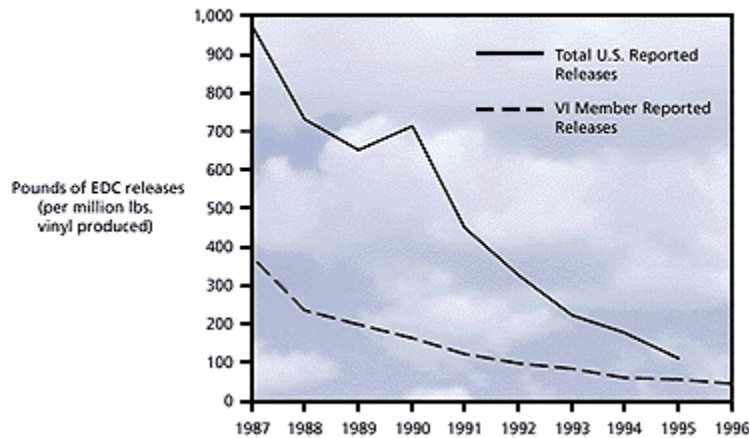


Progress in Pollution Prevention: Reductions in EDC and VCM Releases 1987-1996

Since 1987, emissions of certain chemicals to air, water and soil and off-site transfers for further management have been reported annually to the U.S. EPA under the Emergency Planning and Community-Right-to-Know Act. One of these chemicals is ethylene dichloride (EDC), which is used in the production of vinyl chloride monomer.

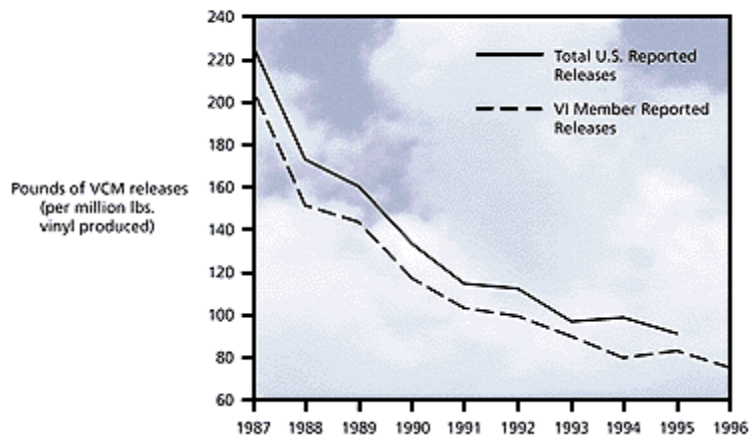
**Ethylene Dichloride (EDC) Total Releases
Reduced 88 Percent in 10 Years**



From 1987 through 1996, the facilities of Vinyl Institute (VI) member companies reduced their reported releases of EDC, per one million pounds of vinyl produced, by a significant 88 percent. During the same 10-year period, vinyl production increased about 53 percent, from nearly eight billion pounds to more than 12 billion pounds. EDC releases are presented in the graph for the vinyl industry and other U.S. industries in order to compare performances.

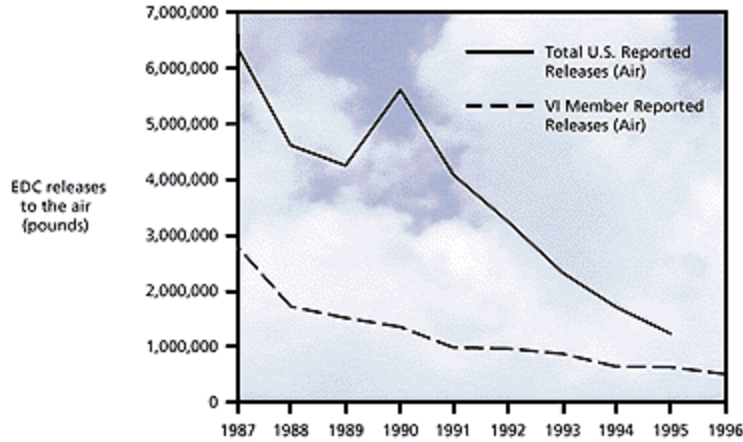
EDC is heated and "cracked" to produce vinyl chloride monomer (VCM), the chemical that is polymerized into vinyl resin. The vast majority of VCM is used by VI member companies for this purpose.

**Vinyl Chloride Monomer (VCM) Total Releases
Decreased 63 Percent in 10 Years**



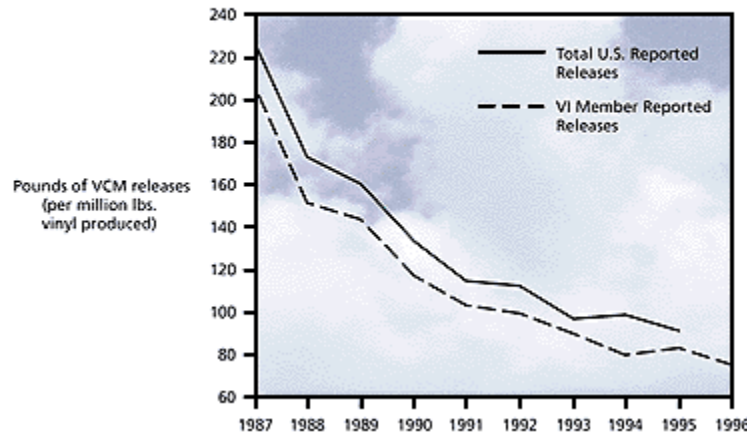
In the 10-year period from 1987 through 1996, reported releases of VCM, per one million pounds of vinyl produced, decreased by 63 percent. The vinyl industry is working to reduce its VCM releases even further.

Releases of Ethylene Dichloride (EDC) to Air Decreased 82 Percent in 10 Years



An 82 percent reduction in ethylene dichloride emissions to the air has been achieved by Vinyl Institute member companies. The pollution prevention efforts of their vinyl production facilities to decrease EDC emissions to the air are reflected in the major reductions to 500,000 pounds in 1996 from 2,800,000 pounds in 1987.

Vinyl Chloride Monomer (VCM) Total Releases Decreased 63 Percent in 10 Years



Although vinyl production went up about 53 percent from 1987 through 1996, vinyl chloride monomer emissions to the air from vinyl manufacturing facilities went down 46 percent. In 1996, about 887,600 pounds of VCM were released to the air as compared with 1,600,000 pounds in 1987.