Suddenly, the compressor exploded with such force that it sent shrapnel flying in all directions. It is nothing short of a miracle that no one was injured. My daughter had just departed the area, and my son-in-law was on the other side of the motorhome when it happened. Immediately after the explosion, neighbors from a block away came running over to see what happened.

The shrapnel hit the motorhome in two places, and put gouges in the fiberglass skin. There was also damage to the aluminum fascia on my house and to the chimney. Parts of the compressor were found far from the scene of the explosion. As you can see from the enclosed photograph, the tank of the compressor actually wrapped around itself, the force was so great.

I contacted the manufacturer of the compressor, Sandborn Manufacturing, on Monday, October 30. A person by the name of Steve took note of the incident and said someone would get back to me. I thought that they would want to immediately examine the compressor to see what had gone wrong.

But by the following day, Tuesday, October 31, I had not heard from anyone, so I called the manufacturer again. This time I talked with Steve Roiger, who apparently is the spokesperson for the manufacturer. He did not express a desire to examine the unit. Instead, he instructed me to take the compressor to Delegard Tool Repair in Bloomington so they could look at it and report back to him. I did so on Wednesday, November 1. I talked with Duane Brusehauer of Delegard later that day, who mentioned that there appeared to be some rust in the interior of the tank and that the bottom of the tank appeared to be a little thin. Neither of these items seemed to be very important. Rust should have been kept to a minimum, since the compressor tank was equipped with a built-in device to minimize moisture in the tank. Furthermore, the fact that the bottom of the tank looked "thin" doesn't have any bearing, since the top of the tank is what gave way, not the bottom. Mr. Brusehauer said he would report his findings to the manufacturer and I would have to take it from there.

I did not hear from Sandborn Manufacturing, so I called on the morning of Friday, November 3. Steve Roiger returned my call that afternoon and said they felt no responsibility for the explosion. It was evident I would get no satisfaction from the manufacturer, and that is when I called you to report the incident.

I want to assure you, Ms. Thell, that I am not an opportunist who seeks a huge settlement. My primary concern is that several members of my family could easily have been severely injured - or even killed - by this explosion. Why did both of the safety features fail on this compressor? How many of these units have been sold? How many people are at risk of losing their lives because of these potentially deadly defects?

My concern is in seeing that this issue is properly addressed, and I do not feel that the manufacturer is taking this matter seriously. I urge you to pursue an investigation into the cause of this explosion, and believe your investigation may warrant a recall of the product in order to preserve public safety. A list of additional pertinent data may be found on the next page.

Because I will be leaving the area by Thursday, November 9 for the winter, please contact Steven A. Yerkes (941-0590 days, 937-3485 evenings) with any additional questions and comments.

Thank you for your concern in this matter. I am sure you will do your utmost to protect the public from the results of these product defects.

Sincerely,

Frank E. Garrison
FRANK E. GARRISON

cc: Jerry Boog, Federal Consumer Product Safety Commission
Steve Roiger, Sandborn Manufacturing

PERTINENT DATA RELATING TO EXPLOSION OF AIR COMPRESSOR

Manufacturer: Sandborn Manufacturing
Springfield, MN
(A division of Coleman Power Mate)
Contact: Steve Roiger
Telephone: (800) 533-0365

Air Compressor: "Comet" 3/4 horsepower compressor
Model# 44A75-15
Serial# 27178
Maximum pressure: 125 psi
15-gallon tank
Purchased approximately 18 years ago

Ownership Information: Frank E. Garrison
4420 Garrison Lane
Edina, MN 55424
Telephone (612) 926-9197

Alternative Contact for Mr. Garrison: Steven A. Yerkes
16575 Hilltop Road
Eden Prairie, MN 55347
Telephone:
Office (612) 941-0590
Home (612) 937-3485

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B-24 TC-21 CV

CONSUMER PRODUCT INCIDENT REPORT

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

52-147

1. NAME OF RESPONDENT
Lloyd Adams

2. PHONE NO. (HOME) WORK
918-267-4545 none

3. STREET ADDRESS
Rt.2 Box 334

4. CITY STATE ZIP CODE
Beggs OK 74421

5. DESCRIBE INCIDENT OR HAZARD, INCLUDING DATA ON INJURIES (USE 2ND PGE IF NEEDED)
Air compressor was on and fully pressurized. Consumer began to walk away from it and it burst open at the bottom, putting a 2' x 2' hole in bottom of compressor. Force of air leaving compressor caused a wheel to fall off compressor. Consumer tried to call manufacturer but their number was out of order. He called a local dealer (not the place of purchase) and was told manufacturer was out of business.

-continued-

6. DATE OF INCIDENTS
3/6/91

7. IF INJURY OR NEAR MISS OBTAIN AGE/SEX AND DESCRIBE INJURY:
0 YR/N none

8. IF VICTIM DIFFERENT FROM RESPONDENT, PROVIDE NAME RELATIONSHIP
none none

9. DESCRIPTION OF PRODUCT
air compressor

10. BRAND NAME
unknown

11. MFR/DISTRIBUTOR NAME, ADDR. & PHONE
Saborn Manufacturing Co.
P.O. Box 129
Springfield, MN 56087
507-723-6211
unknown
unknown
unknown

12. MODEL, SERIAL NUMBERS
164A-100-15

13. DEALER'S NAME, ADDRESS & PHONE
Massy Ferguson
unknown
Muskogee, OK
unknown

14. WAS THE PRODUCT DAMAGED, REPAIRED OR MODIFIED? YES x NO IF YES, BEFORE OR AFTER THE INCIDENT? after DESCRIBE:
damaged: a large hole blown in it

15. PRODUCT PURCHASED NEW x USED
DATE PURCHASED 1981 AGE 10 yrs.

16. DOES PRODUCT HAVE WARNING LABELS? IF SO, NOTE: "Do not operate without belt guard. Drain daily."

17. HAVE YOU CONTACTED THE MANUFACTURER? YES NO x
IF NOT, DO YOU PLAN TO CONTACT THEM? YES NO x OTHER?

18. IS THE PRODUCT STILL AVAILABLE? YES x NO
IF NOT, ITS DISPOSITION

19. MAY WE USE YOUR NAME WITH THIS REPORT?
YES x NO

20. DATE RECEIVED
03/07/91

21. RECEIVED BY (NAME & OFFICE)
JM/HL

22. DOCUMENT NO.
H130044A0

23. FOLLOW-UP ACTION
MFR/NOTIFIED
No Comments attached
Excisions/Revisions requested
Firm has not requested further notice
EPDS

24. PRODUCT CODE(S)
823

25. DISTRIBUTION

26. ENDORSER'S NAME & TITLE
Lom [Signature]

12/15/91
MFR/NOTIFIED
No Comments attached
Excisions/Revisions requested
Firm has not requested further notice

15 MAR 1991

CONSUMER PRODUCT INCIDENT REPORT

H130044A0

Air compressor is used for inflating all types of tires. It holds 15 gallons, and is made of metal. It has a valve at the top so that moisture can be drained from inside to prevent corrosion. Consumer drained the compressor daily, as suggested, but says it is impossible to prevent corrosion at the bottom because there is no drainage valve there. Consumer says this is why the bottom burst (area which burst was rusted and thin). The compressor runs on electricity (UL listing unknown).

