

12. Plant orientation tour

Before starting the inspection a guided tour of the complete facility was made, including storage area, outside storage and raw (starting) materials and solvents, main quality control laboratory and energy department; excluded from the tour were those chemical plants that were not subject to inspection and the waste water treatment area (to save time only).

13. Inspection of areas and facility equipment

The plant was inspected in detail, including control room, reactor vessels, centrifuges and drying vessels.

14. Inspection of operation procedures

For each reactor vessel in operation the actual operating instructions and reports were checked and compared with the planning of that particular day.

15. Sampling and sample-taking procedures

Samples were taken according to agreed guidelines (see part C).

16. Handling of samples

Due to the limited size of the inspection team the sample handling was completely carried out by facility personnel. During the exchange of views however, some ideas on the procedures for handling the samples were expressed (see part C).

17. Analysis of samples

The samples were analysed in the main laboratory of the facility located at a distance of 20 kilometres away from the inspected plant.

18. Types of analysis

The analysis involved mainly the application of spectroscopic techniques (Nuclear Magnetic Resonance, Mass Spectrometry and Infrared Spectroscopy) to verify that the structure of the synthesized product matched that on the production process record and on the operating procedures.

19. The documents made available to the inspectors were

- layout of the facility and detailed layout of the plant;
- production planning;
- detailed listing of chemicals stocks;
- batch operating instructions and batch operating reports (available at each reactor);
- global production reports of the last month/year.

20. Evaluation by the inspectors

The main question evaluated during the visit was: "is it possible to detect undeclared production of scheduled chemicals?" Relevant conclusions are presented in part C.