

A weekly electronic news service on ozone protection & implementation of the Montreal Protocol compiled by: UNEP DTIE OzonAction Programme, Paris

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1- It's Back and Big, Ozone Hole Over Antarctic Has Reappeared and Is Already Large

Remember the ozone hole? Last year it closed by November but scientists report it's back and for the second year in a row, it appears to be reaching record size... Cold weather, giant areas of low and high pressure, high levels of human-made gases and approaching spring in the Antarctic have again provided the right mix of conditions to broaden a yawning gap of the protective layer of ozone in the stratosphere. Scientists report the hole has cracked open to more than 15 million square miles or about the size of the entire continent of North America. That's only two to three million square miles short of the hole's record size last year, and it's expected to keep on growing...

Full text @: http://abcnews.go.com/sections/scitech/DailyNews/ozone010907.html

Source: ABC news, 07 September 2001, By: Amanda Onion

2- Ozone: The Good, the Bad, and the Effect of People

Several decades ago, a person with an overly active imagination might have been described as being "out in the ozone." Now just where would that be? Ozone (O3) exists in two distinct layers in the Earth's atmosphere and is considered "good" or "bad" depending on where it is. The US EPA has coined a maxim to help us remember: "good up high -- bad nearby." ... There are things that we can all do to help keep the thin, fragile layers of our atmosphere healthy so that we too can remain healthy. To learn how you can help minimize the production of "bad" O3 and help protect the "good" stratospheric ozone layer, check out this website

Full Article @: http://unisci.com/stories/20013/0905015.htm Source: UniScience News Net. Inc. 05 September 2001

3- Further Development in Fluorinated Specialties Industrialization of Solkane' 365mfc

Solvay Fluor - one of the main suppliers of fluorine chemicals - announces its decision to build a plant in Tavaux (France) for the large-scale production of Solkane' 365mfc, a new insulating and blowing agent having no effect on the ozone layer. The plant will have a capacity of 15,000 tons per year and be operational by the end of 2002... "This decision further illustrates Solvay's willingness to increase its presence in high-growth Specialties. We expect demand for Solkane' 365mfc to grow rapidly as this new product, having no effect on ozone depletion, will be the material of choice for polyurethane foams to replace HCFCs from the beginning of 2003" said E. Piepho, General Manager of Solvay Fluor...

Full Text @: http://asp.eyeforchem.com/index.asp?news=20217&ch=&nli=og-c

Source: Eyeforchem.com, 04 September 2001

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