Consumer was referred by his state OSHA office to file this complaint.

EPDS

15 MAR 1991

B-24 TC-21 CV

CONSUMER PRODUCT INCIDENT REPORT

APR 1991 FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

52-14724

1. NAME OF RESPONDENT
Lloyd Adams

2. PHONE NO. (HOME) WORK
918-267-4545 none

3. STREET ADDRESS
Rt.2 Box 334

4. CITY STATE ZIP CODE
Beggs OK 74421

5. DESCRIBE INCIDENT OR HAZARD, INCLUDING DATA ON INJURIES (USE 2ND PGE IF NEEDED)
Air compressor was on and fully pressurized. Consumer began to walk away from it and it burst open at the bottom, putting a 2' x 2' hole in bottom of compressor. Force of air leaving compressor caused a wheel to fall off compressor. Consumer tried to call manufacturer but their number was out of order. He called a local dealer (not the place of purchase) and was told manufacturer was out of business.

-continued-

6. DATE OF INCIDENTS
3/6/91

7. IF INJURY OR NEAR MISS OBTAIN AGE/SEX AND DESCRIBE INJURY:
0 YR/N none

8. IF VICTIM DIFFERENT FROM RESPONDENT, PROVIDE NAME RELATIONSHIP
none none

9. DESCRIPTION OF PRODUCT
air compressor

10. BRAND NAME
unknown

11. MFR/DISTRIBUTOR NAME, ADDR. & PHONE
Saborn Manufacturing Co.
P.O. Box 129
Springfield, MN 56087
507-723-6211
unknown
unknown
unknown

12. MODEL, SERIAL NUMBERS
164A-100-15

13. DEALER'S NAME, ADDRESS & PHONE
Massy Ferguson
unknown
Muskogee, OK
unknown

14. WAS THE PRODUCT DAMAGED, REPAIRED OR MODIFIED? YES x NO IF YES, BEFORE OR AFTER THE INCIDENT? after DESCRIBE:
amaged: a large hole blown in it

15. PRODUCT PURCHASED NEW x USED
DATE PURCHASED 1981 AGE 10 yrs.

16. DOES PRODUCT HAVE WARNING LABELS? IF SO, NOTE: "Do not operate without belt guard. Drain daily."

17. HAVE YOU CONTACTED THE MANUFACTURER? YES NO x
IF NOT, DO YOU PLAN TO CONTACT THEM? YES NO x OTHER?
Not able to contact

18. IS THE PRODUCT STILL AVAILABLE? YES x NO
IF NOT, ITS DISPOSITION
I gave the motor to a friend

19. MAY WE USE YOUR NAME WITH THIS REPORT? YES x NO

20. DATE RECEIVED
03/07/91

21. RECEIVED BY (NAME & OFFICE)
JM/HL

22. DOCUMENT NO.
H130044A0

23. FOLLOW-UP ACTION
EPDS
15 MAR 1991

24. PRODUCT CODE(S)

25. DISTRIBUTION

26. ENDORSER'S NAME & TITLE
Lloyd Adams

CONSUMER PRODUCT INCIDENT REPORT

H130044A0

Air compressor is used for inflating all types of tires. It holds 15 gallons, and is made of metal. It has a valve at the top so that moisture can be drained from inside to prevent corrosion. Consumer drained the compressor daily, as suggested, but says it is impossible to prevent corrosion at the bottom because there is no drainage valve there. Consumer says this is why the bottom burst (area which burst was rusted and thin). The compressor runs on electricity (UL listing unknown).

Consumer was referred by his state OSHA office to file this complaint.

La

EPDS

15 MAR 1991

If you have any changes, additions, or comments you wish to make concerning your attached report, please make them in the space below.

No
Your report is correct,
and explains what happened.
L.A.

I confirm that the information in the attached report (including any changes, additions, or comments I have made) is accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Lloyd L. Adams

Signature

4-11-91

Date

I request that you do not release my name.

You may release my name to the manufacturer but I request that you not release it to the general public.

You may release my name to the manufacturer and to the public.

5 APR 1991



U.S. CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20207
May 18, 1992

MR. WILLIAM BESSE
PRESIDENT
SANBORN MANUFACTURING CO.
P.O. BOX 129
SPRINGFIELD, MN. 56087

RE: H130044

DEAR MR. BESSE:

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission shares with firms product complaints and in-depth investigation reports concerning injuries or potential injuries associated with products the firms manufacturer or import that are within the Commission's jurisdiction. Some of the reports are very detailed. Others are not detailed but nevertheless mention the products by name.

To best serve the interests of consumers and manufacturers, we now screen these reports and generally do not send to firms reports involving products (1) where the complainant has already contacted the manufacturer, (2) where the problem appears to be economic rather than safety related, or (3) where it appears that the product is not at fault or indirectly involved.

Applying these criteria, we have determined that the enclosed information should be sent to you. We believe that sharing this information benefits the Commission, consumers, and industry since problems submitted by conscientious users can serve as an early warning signal that there may be a product safety problem. If you wish to comment on the enclosed report(s), you may submit your comment to the undersigned. Be sure to include the above-mentioned document number and the name of the product in any reply.

If the report we have provided you along with other information you have or may receive reasonably supports the conclusion that there would be a substantial product hazard, please keep in mind your reporting responsibilities under Section 15 of the Consumer Product Safety Act, 15 U.S.C. Section 2064(b). For more information on the reporting requirements, please contact Marc Schoem, Directorate for Compliance and Administrative Litigation, Consumer Product Safety Commission, Washington, D.C. 20207 (301-492-6608).

In the interest of product safety, we will continue to share these reports with you.

Sincerely,

Joel I. Friedman
Joel I. Friedman, Director
National Injury Information Clearinghouse

Enclosure(s)

EPDS⁹ JAN 1986
/ F3E

SCHNEIDER, BECCUE & KALLESTAD

A PARTNERSHIP AND A PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

RONALD H. SCHNEIDER, P.A.
BOYD BECCUE
JOHN KALLESTAD

1101 SOUTH FIRST STREET, WILLMAR, MINNESOTA
MAILING ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 776, WILLMAR, MN 56201
TELEPHONE (812) 235-1902

PRACTICE LIMITED
TO
LITIGATION

0615008

December 30, 1985

Consumer Products Safety Commission
Office of the Secretary
Washington, D.C. 20207

RE: Boike vs. Sanborn Manufacturing Company

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Our offices represent Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Boike in claims for personal injuries sustained by Mr. Boike on August 3, 1983. The injuries were sustained when an air compressor he was using exploded. The air compressor in question was manufactured by Sanborn Manufacturing Company. Its model number is 64A100-15.

