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83/10/31

TO: WOLFGANG SCHMIDT  
BAYER AG - VS OEFFENTLICHKEITSARBEIT

FROM: R. J. MODERSBACH  
CUTTER PUBLIC AFFAIRS

MESSAGE ID: SXB0050

PRINTER NO: LU303P16

THIS IS TO INFORM YOU OF A POTENTIAL RECALL OF KOATE AND KONYNE COAGULATION FACTORS BY CUTTER AND MEDIA COVERAGE THAT IS BEGINNING TO DEVELOP.

ON FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28, AN AUSTIN, TEXAS NEWSPAPER REPORTED ON THE DEATH OF AN APPARENT AIDS VICTIM WHO HAD BEEN A REGULAR DONOR AT A CUTTER CONTRACT PLASMA CENTER. THE STORY WAS PLACED ON A WIRE SERVICE WITH A RESULTING NUMBER OF MEDIA INQUIRIES, MOSTLY FROM LOCAL SAN FRANCISCO AREA MEDIA. THE STORIES REFER TO THE FACT THAT HEMOPHILIACS, WHO USE CONCENTRATED COAGULATION PRODUCTS, HAVE CONTRACTED AIDS. IT IS OUR INFORMATION THAT 16 U.S. HEMOPHILIACS HAVE CONTRACTED AIDS SINCE REPORTING OF THIS DISEASE BEGAN. SO FAR, THE COVERAGE HAS BEEN QUITE BALANCED AND ACCURATE.

THUS FAR, OUR POSITION IS THAT WE ARE INTENSIVELY INVOLVED IN SEARCHING OUR RECORDS TO IDENTIFY ALL PRODUCTS AND MATERIAL EFFECTED BY THE DONATIONS OF THE APPARENT AIDS VICTIM. THIS IS PENDING A MEETING WITH FDA OFFICIALS, AFTER WHICH WE EXPECT TO ARRIVE AT DECISIONS REGARDING A RECALL AND, IF SO, THE EXTENT AND NATURE OF THE RECALL. MEDICAL TEAMS HAVE ALSO BEEN EXAMINING THE DEATH OF THE DONOR TO CONFIRM THAT HE HAD THE AIDS CONDITION.

AT THE TIME THIS IS BEING SENT, CUTTER IS IN THE MEETINGS WITH FDA. AFTER THAT, AND DEPENDING ON DECISIONS THAT ARE MADE, WE WILL PREPARE A STATEMENT FOR USE IN RESPONSE TO MEDIA INTEREST. WE WILL WORK WITH HILL-KNOWLTON ON THIS MATTER AND WILL DISPATCH A COPY TO YOU AS SOON AS IT IS AVAILABLE. OUR OVERALL POLICY ON A MATTER OF THIS NATURE, INVOLVING AIDS, IS TO RESPOND COOPERATIVELY TO THE MEDIA IN ORDER TO PROMOTE MORE ACCURATE REPORTING AND INCLUSION OF OUR POSITIONS.

ACCORDING TO THE RECORDS I HAVE AT THIS TIME, NONE OF THE PRODUCTS INVOLVED WERE EXPORTED BY US TO GERMANY.

WE EXPECT TO BE ABLE TO PROVIDE A CURRENT STATUS AND MORE DETAILS SOON, BUT IN THE MEANTIME WANTED YOU TO BE AWARE OF THIS.

REGARDS,

R. J. MODERSBACH

bcc: W. F. Schaeffler G. Wilcke - Mobay  
J. Ryan J. Hjorth  
S. Ojala W. Ewald  
J. Gildea  
D. Cogan

RECEIVED

OCT 31 1993

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