HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT OF RUBBER CHEMICALS.

John J. Luecken and J. P. Ferrin, Monsanto Company, Rubber Chemicals Division, 260 Springside Drive, Akron, OH 44313.

The 75 year life-span of the ACS Rubber Division has seen dramatic changes in the development of chemicals used to process, vulcanize and protect finished rubber products. Starting from the discovery of vulcanization and the early use of aniline as an organic accelerator, this paper traces the development of this important segment of the rubber industry. Contributions of pioneers in this area are recognized as well as work of more recent investigators who are slowly changing this from an area of “black art” into a recognized science.

Presented at the 188th National Meeting of the American Chemical Society, Philadelphia, PA, 26 August – 31 August 1984; Abstract HIST 34.

This paper was part of a Symposium Celebrating the 75th Anniversary of the Rubber Division, sponsored by the Division of the History of Chemistry.