

'Hic in the T.'

BELLINGHAM, WA

Harry Olund's 25-year service award watch has just attended a very antiseptic holiday "party" here without its owner, and may be the only timepiece in existence with a hangover.

It accidentally dropped through a small inspection port into a 100,000-gallon vat of 190-proof potable ethyl alcohol at a Georgia-Pacific Corp. distillery which converts formerly wasted tree sugars in a complicated pulp mill pollution control system.

Co-workers swear there was "a hic in the tick" when the unusual event ended with no other apparent damage.

The potent alcohol, made for industrial and other uses, also is being tested as auto fuel, a company spokesman said.