Civil action has been commenced. Through discovery I have learned that Sanborn has submitted various documents to the Consumer Products Safety Commission. However, they are unwilling to provide me with copies of the documents that they have submitted to you relating to explosions of this particular model of air compressor. Accordingly, I would like to request that you provide me copies of any documents which have been submitted by Sanborn to you concerning explosions of air compressors manufactured by Sanborn. If a more formal request is necessary, please advise and send me forms which are required.

Your cooperation is appreciated.

Very truly yours,

John Kallestad

JK:jl

1/6

MANAGER/CLERK NOTIFIED

No Comments made

Comments attached

Excisions/Revisions

Firm has not requested further notice

9/16/86

EPD
SALS

EPDS

JAN 07 1986

5601035
0823

If you have any changes, additions, or comments you wish to make concerning your attached report, please make them in the space below.

The law offices of Schneider & Kallestad are representing Mr. and Mrs. Boike in claims for personal injuries sustained when this air compressor exploded. We would like to receive the names of the other individuals who all experienced injuries as a result of a failure with this particular product. I am interested in this information for several reasons. The manufacturer obtained possession of the exploded air compressor shortly after the accident, conducted its own internal tests on it, and then unfortunately destroyed it. Accordingly, I have very little factual information to work with at this time as to why this particular explosion occurred. Contacts with other persons who have experienced such explosions would certainly be of assistance to our law firm.

Please also note that the law firm of Schneider & Kallestad is signing this request on behalf of Mr. and Mrs. Boike. A photostatic of the retainer agreement is enclosed so that you can verify our firm's representation of Mr. and Mrs. Boike.

*Entered
2/3/86
myj*

I confirm that the information in the attached report (including any changes, additions, or comments I have made) is accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief.


Signature

1-27-86
Date

*REC'D
'86 JUN 30 P2
MAT
CLEA*

- Do not release my name.
- You may release my name to the manufacturer but not to the general public.
- You may release my name to the manufacturer and to the public.

*615008/0823
01-09-86*

CONSUMER PRODUCT INCIDENT REPORT

1. Name of Respondent <u>Clarence Boike</u>	2. Telephone No. (Home) <u>612/ 847-2552</u>	(Work) <u>same</u>
3. Street Address <u>Rt. 1, Box 147</u>	4. City, <u>Maynard</u>	State, <u>MN</u>
	Zip Code <u>56260</u>	

5. Give details of accident, injury, or illness. Describe how incident occurred. (Use reverse side if necessary.)

At approximately 8:15 A.M. on the date of the accident I had been combining wheat and had parked the combine in front of the shed to blow out the chaff. I started the air compressor up and commenced blowing chaff out of the combine. At one point I walked over to the air compressor to determine the air pressure as indicated on the gauge; when I was doing so, it blew up.

6. If injury or illness: Victim's Name Clarence Boike Relationship self
 Age 5/15/31 Sex M Date 8/3/83 Type Injury lacerations to right forearm and elbow
 Body Part Involved right forearm and elbow Treatment stitches to tendons and right elbow

7. Description of Product <u>Air Compressor</u>	8. Was the product: Damaged before incident? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Repaired before incident? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Repaired after incident? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
--	--

9. Brand Name <u>SMC Air Compressor</u>	10. Identifying Numbers, Letters, etc. <u>64A100-15</u>
--	--

11. Manufacturer's Name and Address <u>Sanborn Manufacturing Company 118 West Rock Street P.O. box 206 Springfield, MN 56087</u>	12. Dealer's Name and Address <u>Orschelns Black Oak Ave. Montevideo, MN 56265</u>
---	---

13. How product acquired? Purchased New <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Second Hand <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	14. Age of Product <u>Approx. 8 yrs.</u>
---	---

15. Is product available for inspection? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other <u>Has been destroyed by manufacturer</u>	16. Does product have warning labels or instructions? Are they available? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
--	---

17. Have you contacted the manufacturer? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> If not, do you plan to contact them? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	18. Do you object to the use of your name? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
---	--

FOR ADMINISTRATIVE USE ONLY

19. Receiving Office	20. Date Received	21. Received by	22. Reporting Office
----------------------	-------------------	-----------------	----------------------

23. Source of Report Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Phone <input type="checkbox"/> Visit <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	24. Document No. <u>C615008</u>
--	------------------------------------

25. Follow-Up Action	26. Product Code(s) A. <u>0823</u> B.
----------------------	---

27.	
-----	--

28. Distribution	29. Endorser's Name/Title
------------------	---------------------------

RETAINER AGREEMENT - PERSONAL INJURY

I, CLARENCE AND MARILYN BOLKE hereby employ the firm of SCHNEIDER, BECCUE & KALLESTAD, Willmar, Minnesota, to represent me with regard to: CLAIM FOR PERSONAL INJURIES SUSTAINED ON AUGUST 3, 1983 and I hereby agree to pay to said firm 1/3 ABOVE \$15,000 PRIOR TO SUIT, 40% OF AMOUNTS as and for their fees and services. In the event an appeal is taken, fees shall be SAME.

BY ME

RECORDED
INDEXED
COMMENTED

It is further understood, by and between the parties, that:

1. Client authorizes attorneys to endorse checks made payable to said client on client's behalf.
2. In the event of a structured settlement, attorneys' fees shall be payable in full, at the time of settlement.
3. The amount of all unpaid court and case expenses and interest thereon shall be reimbursed first from any recovery made. Attorneys' fees will be based upon the net recovery. However, in the event of no recovery, expenses shall be borne by client.
4. CLIENT AGREES THAT ALL AMOUNTS ADVANCED UNLESS PAID WITHIN THIRTY DAYS OF BILLING AS CASE EXPENSES SHALL BE ASSESSED A FINANCE CHARGE. THIS FINANCE CHARGE WILL BE COMPUTED BY APPLYING A PERIODIC RATE OF ONE PER CENT PER MONTH WHICH IS EQUIVALENT TO AN ANNUAL PERCENTAGE RATE OF 12 PER CENT.
5. Client agrees that interest which accrues on sums in attorneys' Trust Account may be disbursed as provided by law.
6. The amount specified as attorneys' fees and expenses in this agreement shall constitute a lien upon any and all recoveries. This lien, and the amount thereof, may be established by the Court upon the application of the firm upon such notice to all parties interested therein as the Court may prescribe, or such lien may be enforced, and the amount thereof determined, by the Court in an action for equitable relief brought for that purpose. Judgment shall then be entered by the Court adjudging the amount due as provided in Minn. Stat. § 41.13.

Dated: 8/8/84

[Signature]
SCHNEIDER, BECCUE & KALLESTAD
1101 South First Street, P.O. Box 776
Willmar, MN 56201
Telephone: (612) 235-1902

The above agreement has been fully read and approved by:

Dated: 8/8/84

[Signature]
(Client)

Copy of Agreement to be given to client.

