

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
AIR QUALITY DIVISION
ACTIVITY REPORT: Scheduled Inspection

B717142563

FACILITY: MIDWEST PLATING PLANT 1		SRN / ID: B7171
LOCATION: 613 NORTH AVE NE, GRAND RAPIDS		DISTRICT: Grand Rapids
CITY: GRAND RAPIDS		COUNTY: KENT
CONTACT: Brian Wortman , President		ACTIVITY DATE: 12/05/2017
STAFF: David Morgan	COMPLIANCE STATUS: Compliance	SOURCE CLASS: MINOR
SUBJECT:		
RESOLVED COMPLAINTS:		

At 12:50 PM on December 5, 2017, Air Quality Division (AQD) staff Dave Morgan conducted an unannounced scheduled inspection at Midwest Plating Company, Plant 1, located at 613 North Avenue NE in Grand Rapids. The purpose of the inspection was to determine the facility's compliance with state and federal air pollution regulations. Accompanying AQD staff was Brian Wortman, President.

FACILITY DESCRIPTION

Midwest Plating is a job shop that conducts zinc electroplating and chromate conversion coatings on a variety of steel parts. There are two zinc electroplating lines at the facility and associated equipment. The facility is considered a minor source of emissions.

COMPLIANCE EVALUATION

There are two, manual hoist, zinc electroplating lines. A third, automatic zinc plating line was removed in December 2017. The two manual lines were once permitted, but since all tanks on the lines are exhausted into the in-plant environment the equipment is considered exempt from permitting under Rule 285(2)(r) and previously issued permits were voided. The first line is a barrel plating line for small parts. The second line is used for larger parts placed on 10 ft long part racks. There have been few changes since the last AQD inspection, however, Mr. Wortman did indicate that tanks are replaced when necessary. These tank replacements are still considered exempt from permitting. The two lines have a similar tank sequence and chemical make-up. The line sequence is as follows:

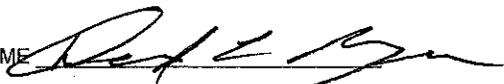
1. Alkaline soap (no phosphate)
2. Caustic and reverse DC current to remove imperfections
3. Double rinse
4. 10% muratic acid (hydrochloric acid) tank with wetting agent to keep down fumes
5. Double rinse
6. Alkaline zinc plating bath with DC current
7. Rinse
8. Chromate conversion coating (trivalent chrome black, hexavalent chrome yellow, trivalent chrome clear)
9. Occasionally an additional sealer
10. Dryers

The company provided Safety Data Sheets, Technical Bulletins, and annual usage information for the materials used on the lines (see attached). No compliance issues were identified with the materials used. It is noted that no cyanide compounds or solvents are used at the plant. Waste water goes through an on-site water treatment system then discharged to the city sewer system.

The applicability of 40 CFR Part 63, Subpart W for the Plating and Polishing National Emission Standard for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP) was not evaluated as the State of Michigan does not have delegated authority for these rules.

SUMMARY

Midwest Plating appears to be in compliance with state and federal air pollution regulations. Material records obtained during the inspection are attached.

NAME  DATE 12/19/17 SUPERVISOR 