

FIFTH ECSC RESEARCH PROGRAMME ON**'TECHNICAL CONTROL OF NUISANCES AND POLLUTION AT THE PLACE OF WORK AND
IN THE ENVIRONMENT OF IRON AND STEEL WORKS'**

(85/C 338/02)

1. Introduction

Despite the significant progress made in earlier programmes, particularly the fourth, some difficulties remain and new ones have emerged, some of them as a result of solutions found to earlier problems. One of these is the transfer of pollution from one environment to another (e.g. gypsum generated by desulphurization). A fresh research drive is therefore essential.

Moreover, Community directives, national legislation and even regional environmental regulations are proliferating or becoming increasingly stringent.

2. Fifth Research Programme

Analysis of the proposals made by national experts suggests that the aim of the Fifth Programme should be to deal with priorities established according to two sets of requirements: those of Community directives and national legislation on the one hand, and technological advances and the growing problem of pollution transfer on the other.

**2.1 Measures to combat air pollution at the workplace,
inside plants and in the environment**

Research on the purification of the atmosphere at the workplace and inside plants is an ongoing and still crucial objective. The priorities are the reduction of emissions during the carbonization of coal; the collection of secondary fumes in blast-furnace shops, oxygen steelworks and electric furnaces; the control of aerosols and dust generation during handling, transport, preparation and stocking of fine raw materials and recycled or non-recycled dusty waste; and the effect of smells on the internal and external environment of manufacturing plants.

2.2 Measures to combat fresh and sea water pollution

The priority here is research necessitated by the phased implementation of the Council Directive on pollution caused by certain dangerous substances discharged into Community's aquatic environment.

The most urgent research is on:

1. specific aspects of coking plant waste water treatment (e.g. biological nitrification);
2. the treatment of gas scrubbing waters, including those at blast-furnaces (e.g. Zn and cyanides);
3. treatment of hot and cold rolling mill effluent (e.g. emulsions);
4. treatment of effluent from surface treatment installations (e.g. heavy metals).

2.3 Waste

The disposal of waste in general, which includes volume reduction, treatment, recycling, beneficiation and storage, is a priority issue. The term waste covers a huge range of residual substances from blast-furnace dedusting sludge, oils, sludge and oily scale from rolling mills to steelmaking slag and dust generated throughout the steel production cycle. Toxic and dangerous waste will however, receive particularly close attention.

The problems involved in the management of waste and slag dumps and in the beneficiation and reclamation of stored or dumped substances will be examined as part of overall measures to combat pollution of the soil, the water table and the atmosphere (fine dust generation).

2.4. Impact studies

Impact studies, emission inventories and forecasting systems for dust fall-out and for pollutant diffusion and conversion in steelworks and the environment are of the utmost importance and will be given special attention, as will the prevention of technological hazards.

Although earlier programmes, particularly the third, placed considerable emphasis on measurements of pollutant emission and diffusion, it is important in this context to stimulate research into the harmonization of sampling methods and of qualitative and quantitative measurements of steelmaking pollutants. The effect of these pollutants on areas close to steelworks needs to be assessed. Work will also be done on techniques for identifying major sources of pollution.

Special emphasis will be placed on the development of sampling and continuous monitoring techniques.

2.5 Noise

Noise pollution generated by steelmaking is a special problem because of the size of the equipment, manufacturing and handling processes, the resonance characteristics of the materials handled and, in many cases, the proximity of residential areas.

The aim will therefore be to improve existing sound-damping techniques. At the same time, special attention will be given to the detection, location and identification of noise sources harmful to the health of workers and the environment of steelmaking areas.

3. Conclusions

The Commission of the European Communities

- considering that it is necessary to help the steel industry comply with the provisions of such directives as affect it and use the best techniques available for preventing pollution,

- considering the need to encourage research on industrial hygiene at the workplace in the iron and steel industry and on the improvement of the environment,

- taking into account the favourable opinions and agreement expressed concerning research by the scientific, professional and government and consultative committees,

- having regard to Article 55 of the Treaty establishing the European Coal and Steel Community,

has decided, subject to budget availabilities, to make available a total appropriation in the region of 20 million ECU for the implementation of a fifth research programme on the 'Technical control of nuisances and pollution at the place of work and in the environment of iron and steel works' starting in 1985 and probably lasting five years.

4. Document EUR 10338 *in extenso*, the 'Fifth research programme on technical control of nuisances and pollution at the place of work and in the environment of iron and steel works', may be obtained on request from the

Commission of the European Communities,
Directorate-General XIII A 2, Room B 4/82,
or

Directorate-General V-E-2, Room C 4/89,
Jean Monnet Building,
Luxembourg-Kirchberg,
BP 1907.

Notice pursuant to Article 19 (3) of Regulation No 17 (¹), concerning Case No IV/31 285 — Sofreb

(85/C 338/03)

1. On 29 June 1984, Société Française de Développement de la Boîte-Boissons, hereinafter called Sofreb, in accordance with Articles 2 and 4 of Regulation No 17 (¹), sought negative clearance from Article 85 (1) of the EEC Treaty or, failing that, exemption under Article 85 (3) for the agreements by which it was set up.

2. The company, which was registered on 21 December 1983 in the form of a French société anonyme (public

limited liability company) with a share capital of FF 82 million, has its registered office at Custines, department of Meurthe et Moselle, in Lorraine.

3. 33,4 % of Sofreb's shares are held by Continental Can USA through its German subsidiary Schmalbach-Lubeca and the remaining 66,6 % by Sacilor through two wholly-owned subsidiaries (Sip and Solodev) and one other subsidiary in which it has a 60 % stake (Dilling).

4. Sofreb's objects are the construction and operation of an industrial plant for the manufacture of two-piece metal drinks cans at its factory at Custines in Lorraine.

(¹) OJ No 13, 21. 2. 1962, p. 204, English Special Edition 1959-1962 November 1972, p. 87.