TO: LARRY CORNELL

CONSUMER PRODUCT INCIDENT REPORT

11 OCT 1984

1. Name of Respondent [redacted] 2. Telephone No. (Home) [redacted] (Work) [redacted]

3. Street Address [redacted] 4. City, State, Zip Code [redacted]

5. Give details of accident, injury, or illness. Describe how incident occurred. (Use reverse side if necessary.)
The complainant reported that he purchased a Sanborn brand air compressor new at the Albany, OR Pay-N-Pak store approximately two weeks ago. He said that he received a copy of the Emmons County Record newspaper from his former hometown in North Dakota. He said that the 8/29/84 newspaper listed a recall of Sanborn compressors manufactured between 1972 and 1978. He said that he checked and his unit was subject to the recall. He said that he called the manufacturer's toll free number and confirmed that his unit was under the recall. He said that he was informed by Sanborn that they did not extend the recall to the West Coast. He said that he has not had problems with his compressor, but the recall involves a defective pressure relief valve which could cause the compressor to explode.

6. If injury or illness: Victim's Name Relationship EPDS
Age Sex Date Type Injury GGT 11 1984
Body Part Involved Treatment

7. Description of Product: Portable Air Compressor, portable
8. Was the product: Damaged before incident? Yes No X, Repaired before incident? Yes No X, Repaired after incident? Yes No X

9. Brand Name: Sanborn
10. Identifying Numbers, Letters, etc. Mod: 44A75-10 Ser: 31530

11. Manufacturer's Name and Address: Sanborn Mfg. Co., 118 W. Rock St., Springfield, MN 56087
12. Dealer's Name and Address: Pay-N-Pak, Albany, OR

13. How product acquired? Purchased New X Second Hand Other
14. Age of Product: 2 weeks

15. Is product available for inspection? Yes X No
16. Does product have warning labels or instructions? Are they available? Yes X No

17. Have you contacted the manufacturer? Yes X No
18. Do you object to the use of your name? Yes X No

FOR ADMINISTRATIVE USE ONLY

19. Receiving Office: PTL
20. Date Received: 9-7-84
21. Received by: Burchyski
22. Reporting Office: PTL

23. Source of Report: Letter Phone X Visit Other
24. Document No.: F400108

25. Follow-Up Action: [redacted]
26. Product Code(s): A. 0823 B.

MPR/PRVLR NOTIFIED 11/15/84
No Comments made
Comments/Revisions
Excisions/Revisions
Firm has not requested further notice

28. Distribution: O-EPDS cc: WESC, MDW, CARM
29. Endorser's Name/Title: AFLimberg, DRD

N

If you have any changes, additions, or comments you wish to make concerning your attached report, please make them in the space below.

THE PEOPLE AT SANDBORN INFO. CALLED ME & SAID THEY NOW HAVE 3 SHOPS IN ORE. TO SERVICE THEIR COMPRESSORS, (2 IN PORTLAND & 1 IN ROSEBURG) THEY ALSO SENT ME REPLACEMENT PARTS TO INSTALL IN MY COMPRESSOR.

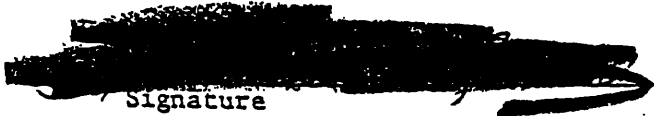
THE PEOPLE AT SANDBORN INFO. THAT I HAVE TALKED TO ARE OF COURSE CONCERNED & VERY COOPERATIVE.

RECEIVED

'84 NOV 13 P4:12

NAT'L INJUS. CLEARINGHOUSE CPSC

I confirm that the information in the attached report (including any changes additions, or comments I have made) is accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief.



Signature

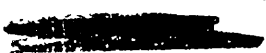
10/30/84
Date:

Do not release my name.

You may release my name to the manufacturer but not to the general public.

You may release my name to the manufacturer and to the public.

P.S. I HAVE BEEN NOTIFIED THAT MY COMPRESSOR (BY SANDBORN) SHOULD NOT HAVE BEEN ON A RECALL BECAUSE THE PRESSURE U/DIVE WAS O.K.

NAME 

FILED 108/0823
10-11-84

UNITED STATES
CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20207

November 23, 1984

The Chairman

File
↓

President
Sanborn Manufacturing Co.
118 W. Rock St.
Springfield, MN 56087

Re: F400108

Dear Sir:

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission has initiated a program to share with industry complaints that we receive from consumers and copies of Commission investigation reports. We recently received the enclosed information about your product.

We believe that the Commission, consumers, and industry will benefit from this cooperative effort, since problems submitted by conscientious users can serve as an early warning signal that there may be a product safety problem, that the product is not being used properly, or that there may be an otherwise unknown defect.

With regard to the enclosed material, the consumer has asked that his/her identity be withheld. The Commission's statute requires that the Commission honor this request. I realize that you may be unable to follow up on any complaints or investigations where the consumer's identity has been withheld. Any comments you wish to offer, however, will be included as part of our file in this matter. Comments should be sent to Dr. Robert Verhalen, Associate Executive Director for Epidemiology, CPSC, Washington, D.C. 20207. Please refer to the document number in further correspondence.

In addition, if your review of the complaint reveals that there could be a substantial product hazard, please keep in mind your reporting responsibilities under Section 15 of the Consumer Product Safety Act.

Your constructive cooperation is very much appreciated. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,



Nancy Harvey Steorts
Chairman

Enclosure

254

FM840130

SUMMARY SHEET

MFR/PRVLR NOTIFIED 12/15/99

No Comments made

Comments attached

Excisions/Revisions

Firm has not requested further notice

CA OR RP NUMBER: FM840130

PRODUCT AND FIRM: Sanborn Air Compressors
Sanborn Manufacturing Company

SUMMARY OF FILE:

Sanborn Manufacturing Company produces air compressors used in light industry, farming and by consumers. The staff is aware of 25 incidents involving the firm's production from 1972-1978. We are not aware of any incidents involving compressors produced outside that time span. These incidents have caused 11 injuries, including an eye injury and arm and leg fractures and lacerations. The incidents involve explosions of the air compressor tank.

From 1972 to April 1975 Sanborn purchased its pressure relief valves from Advance Die Casting Co. (Advance). In 1972 Advance changed the poppet disk from rubber to neoprene; from April 1975 to 1978 Sanborn manufactured its own pressure relief valve, but its design was similar to that purchased from Advance. Beginning in January 1978, Sanborn manufactured its own valve, but it had a different design and none of those machines with this newer valve have had any reported problems.

Prior to July 1981 no personal injury claims had been made against Sanborn, although Sanborn had received reports from the field of burst tanks. The first personal injury claim was in July 1981. Although this claim involved the installation of a wrong part by someone after the unit had been purchased, Sanborn hired a consulting engineer in August 1981, in anticipation of future litigation and to help with the claim. Sanborn conducted a product review. The first factor investigated was the steel, because Sanborn had changed steel suppliers in the late 1970's. A metallurgist tested the steel and found it to be adequate.

