



Smithsonian
National Museum of American History
Kenneth E. Behring Center

Guide to the Physical Science Oral History Collection

NMAH.AC.0248

Craig A. Orr

1989

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives Center, National Museum of American History
Title:	Physical Science Oral History Collection
Identifier:	NMAH.AC.0248
Date:	1976
Extent:	2 Cubic feet (1 box ; 5 audiocassete tapes)
Creator:	Becker, Leonard, ?-1985 Physical Sciences, Division of (NMAH, Smithsonian Institution).
Language:	English Collection is in English.
Summary:	Leonard Becker was a major participant in the development and marketing of Vinyl plastic.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Collection donated by Leonard Becker, through J. Harry DuBois and the Plastics Institute of America, 1978.

Provenance

Transferred to the Archives Center by Jon Ekolund, Curator of Chemistry, October 1986.

Processing Information

Collection processed by Craig A. Orr, 1989

Preferred Citation

Physical Science Oral History Collection, 1976, Archives Center, National Museum of American History.

Restrictions

Collection is open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

Collection items available for reproduction, but the Archives Center makes no guarantees concerning copyright restrictions. Other intellectual property rights may apply. Archives Center cost-recovery and use fees may apply when requesting reproductions.

Biographical / Historical

This collection consists of five cassette tapes recording the reminiscences of Leonard Becker, a major participant in the development and marketing of Vinyl plastic.

Scope and Contents

Tapes contain Leonard Becker's recollections regarding the origin and development of vinyl plastic, covering experiments undertaken in conjunction with Union Carbide & Carbon Co., Nitro, W. Va. Tapes contain information on the various stages in production of men's plastic belts, including dipping, extrusion, fabrication, sealing, and cementing.

Arrangement

Collection arranged into one series.

Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

Belts (Clothing) -- Plastic
Plastics
Vinyl polymers -- History

Types of Materials:

Oral history

Names:

Physical Sciences, Division of (NMAH, Smithsonian Institution).
Union Carbide and Carbon Corporation (Nitro (W. Va.))

Container Listing

Box 1, Item 1	Origins of Plastics <i>1 cassette tape</i>
Box 1, Item 2	Dipping Plastics <i>1 cassette tape</i>
Box 1, Item 3	Extrusion <i>1 cassette tape</i>
Box 1, Item 4	Fabrication <i>1 cassette tape</i>
Box 1, Item 5	Sealing and Cementing <i>1 cassette tape</i>