

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

N651847357

FACILITY: ABSOLUTAIRE INC		SRN / ID: N6518
LOCATION: 5496 N RIVERVIEW DR, KALAMAZOO		DISTRICT: Kalamazoo
CITY: KALAMAZOO		COUNTY: KALAMAZOO
CONTACT: Mike Woodward , Manager, Facilities and Safety		ACTIVITY DATE: 12/19/2018
STAFF: Monica Brothers	COMPLIANCE STATUS: Non Compliance	SOURCE CLASS: MINOR
SUBJECT: Unannounced scheduled inspection		
RESOLVED COMPLAINTS:		

This was an unannounced scheduled inspection. Staff, Monica Brothers, arrived on-site at about 10:15am. Upon arrival, I did not observe any odors or visible emissions from the facility. I met with Mike Woodward, the Facilities and Safety Manager, and we first went into a conference room to discuss some preliminary questions. I let Mr. Woodward know that I would like to take a tour of the facility, as well as view some records for their processes. During the pre-inspection meeting, Mr. Woodward told me that there were about 105 staff, who work two shifts, seven days a week, and that the facility commenced operations around 1992. Absolutaire makes industrial air make-up units. They do not have any boilers, generators, or cold cleaners.

Before going on the facility tour, I asked Mr. Woodward for some records for their paint booth. He said that they now have two paint booths that have a curtain down the middle that separates them. This allows them to turn the two paint booths into one large booth, when needed. He said that he did not have any records of how much paint they were using per month. I told him that, since they did not have a permit, they were operating under an exemption and needed to keep monthly records in order to comply with the exemption. I showed him the Rule 287(2)(c) exemption and told him that he would need to be able to prove that he is using no more than 200 gallons per month in each of the paint booths. He said that he was very sure that the booths do not use over this amount, but that he'd start keeping track of the usage monthly.

During the facility tour, Mr. Woodward showed me the various metal-working equipment that cuts and bends the metal to the desired shape. These processes are considered exempt under Rules 285(2)(l)(i) and (vi). They also weld the pieces of metal together, which is exempt under Rule 285(2)(i). The facility also tests their units, which range from very small 1 MMBTU/hr gas-fired units to 17 MMBTU/hr gas-fired units. The running of these units can be considered exempt under Rule 280(2)(b).

The paint booths seemed to have the filters installed and operating properly. They change the outer filters every other week and the inside filters about every other day. Mr. Woodward said that they use a variety of PPG PSX 700 paints and associated catalysts, Heresite paints, and SMART lacquer thinner in the booths. He said that they also use some aerosol spray cans for touch-ups, which is exempt under Rule 287(2)(b). The paint booths were not being used at the time of the inspection, but Mr. Woodward showed me the associated stacks outside, and the area around them looked to be clean.

The facility was not in compliance at the time of inspection. Because the facility could not produce monthly records for their paint booth, a violation notice will be sent. The facility needs to either show that they meet an exemption, or apply for a Permit to Install.

NAME Moni MADATE 12/21/18SUPERVISOR MA 12/26/2018