Sanborn next investigated the design of the stem tube, attached to a pull-ring relief valve to suck out water in the tank. Although they found accelerated rusting where the tube contacted the inside of the tank, the burst tanks inspected had ruptured along the water (lap) line. In any event, as a new method of draining water from the tank, Sanborn eliminated the drain stem and installed a petcock on the bottom of the tank. The conclusion was reached that proper maintenance procedures were not being followed by users, i.e., draining moisture from the tank after each use, which resulted in weakened tanks.

1

From January 5, 1982 to May 4, 1982, Sanborn was side-tracked by a "team approach" in trying to identify the problem. In August 1982 Sanborn instituted its Product Review Campaign in Southern Minnesota and through a distributor-- Gibos--in Texas to test units that had been operating in the field. The purpose of this campaign was to review Sanborn's product after they had been used for a number of years. At this time Sanborn began testing its own, as well as its competitors', air compressors. Out of the units obtained approximately 45% were useable for testing of these approximately 45% were tested.

On February 19, 1983, a meeting was held to review the product review campaign. The pressure relief valves did not always function as intended. Approximately one-third of the sample of 98 "failed", and most did not operate until pressures exceed 300-350 psi. Advance, the valve supplier, had indicated that 250 psi was the maximum adjustable relief pressure. Also, the electrical pressure switch did not always function as intended. At that time the decision was made to replace both the pressure relief valve and the pressure switch on all 165,000 Sanborn air compressors which had been manufactured from January, 1972 to August 31, 1978.

Burst pressures of the 98 tanks tested varied from approximately 100 psi to more than 800 psi. This is consistent with a single tank burst test performed at ESEL (Engineering Laboratory) when rupture occurred at 975 psi. The stated maximum dual piston pump pressure was approximately 350 psi. This also is consistent with ESEL tests that revealed a maximum pressure of 300 psi on a single manifold, dual-piston pump driven by a one-horsepower motor.

Sanborn's field safety program did not differentiate between consumer and non-consumer products. Most problems occurred with 22-gallon tanks, although the firm acknowledged a few incidents with 15 gallon tanks. Sanborn instructed its dealers to replace the pressure relief valves and pressure switches and thoroughly examine the units and recommend to the owners other repairs to insure that the units were in good condition.

The program began with the Quality Store chain because it had the best dealer network of all Sanborn's customers. The first ads were published in May 1983. By March 1984 Sanborn was ready to begin its notice campaign on a national scale. Its national notice campaign consisted of ads in Farm Journal, Prairie Farmer, Wallace Farmer, and in local newspapers (total circulation of 81 million readers). Sanborn also sent out posters, package and billing statement stuffers, and notice through local agricultural extension services and OSHA. Approximately 440 publications carried Sanborn's ads.

Sanborn paid for the ads it instructed its dealers to place in local newspapers. The ads ran in weekly papers once a week for a month, and then at four-week intervals for two months. In daily papers, the ads ran once a week in the Thursday or Sunday edition for one month, then at four-week intervals. Every dealer who bought units from Sanborn during the 1972-1978 period was contacted and almost all agreed to put up posters. A few refused to place ads in local newspapers. Sanborn also notified dealers who did not receive units during the 1972-1978 period for informational purposes.

2

Sanborn added drain warnings and decals on the units, and drain instruction labels in 1981 or 1982. Sanborn plans to continue to operate its toll-free number indefinitely. Sanborn does not have warranty cards to assist in contacting consumers directly. It tried using radio ads but found them to have limited success. The field safety program is continuing and Sanborn hopes to complete it by September 1986, by which time the campaign will have run in each area of the country for at least one year. Sanborn estimates that the firm has spent more than one million dollars on the safety program.

The campaign's emphasis is on component parts and not the tanks because if the tank ruptures at a low pressure there is small chance of personal injury. The problem is when the tank explodes at a high pressure.

Current pressure-relief valves are preset at the factory at 110-130 psi, depending on the model, (a safer, lower pressure) and all pressure relief valves are 100% tested (as opposed to Advance's previous random testing of 1 in 20), before being placed on the compressor. Sanborn has had no problems with these valves since they were redesigned in 1978. The firm could provide no information on the products' expected lifetime, saying it varied with use, care and maintenance.

NUMBER OF PRODUCTS INVOLVED AND CORRECTED

<u>Total Produced:</u>	165,000
<u>Total Repaired to Date:</u>	7,404
<u>Percent Repaired to Date:</u>	4.49%

CPSC Field staff had investigated several incidents in 1982, but had decided that no further follow-up was necessary based upon information supplied by the firm that the incidents resulted from consumer misuse and tampering.

Following in-depth investigations of several incidents in 1984, the staff attempted to gather more information from Sanborn through on-site inspections and correspondence. Initially, however, Sanborn refused to cooperate fully with staff informational requests, claiming that (1) the Sanborn compressors involved in the incidents are not consumer products, and (2) any information obtained during the course of our investigation would be available under the FOIA to all who ask for it and might waive attorney work-product privileges granted to that data in separate litigation. Eventually, negotiations between the staff and the firm resulted in Sanborn allowing CPSC staff to visit the firm and examine its records.

The staff has evaluated the information provided by the firm and has decided that Sanborn air compressors are consumer products. The staff finds that these products present a substantial product hazard with a "B" level priority. The firm's corrective action plan is adequate and should be monitored.

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Firm Name: Sarborn Manufacturing Co.

File Number: FM 84-130

FILE CLOSING

A. Numbers corrected: 10,468

manufacturer/importer level _____
distributor/wholesaler level _____
retailer level _____

Firm had disputed CPSC authority - CA negotiat w/ firm to do CAP anyway, but that onl monitoring would be b CACA, not field.

_____ Status reports evaluated
_____ Request for close received from firm
_____ Distribution checks completed
_____ Retail checks completed
_____ Consumer checks completed

B. Distributor/Retailer Effectiveness Checks

	Dist.	Retailer
Effectiveness Inspections Conducted	_____	_____
Telephone Checks Conducted	_____	_____
Firms in Full Compliance	_____	_____
Firms Notified but taking Insufficient Action	_____	_____
Firms not Notified	_____	_____

C. Consumer Effectiveness Checks

Telephone Checks Conducted	_____
Notified and Taking Sufficient Action	_____
Notified but not Taking Sufficient Action	_____
Not Notified	_____

Decision:

- Close file
- Seek further corrective action
- Continue to monitor

Rationale: Firm did extensive notice, but response has greatly slowed recently. As of 9/30/87, firm had retrofitted 10,446 unit. From then until 5/13/88, they only reached 22 more units. Firm will continue to keep SCQ phone line & make retrofits, but no need for CLOSE APPROVALS: CPSC to keep file open. No more incidents.

