

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

N248447353

FACILITY: KALAMAZOO BANNER WORKS		SRN / ID: N2484
LOCATION: 2129 PORTAGE RD, KALAMAZOO		DISTRICT: Kalamazoo
CITY: KALAMAZOO		COUNTY: KALAMAZOO
CONTACT: Jeff Belew , Production Manager		ACTIVITY DATE: 12/19/2018
STAFF: Monica Brothers	COMPLIANCE STATUS: Compliance	SOURCE CLASS: MINOR
SUBJECT: Unannounced scheduled inspection		
RESOLVED COMPLAINTS:		

This was an unannounced scheduled inspection. Staff, Monica Brothers, arrived on-site at about 1:45pm and met with Jeff Belew, the Production Manager. I did not observe any visible emissions or smell odors upon arrival. We first went to a conference room to discuss some preliminary questions. During this discussion, Jeff said that the facility has about 30 employees, who work one shift per day, Monday through Friday, with some occasional Saturdays. Kalamazoo Banner Works began operations around 1980, and they use screen printing and digital printing to make various types of banners. The last time this facility was inspected was in November of 2007, and the facility was deemed in compliance during that inspection. Jeff said that the facility does not have any boilers or emergency generators, but that they do have one parts washer.

During the tour of the facility, Jeff first showed me where they do the screen printing. This process is exempt under Rule 287(2)(e). The containers that I saw in the room were closed when not in use. They use plastisol printing inks from Triangle Ink (used about 500 gallons last year) and FujiFilm Dirasol Rapid Photo Stencil Emulsion (used about 56 gallons last year) for this process, which contain very little VOC. Jeff said that they use ICC 876 - Spray/Wipe (used about 1.5 gallons last year) and ICC 767 Stencil Remover (used about 1 gallon last year) from Intercontinental Chemical Corporation, along with some MasterPro Refinishing 5700 Lacquer Thinner (used about 40 gallons last year) that they just buy from O'Reilly Auto Parts, for clean-up purposes. There is a gas-fired oven that operates at about 350°F that is used to set and dry the screen-printed banners.

The parts washer contains Crystal Clean 106 Mineral Spirits, which is 100% VOC. The unit is not agitated or heated. The lid was closed, and I gave Jeff some DEQ Parts Washer Rules stickers to place on or near the unit. Next, we went to see the room where they do the digital latex printing. These printers are essentially very large versions of home ink-jet printers, and they take latex ink cartridges or draw ink from larger containers. I asked Jeff if he had any records of their ink usage, and he said that he would email their purchase records to me as soon as the person who handles that returns. I received the purchase records on January 7, 2019, and it shows that their usage is low enough to be considered exempt under Rule 290. The Epson printers used about 7L of ink last year, and they used about 245L of HP Latex ink.

The facility seemed to be in compliance at the time of the inspection.

NAME Monica Brothers

DATE 1/17/19

SUPERVISOR RIL