

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

P000336510

FACILITY: Amstore		SRN / ID: P0003
LOCATION: 3951 Trade Dr. SE, GRAND RAPIDS		DISTRICT: Grand Rapids
CITY: GRAND RAPIDS		COUNTY: KENT
CONTACT: Denny Brown , Maintenance Facilitator		ACTIVITY DATE: 09/12/2016
STAFF: David Morgan	COMPLIANCE STATUS: Compliance	SOURCE CLASS: MINOR
SUBJECT:		
RESOLVED COMPLAINTS:		

At 10:00 A.M. on September 12, 2016, AQD staff Dave Morgan conducted an unannounced scheduled inspection of the Amstore located at 3951 Trade Drive SE, in Grand Rapids. The purpose of the visit was to determine the facility's compliance with state and federal air pollution regulations. Accompanying staff on the inspection was Denny Brown, Maintenance Facilitator with follow-up provided by Al Mattson, Manufacturing Manager. A DEQ Inspection Brochure was provided.

FACILITY DESCRIPTION

Amstore manufactures display fixtures made of wood, laminate veneer and metal for the retail industry. The site currently operates one 8-hour shift 5 days per week and employs approximately 100 workers.

COMPLIANCE EVALUATION

Woodworking Area:

The company purchases MDF board then cuts and sands the boards to specification using various saws, sanders, CNC and other machining equipment. All woodworking equipment is vented to one of two 55,000 cfm baghouses. Emissions from each baghouse is exhausted through stacks approximately 20 feet above ground level. All woodworking equipment is exempt from permitting under Rule 285(I)(vi). Collected sawdust is captured in one of two roll-off containers.

Roll Coater:

There are two glue presses (or roll coaters) used to adhere the laminate veneer to the face of the MDF board. Prior to the roll coater, there are two ventilation ducts used to remove dust from the board before being coated with adhesive. These vents are ducted through the baghouses described above. Historically this process was considered exempt from permitting.

Adhesive on the roll coater consists of HB Fuller Swift Tak PA290 and Sonoco CD135-034 Glue. The company attached Safety Data Sheets for these glues. The Sonoco is a water-based adhesive while the HB Fuller has 1-5% propylene glycol. The company provided records of material usage for these adhesives from August 2015 through September 2016. For the time period, 1,391 gallons of HB Fuller adhesive was used and 1,388 gallons of Sonoco adhesive was used. Adhesive records were based on purchase records. Company records do not provide sufficient information to verify whether an exemption is still applicable. Therefore, the company will be requested under Rule 278a to provide a demonstration of applicable exemptions.

Contact Adhesive:

The facility has an area where contact adhesive is sprayed in an open area with no external ventilation. According to company records 495 gallons of Victor Barnes F-156 Contact Adhesive was used from August 2015 through September 2016. This area is likely exempt under Rule 287(c), but the company will be asked to provide a Rule 278a demonstration for this area.

Edge Banding:

The company has four edge banding units which are used to apply a laminate veneer to the edge of a shelf. In this process hot melt adhesive is applied to the edge of the board and a press is used to secure the laminate. The glue comes in small pellets which are then heated and melted. The glue flows to a spindle which comes in contact with the laminate.

This process can be considered exempt under Rule 287(i).

Metalworking Area:

This area consists of several metalworking operations. There are three externally vented baghouses associated with these metal working operations. There are also several internally vented baghouses for other metalworking

operations. All operations in this area can be considered exempt under Rule 285(l)(vi).

Assembly Area:

In the assembly area, the company sprays small quantities of contact adhesive, applies small quantities of wood glue and also cleans and prepares the products with solvent cleaner including lacquer thinner and acetone. There are approximately 30 assembly stations. Solvent usage in this area consists of Rollie Williams PLTx401 Pure Grade Lacquer Thinner and for August 2015 through September 2016 was 1,045 gallons. Contact adhesive in this area is also the Victor Barnes adhesive and quantities were estimated at 385 gallons. Material records were based on purchase records. Again, since company records do not provide sufficient information to verify whether an exemption is still applicable, the company will be requested to provide a demonstration of exemption under Rule 278a.

SUMMARY

Amstore appears to have equipment exempt from permitting requirements however a letter will be sent under Rule 278a requesting that the company demonstrate equipment is exempt or whether a permit is needed. A response will be expected with 30 days from the date of the letter.

NAME 

DATE 9/30/16

SUPERVISOR 