Compliance officer [Signature] 5/13/88 Attorney [Signature]
Director, CACA [Signature]
AED, CA [Signature] 5/25/88
(Only if Close approval)

cc. Regional office
Central

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CA or RP No. FMB40130

Hazard Priority Classification B

Compliance with Reporting Obligations:

 Further Investigation and Review Recommended.

 X No Further Investigation Recommended.

Legal Strategy:

Approvals:

Compliance Officer [Signature] 3/24/96 Attorney [Signature] 3/25

Director CACA [Signature] 3/24/96
AED, C&A

(Only if CAP or CAP & Close approval)

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U.S. CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, DC 20207

OFFICE OF COMPLIANCE

DIVISION OF
CORRECTIVE ACTIONS

Tel: 301-504-0608

FAX: 301-504-0359

DATE: 11/24/95 PAGES TRANSMITTED 6 + cover

TO: Marky Meltzer

TITLE: _____

OFFICE: FOCR

FAX #: _____

FROM: Harry Hershman

REMARKS: Sanborn PD

NOTE: If all pages are not received, or if you have problems with this transmittal, please contact the person listed above.

THIS MESSAGE IS INTENDED ONLY FOR THE USE OF THE INDIVIDUAL OR ENTITY TO WHICH IT IS ADDRESSED AND MAY CONTAIN INFORMATION THAT IS PRIVILEGED, CONFIDENTIAL, AND EXEMPT FROM DISCLOSURE UNDER APPLICABLE LAW. IF THE READER OF THIS MESSAGE IS NOT THE INTENDED RECIPIENT, YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT ANY DISSEMINATION, DISTRIBUTION, OR COPYING OF THIS COMMUNICATION IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED. IF YOU HAVE RECEIVED THIS COMMUNICATION IN ERROR, PLEASE NOTIFY US IMMEDIATELY BY TELEPHONE, AND RETURN THE ORIGINAL MESSAGE TO US AT THE ABOVE ADDRESS VIA THE U.S. POSTAL SERVICE. THANK YOU.

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100 ←

Dec. 7, 1995

Hi Pam, We're not planning any further follow-up to PSA 0151, a data review for Sanborn Mfg. Co. air compressors. We suspected a possible problem with these air compressors but the data review doesn't confirm a problem.

Marty Meltzer

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FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

DIRECTORATE FOR EPIDEMIOLOGY

DATA REVIEW

TO: M. Meltzer, CCA
FROM : M. Edmonds, EHHA #4
Ext. 1263

DATE: 11/27/95
DATE DUE: 12/12/95
PRIORITY: C

REQUEST: PSA 0151, Sanborn Manufacturing Company
electric air compressor (any brand name as long as the report identifies
the manufacturer as the Sanborn Manufacturing Company)

HAZARD PATTERN: explosion of air compressor

SELECTION CRITERIA:

Product Code(s) 0823
Text/Other : San, Born
Time Frame : 900000 - 951127
NFIRS Search Criteria: none

INCIDENTS IDENTIFIED:

<u>Data Base(s)*</u>	<u># of Incidents</u>	<u># of Deaths</u>
Accident Investigations	2	--
Reported Incidents	2	--
Death Certificates	--	--
NEISS (Actual number)	--	--
NFIRS	--	--
TOTAL	4	--

* Incidents reported in more than one data base are included only once, in the data base listed first. These are reports EPHA was able to identify from the CPSC data files and should not be considered a statistical sample or a complete count of all such incidents that may have occurred.

NOTES/COMMENTS

Printouts attached

PSA 0151 Sanborn Mfr. electric air compressor
Clearinghouse Format - With MFR
Accident Investigations
U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission
National Injury Information Clearinghouse

11/27/95

Page 1

Task number: 910603CCC3543 Date Accident: 03/06/91 D Date Entered: 08/01/91
City : BEGGS State : OK Type: 3=OTHER Source: 21
Sex: UNKNOWN Status: C Disposition: 0=NO INJURY
Age: 0 Location: HOME
Diagnosis: OTHER Body Part: 99
Document Number: H9130044A Category Id: SECT041991
Product 1 : 823 AIR COMPRESSORS (SEPARATE)
Product 2 : 0 NO SECOND PRODUCT INVOLVEMENT
Manufacturer: SABORN MFG.CO. M# 164A-100-15 Model : SABORNMFG. C

Synopsis :

THIS NON-INJURY INCIDENT INVOLVED AN ELECTRIC 10 YEAR OLD AIR COMPRESSOR. THE AIR COMPRESSOR WAS FULLY PRESSURIZED AT 120 LBS. AND HAD SHUT OFF. AS THE COMPLAINANT WALKED AWAY, THE COMPRESSOR TANK BLEW OPEN LEAVING A 2"X2" HOLE IN THE RUSTED BOTTOM.

Task number: 930625CCN1914 Date Accident: 04/08/93 D Date Entered: 08/24/93
City : SWAYZEE State : IN Type: 1=ONSITE Source: 99
Sex: MALE Status: C Disposition: 1=TREATED & RELE
Age: 47 Location: HOME
Diagnosis: CONTUSION OR ABRASION Body Part: UPPER TRUNK
Document Number: G9360145 Category Id: SECT031993
Product 1 : 823 AIR COMPRESSORS (SEPARATE)
Product 2 : 0 NO SECOND PRODUCT INVOLVEMENT
Manufacturer: SANDBORN MFG. CO. Model : MDL 1042200-22

Synopsis :

A 47 YEAR OLD MALE SUSTAINED SEVERAL BRUISES AND ADVANCED HEARING IMPAIRMENT WHEN HIS 2 HP AIR COMPRESSOR EXPLODED WHICH THREW HIM APPROXIMATELY 10-15 FEET AWAY FROM WHERE HE WAS STANDING.

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PSA 0151 Sanborn Mfr. electric air compressor
- ClearingHouse Format - With Manufacturer
Reported Incidents
U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission
National Injury Information ClearingHouse

11/27/95
Page 1

Document Number: C9045009A Task Number : Issue : 27
Date Received : 04/05/90 Confirmed : Date Entered : 04/19/90
City : HAYWARD State : CA Zip : 94545
Source : 0 Type Of Contact : 24
Prod : 823 AIR COMPRESSORS (SEPARATE)
Prod : 0 NO SECOND PRODUCT INVOLVEMENT
Date Injured : 04/01/86 D Work Related : N
Age : 0 Sex : 1 MALE
Disposition : 9 9=UNKNOWN, NOT STA Haz Type : 4 EXPLOSION
Brand : M-SANBORN AIR COMP Screened ? :
Model : M-104B250

Narrative :

MAN WAS INJURED WHEN AN AIR COMPRESSOR MALFUNCTIONED AND EXPLODED IN HIS FACE.

