PPG sets second vinyl chloride unit


A second multi-million dollar vinyl chloride monomer plant is to be built here.

Pittsburgh Plate Glass Co.'s chemical division announced Wednesday that construction of the plant would begin immediately. Operation at about 50 per cent capacity will begin in the third quarter of 1967.

The addition of the new plant will necessitate the addition to the chlorine producing facilities here as well as the brine field facilities.

The new plant will result in the creation of about 70 permanent jobs at the Lake Charles plant.

About 250 construction workers will be hired during the construction phase.

Estimated cost of the new facilities, including transportation equipment, will be about $7.5 million.

Continental Oil Co. and Stauffer Chemical Co. announced Aug. 30 they would build the largest vinyl chloride plant in the United States here. The actual rate of production was not announced for the joint venture.

The PPG plant will produce about 300 million pounds annually of the basic feedstock used for the manufacture of consumer items such as rainwear, garden hose, phonograph records, toys, floor tile and other building materials.

Largest vinyl chloride plant now in operation is in Kentucky and produces about 500 million pounds per year.

T. C. Sachs will be the project engineer on the vinyl plant addition.

Tom Nixon will act as engineer on the chlorine and brine field addition.

The new facility will be located on Parish Road, just west of the present PPG petrochemical plant facilities.

Joseph A. Neubauer, vice president of the company, made the announcement in Pittsburgh, Pa.