

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

FY 2016 Insp

P050133790

FACILITY: CHAMPION GASKET AND RUBBER, INC.	SRN / ID: P0501
LOCATION: 3225 HAGGERTY ROAD, WALLED LAKE	DISTRICT: Southeast Michigan
CITY: WALLED LAKE	COUNTY: OAKLAND
CONTACT: Nathan Dubuc, Vice President - Operations	ACTIVITY DATE: 03/01/2016
STAFF: Iranna Konanahalli <i>JK</i>	COMPLIANCE STATUS: Compliance
SUBJECT: FY 2016 inspection of Champion Gasket & Rubber, Inc.	SOURCE CLASS: MINOR
RESOLVED COMPLAINTS:	

P0501 - SAR - 2016 03 01

Champion Gasket & Rubber, Inc. (P0501)
3225 Haggerty Road
P.O. Commerce Twp. (Plant: Walled Lake), Michigan 48390-1725

www.ChampionGasket.com

VN: February 24, 2014, for Rule 336.1201 for laser cutting machine. The violation is resolved via installation of a dry filter system (Filter Box) (Rule 336.1285(I)).

On March 1, 2016, I conducted a level 2 self-initiated inspection of Champion Gasket & Rubber, Inc. ("Champion") located at 3225 Haggerty Road, P.O.: Commerce Twp. (Plant: Walled Lake), Michigan 48390-1725.. 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 inspection, Mr. Jacob Dubuc (Phone: 248-624-6140; Cell: 248-921-3017; Fax: 248-624-3069; E-mail: Jacob@ChampionGasket.com), Quality Manager, assisted me.

Mr. Nathan Dubuc (Phone: 248-624-6140; Cell: 248-921-3015; Fax: 248-624-3069; E-mail: Nathan@ChampionGasket.com), Vice President of Operations, did not participate.

Founded in 1970, Champion Gasket manufactures a complete array of die-cut products including gaskets, BSR pads, anti-rattle products, insulation, shims, seals, spacers, etc. serving automotive, marine, data communications, electronics, aerospace, appliance, plumbing, military, medical etc. industries. The products are made of synthetic or natural rubbers. The products are also used for squeak and rattle prevention.

Champion Gasket employs about 25 people.

There is no rubber compounding (e.g. vulcanization = addition of sulfur [S] as cross link [bridge] between polymer chains thus imparting superior mechanical properties such as hardness) is taking place. Hence, Champion does not emit sulfur-bearing odorous compounds due to sulfur of vulcanization.

Die-cut machines

There are numerous die-cut machines:

1. One (1) Sunco 35 press that cuts rubber using cutting die.

2. Nine (9) Thompson die-cut presses.
3. Seven (7) Hydronic presses

The die-cut machines do not exhaust to outside ambient air. The machines are exempt from Rule 336.1201 (Permit-to-Install) pursuant to Rule 336.1285(l).

Cutters and laminators

Two Seybold cutters are present. One laminator that affixes adhesive paper to the rubber or polymer is present. Laminated material is cut to the desired shape and size. No exhaust to outside ambient air.

The machines are exempt from Rule 336.1201 (Permit-to-Install) pursuant to Rule 336.1285 (l).

Laser cutting machine

One Universal laser cutting machine is present. The machine is used for prototyping work. Before AQD issued a violation notice as stated below, the particulate laden air was exhausted to outside ambient air without air pollution control equipment (APCD) via a stack.

AQD issued February 24, 2014, Violation Notice for failure to obtain a permit (Rule 336.1201).

Upon issuance of February 2014 VN, Champion installed a filter box to remove particulate matter from exhaust stream. The box contains a filter, a structural support for the filter and a spacer. The filter is replaced on as needed basis. The filter is inspected once per month. Air flow without substantial resistance to flow should determine the filter replacement. Upon removing particulate using the filter box, the exhaust gases are discharged to outside ambient air.

I asked Mr. Dubuc to install and inspect the filter such that it fits, at all times, snugly without gaps and holes.

The laser cutting machine is predominantly used to cut foams, plastics, etc.

Conclusion

AQD issued Rule 336.1201 Violation Notice dated February 24, 2014. The violation is resolved with installation of a filter box for laser cutting machine (Rule 336.1285).

FYI: February 24, 2014, Violation Notice.

NAME

D. Menahat

DATE

03/18/2016

SUPERVISOR

CJE