Document Number: C9195002A Task Number : Issue : 51
Date Received : 09/16/91 Confirmed : Y Date Entered : 10/04/91
City : SMITHVILLE State : MO Zip : 00000
Source : 0 Type Of Contact : 24
Prod : 823 AIR COMPRESSORS (SEPARATE)
Prod : 0 NO SECOND PRODUCT INVOLVEMENT
Date Injured : 06/11/91 D Work Related : U
Age : 44 Sex : 1 MALE
Disposition : 4 4=TREATED & ADMITTE Haz Type : 4 EXPLOSION
Brand : SANBORN Screened ? :
Model : M-44A75-15

Narrative :

A 44 YEAR OLD MALE BROKE HIS SHOULDER AND ARM USING AN AIR COMPRESSOR TO INFLATE A TIRE THAT EIPILODED.

Document Number: G9360145A Task Number : Issue : 40
Date Received : 07/01/93 Confirmed : Date Entered : 07/15/93
City : SWAYZEE State : IN Zip : 46986
Source : 0 Type Of Contact : 21
Prod : 823 AIR COMPRESSORS (SEPARATE)
Prod : 0 NO SECOND PRODUCT INVOLVEMENT
Date Injured : 04/08/93 D Work Related : N
Age : 47 Sex : 1 MALE
Disposition : 1 1=TREATED & RELEAS Haz Type : 4 EXPLOSION
Brand : SANBORN MFG CO Screened ? :
Model : S-16281/M-104200-22

Narrative :

A 47 YEAR OLD MALE WAS INJURED WHEN AN AIR COMPRESSOR EXPLODED DURING USE AT HOME.

Dup. 101 Q30625CCN1914

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PSA 0151 Sanborn Mfr. electric air compressor

ClearingHouse Format

Death Certificate File

Not All States Reporting during Entire Period

U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission

National Injury Information Clearing House

Task Number : 920828CCC1604

11/27/95

Page 1

Document Number : 9254007652

Age : 26

External Cause : 9211

Prod1 : 823

AIR COMPRESSORS (SEPARATE)

Date Of Death : 05/17/92

Prod 2 : 0

NO SECOND PRODUCT INVOLVEMENT

Date of Accident : 05/17/9

Sex : MALE

Date Entered : 09/09/92

Race : WHITE

State: WV

Workrel : N

Location : HOME

City : WELCH

Zip :

Narrative :

AIR COMPRESSOR EXPLOSION - ACUTE EXSANGUINATION; MULTIPLE

TRAUMA TO LOWER EXTREMITIES; COMPRESSOR EXPLOSION - AUTOPSY NO

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Author: Martin N. Meltzer at cpsc-cro
Date: 11/22/95 02:21 PM
Priority: Normal
Receipt Requested
TO: Lawrence L. Hershman at CPSC-HQ2
Subject: Sanborn Mfg. Co.

----- Message Contents -----

Nov. 22, 1995

Hi Larry,

A number of years ago, you handled a case involving exploding air compressors from Sanborn Manufacturing Company, Springfield, MN. I believe it was case FM 84-130. Going through the file it appears there was a product recall.

Recently we've received two new reports of Sanborn air compressors exploding. One was a complaint received 11/3/95 from a Mr. Frank Garrison of Edina, MN on an 18 year old electric air compressor, brand name Comet, model 44A-75-15 (Document # G5B0019A). Another was IDI case 930625CCN1914, which involved a five year old model 104200-22 air compressor blowing up. I can't tell from the data at hand if its the same problem covered by the previous FM case or if its a new and improved defect. The complaint from Mr. Garrison could be a compressor covered by the old FM case since the compressor reportedly is 18 years old.

Just to see if we have a trend I'm going to put in a PSA for a data review. I'll send you a copy of the PSA request by CC mail for your information. I kind of doubt we'll see any trend in the data.

If there's a case here, do you want the case or would you prefer we handle it?

Marty Meltzer

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FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

PSA ACTION (FOR PSA USE ONLY)

PRODUCT SAFETY ASSESSMENT (PSA) TECHNICAL EVALUATION REQUEST

Requested by: Martin Meltzer Org. Codes: CCA FO C R
Date: November 24, 1995 Priority: C Case # to be assigned

Request number:
Date Processed:
Date Requested:
Due Date:

PRODUCT INFORMATION

Manufacturer: Sanborn Manufacturing Company City: Springfield State: MN

Assigned to:
Organization:

Product: electric air compressor

Technical Off:

Brand name, model, etc. all brand names

Request Summary:

Sample number: none

Sample Disposition Return to Requestor Store at Whse Other:

IDI Number:

EVALUATION REQUESTED:

DATA REVIEW - EP

We are interested in checking on whether there are any consumer complaints or in-depth investigations on file for incident within the past five years which involve any explosions of electric air compressors from the Sanborn Manufacturing Company, Springfield, Minnesota. We are interested in the product under any brand name, so long as the report identifies the manufacturer as the Sanborn Manufacturing Company. We are already aware of GSB0019A and 930625CCN1914.

The background on this request is that in 1984 there was a recall of these air compressors. We suspect there could be a continuing problem and we are interested in checking whether the data on file supports this suspicion.

Thank you.

EPI ASSESSMENT: Dates: From: 1990 To: present Sort by Mfg. X Yes No
ID: IPI NEISS Comments NEISS Estimates Deaths NFIRS
Hazard: explosion of air compressor

Requested date: December 12, 1995

File

FIELD ACTIVITY COVERSHEET

1. REGION/STATE FOWR/HNL	2. OPERATION (Check One) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Inspection () Establishment Visit () Telephone Contact () Investigation () Other	3. DATE 7/7/88	4. NUMBER (RO Use)
-----------------------------	--	-------------------	--------------------

5. ESTABLISHMENT
 Name A. L. Kilgo, Inc dba Kilgo's *Sanborn Htg. Springfield, Mn.*
 Address 180 Sand Island Road
 City Honolulu State Hawaii Zip 6819 Telephone No. 808 832 2200

6. RELATED FIRM () Parent () Headquarters () Subsidiary () Other
 Name None City _____ State _____

7. PRODUCTS COVERED <u>Portable Electric Air Compressors</u>	8. OTHER CONSUMER PRODUCTS <u>Marine, Industrial, and Building Machinery and Supplies</u>
---	--

9. ESTABLISHMENT TYPE () Manufacturer () Importer <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wholesaler () Own Label Dist. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Retailer () Repackager () Other _____	10. ANNUAL PRODUCTION Products \$ _____ Units Other Products \$ <u>18 Million</u> Units
---	---

11. I.S. BUSINESS % Received <u>100</u> % Shipped <u>0</u>	12. SAMPLES COLLECTED None	13. MIS CODE 32626	14. HOURS Activity <u>4</u> Travel <u>2</u>
--	-------------------------------	-----------------------	---

15. REASON FOR ACTIVITY (Assignment Reference Report by Kilgo's that some of their Air Compressors being offered for sale drew more electricity than the rating on their cords and plugs.)

