

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
AIR QUALITY DIVISION
ACTIVITY REPORT: Self Initiated Inspection

F9042
FY2018 Insp-

F904246108

FACILITY: STERLING SCALE CO		SRN / ID: F9042
LOCATION: 20950 BOENING DR, SOUTHFIELD		DISTRICT: Southeast Michigan
CITY: SOUTHFIELD		COUNTY: OAKLAND
CONTACT: James Dixon		ACTIVITY DATE: 08/24/2018
STAFF: Iranna Konanahalli	COMPLIANCE STATUS: Compliance	SOURCE CLASS: MINOR
SUBJECT: FY 2018 inspection of Sterling Scale Company, Inc. ("Sterling")		
RESOLVED COMPLAINTS:		

Sterling Scale Company, Inc. (F9042)
20950 Boening Dr

Southfield, Michigan 48075-5737

Rule 336.1287(c) paint spray booth – a special case

VN: AQD issued violation notice (VN) dated August 25, 2010, for installing Rule-287-non-compliant coating booth in violation of Rule 336.1201

On August 24, 2018, I conducted a level-2 self-initiated **FY 2018 inspection** of Sterling Scale Company, Inc. ("Sterling"), an industrial scale company, located at 20950 Boening Dr., Southfield, Michigan 48075-5737. The inspection was conducted to determine compliance with the Federal Clean Air Act; Article II, Part 55, Air Pollution Control, of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 (PA 451); and Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, Air Quality Division (MDEQ-AQD) administrative rules.

During the FY2018 inspection, Mr. John Dixon (Phone: (248-358-0597 or 800-331-9931; Cell: 248-307-0413; Fax: 248-358-0597; E-mail: sales@sterling-scale.com), Sales Manager, assisted me.

Mr. James R. Dixon (Ph: (248-358-0590 or 800-331-9931; Fax: 248-358-0597; E-mail: sales@sterling-scale.com), Treasurer, passed away about August 13, 2013, and Mr. John Holcomb, Plant Manager, separated about October 2013. All Dixons are siblings.

Sterling builds industrial scales for weighing materials and things. The scales are electronic. Sterling has phased out all manufacturing by 2016 and now focus is on sales, distribution and service. The paint spray booth will stay for maintenance purposes even after all manufacturing ceased. Paint usage has been further reduced to practically nil due to phasing out of manufacturing.

12 ft. L * 12 ft. W * 10 ft. H paint spray booth

The booth is equipped with back-flow dry filter systems. Sterling uses, as it phased out manufacturing, approximately ZERO gallons of paint per calendar quarter (2015:10 gallons of paint per calendar quarter reduced from 10 gallons of paint per month since 2010). Some touch-up of scales may be done in the booth. However, sterling used to paint some large parts that did not fit into the booth just outside and near the booth based upon black paint overspray. All paints used to be solvent-based.

I asked Mr. Dixon to install and inspect the filters such that they fit, at all times, snugly without gaps and holes. I also asked him to keep records of paint and solvent usage according to Rule 336.287(2)(c).

The booth is exempt from Rule 336.1201 (Permit-to-Install) pursuant to Rule 336.287(c) considering air draft towards a dry filter system will be maintained using push-pull ventilation.

Aug 25, 2010, Violation Notice

Please refer to the Aug 25, 2010, Violation Notice for additional details.

In 2011, I asked Mr. Dixon to ensure that all emissions go through the booth's filters when parts are painted outside the booth but near it. See June 29, 2011, e-mail and the letter dated July 7, 2011, for additional details. The letter stated that push-pull ventilation through the booth filters will be arranged by strategically installing fans for push air towards filters and closing all other all doors and windows. Aug 25, 2010, Violation Notice is resolved.

No parts / cold cleaner is present.

Conclusion

Until July 2011, Sterling was not in compliance with Rule 336.1201 / 336.1287. Please refer to the Aug 25, 2010, Violation Notice for additional details. Push-pull air flow to assist overspray paint particles towards the filters resulted in compliance with Rule 287. As manufacturing is phased out, since 2016, paint usage is practically ZERO.

FYI: VN

August 25, 2010

Mr. James R. Dixon, Treasurer
Sterling Scale Company, Inc.
20950 Boeing Dr

Southfield, MI 48075-5737
SRN: F9042, Oakland (63) County

NAME Debra Nemahall, DATE 09/18/2018 SUPERVISOR Joyce BE