16. ANNOUNCED Rationale if Announced: Follow up to request for advice by UNANNOUNCED () Kilgo's

17. EMPLOYEE'S NAME Donald K. F. Ching	TITLE Investigagor	SIGNATURE <i>Donald K. F. Ching</i>
---	-----------------------	--

18. ENDORSEMENT () REMARKS () SUMMARY () OTHER

Inspection of this firm was conducted in response to a report from the firm regarding portable electric air compressors. The firm had discovered that these air compressors draw more current than the maximum rating of the power cord. CACA considered this a Section 15 report and requested an inspection. Testing by the firm revealed these compressors draw 19-22 amps. Cords are rated at 15 amps. There are no known incidents. Firm did advise manufacturer of its concern.

It was not feasible to collect a sample.

Forwarded to CACA for further evaluation.

19. REVIEWER'S NAME James P. diGrazia	TITLE Supervisor	SIGNATURE <i>James P. diGrazia</i>
--	---------------------	---------------------------------------

20. REVIEW DATE 8-8-88	21. DISTRIBUTION 0: SFRO cc's: CACA <u>CHI-RO</u>
---------------------------	---

A. L. Kilgo, Inc.
Honolulu, Hawaii
7/7/88 DKFC

Inspection of A. L. Kilgo, Inc., 180 Sand Island Road, Honolulu, Hawaii 96819 was made for the purpose of obtaining/required for a Section 15 Report. information

Kilgo's had sought CPSC's advice on some Air Compressors which drew more electricity (amps) than the ratings on the plugs and cords and the contact was considered to be a Section 15 Report.

Mr. A. L. Kilgo, President of the company, was present at the initial meeting with the CPSC Investigator. Also present were Karen Lee Jiminez, Administrative Assistant, Mr. Ed Wright, Machinery Specialist, Mr. Howard Miyasato, Head of Kilgo's Repair Shop. Mr. Robert M. Ajimine, Executive Vice President of Kilgo's was at the meeting momentarily. Mr. Kilgo expressed his concern over the problem air compressors and instructed his staff to do whatever was need to make things right. Subsequent contacts with Kilgo's were with Mr. Wright and Mrs. Jiminez. They furnished the information required for a Section 15 Report.

NOTICE OF INSPECTION:

Notice of Inspection was given to Mr. A. L. Kilgo, President of A. L. Kilgo, Inc. and Investigator's Credential, presented.

STRUCTURE & TYPE OF BUSINESS:

A. L. Kilgo, Inc., dba Kilgo's, is incorporated under the laws of Hawaii. It is a Retailer and Distributor of Construction, Industrial and Marine Machinery and Material. It does not manufacture but does import. The business is concentrated in one location at 180 Sand Island Road, Honolulu, Hawaii 96819. Gross is approximately 18 Million Dollars a year.

INDIVIDUAL RESPONSIBILITY:

Mr. A. L. Kilgo is President and General Manager of the Company. He has ultimate responsibility. Mr. Robert Ajimine is the Executive Vice President. Other key people involved with the Air Compressors are Karen Lee Jiminez, Administrative Assistant to Mr. Kilgo, Mr. Ed Wright, Machinery Specialist (Kilgo's Machinery for Contractors and Industry) and Mr. Howard S. Miyasato, Master Service Technician and Head of Kilgo's Repair Service.

PERSONS INTERVIEWED:

Mr. A. L. Kilgo. President. Discussion about the start and history of the Company and its growth. Karen L. Jiminez, Administrative Assistant and Mr. Ed Wright, Machinery Specialist. Discussions limited to the problem Air Compressors.

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COMPLAINT FILE:

Kilgo's does not maintain a Complaint File. They have not had any significant number of reports of injury or consumer complaints.

PRODUCT GUARANTEES

Kilgo's relies upon the Guarantees and Warranties of the manufacturer of the goods it sells. Returns are accepted for reasonable cause. This is not a problem area with the consumer.

PRODUCT EXAMINATION
COMPONENTS/RAW MATERIALS
MANUFACTURING OPERATIONS
QUALITY CONTROL

Kilgo's does not manufacture. It purchases goods from suppliers in a form ready to retail. It relies upon its suppliers to furnish goods which meet government and industry standards. When a product is discovered to be faulty or a problem, Kilgo's is quick to deal with the supplier.

DISTRIBUTION AND PROMOTION:

Kilgo's sells within the State of Hawaii. It has a large Retail facility. Heavy media promotion.

DISCUSSION WITH MANAGEMENT.

Discussion was mainly confined to the Problem Air Compressors. Investigator had made several contacts with Kilgo's before, mostly doing Recall Effectiveness Checks. Kilgo's records were always complete and readily available. Any discrepancies were quickly corrected.

Kilgo's is quite concerned about the Problem Air Conditioners. The discrepancy between the Amps actually drawn by the Compressors and the Amp rating on the cords and plugs was brought to their attention in late May, 1988. According to Ms. Karen Jiminez, Kilgo's immediately called the manufacturer, Sanborn Manufacturing Company, 1118 West Rock St., Springfield, MN 56087, Mr. Joe Sturn, to tell them of the problem.

Mr. Wright says that the problem was brought to their attention by an electrician who was doing some work for Kilgo's. Mr. Wright says that he tested all the Compressors on the floor and those found to draw more current than the ratings on the cords and plugs were pulled off sale. Ms. Jiminez and Mr. Wright say that Sanborn Manufacturing Company said that they would have their electrical engineers look into the problem. Mr. Wright says that he wants Sanborn to replace the Motors so that he can go about selling the Compressors.

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A. L. Kilgo, Inc.
Honolulu, Hawaii
7/7/88 DKEG

DISCUSSION WITH MANAGEMENT:

A. L. Kilgo, Inc. is a Retailer and Distributor of the Problem Air Compressors. Instructions in " A GUIDE FOR MANUFACURERS, DISTRIBUTORS AND RETAILERS" and in 16CFR 1115.13(c), copies of which were given to Ms. Jiminez and Mr. Wright, specify information to be reported. They are:

1. Sanborn Electric Portable Air Compressors;

- Model M64B150-10, Ser. No. H3580365
- " " Ser. No. H3580367
- Model M64B150-14, Ser. No. 10850153
- " " Ser. No. 10850154
- Model M64B150-22, Ser. No. 10850547

- Model M898200-14, Ser. No. 10890401
- " " Ser. No. 10890402
- " " Ser. No. 10890403
- " " Ser. No. 10890406
- " " Ser. No. 10830084
- Model M898200-22, Ser. No. 10850182
- " " Ser. No. 10850183

2. Sanborn Manufacturing Company
118 West Rock Street
Springfield, MN 56087

3. Compressor Models M64B150-10, M64B150-14 and M64B150-22 draw 19 Amps of electricity while in operation. Models M898200-14 and M898200-22 draw 22 Amps of electricity while in operation. All of these Compressors are wired with #14 Gage (15 Amp rated) wire and 15 Amp rated plugs.

4. Overheating

5. A. L. Kilgo, President, A. L. Kilgo Co., Inc., 180 Sand Island Road, Honolulu, Hawaii 96819.

EXHIBITS

1. Sanborn Catalog

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