

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

U1313240323691

FACILITY: Team 1 Plastics		SRN / ID: U13132403
LOCATION: 927 Elliot Road, Albion		DISTRICT: Kalamazoo
CITY: Albion		COUNTY: CALHOUN
CONTACT: Dave Seedorf , Engineering Manager		ACTIVITY DATE: 11/13/2013
STAFF: Rex Lane	COMPLIANCE STATUS: Compliance	SOURCE CLASS:
SUBJECT: Self-Initiated Inspection		
RESOLVED COMPLAINTS:		

On November 13, 2013, Air Quality Division (AQD) staff (Rex Lane) arrived at Team 1 Plastics, Inc. (T1P) located at 927 Elliot Road, Albion, Michigan at 1:40 p.m. to conduct an unannounced air quality inspection. Staff used the phone in the waiting area for the initial facility contact and stated the purpose of their visit. Mr. Dave Seedorf, T1P Engineering Manager came out shortly thereafter and staff stated that they would like to conduct an air quality inspection and provided Mr. Seedorf with their inspector credentials, a business card and a copy of MDEQ's Environmental Inspections brochure.

Staff stated that the AQD had not previously inspected this facility and asked Mr. Seedorf for some general facility information. He indicated that the facility produces plastic parts for the automotive industry and commenced operations in 1991. They currently employ around 80 staff and operate 24/7. We then took a tour of the facility.

The facility currently has 23 plastic injection molding machines that range in size from 25 to 280 ton capacity. The facility uses up to 88 different plastic resins but primarily produce ABS or polypropylene parts and the plastic resin beads arrive in either Gaylord boxes or super sacks. Staff asked Mr. Seedorf if there is any printing or painting done on the produced parts and he said no. Part identification labels are engraved or embossed on to the part from the pattern mold. Staff asked if a mold release agent is used on the injection molding machines and Mr. Seedorf indicated that it is rarely used and comes only in hand held spray cans. The plastic injection molding machines are exempt from air use permitting requirements under Rule 286(b). The use of hand held mold release spray cans is exempt from air use permitting requirements under Rule 287(b).

Staff asked Mr. Seedorf if there was any regrind equipment and he said that there are two machines they'll use if the customer allows recycled gates and runners in their parts. For customers that allow only virgin plastic in their parts, the gates and runners are reground and sent to a plastics recycler in Battle Creek. The regrind machines are internally vented and exempt from air use permitting requirements under Rule 285(l)(vi)(B).

In the northwest corner of this building are two cooling towers for the injection molding equipment and associated cooling water treatment chemical equipment. This process is exempt from air use permitting requirements under Rule 280(d).

The maintenance area had miscellaneous lathes, drills and saws that are all internally vented and exempt from air use permitting requirements under Rule 285(l)(vi)(B). Staff noted a cold cleaner containing mineral spirits adjacent to the maintenance area with an open lid while not in use. Staff informed Mr. Seedorf that the lid must be closed when not in use. Staff provided him with cold cleaner operational use labels to post above the equipment. Provided the equipment is operated in accordance with the operational use label, this equipment is exempt from permitting under Rule 281(h). There was a small ultrasonic cleaner next to the cold cleaner which is exempt from permitting under Rule 281(e).

Staff asked and Mr. Seedorf indicated that there are no boilers or emergency generators at this facility. There were a few gas fired radiant heaters above the production floor which are exempt from permitting under Rule 282(b)(i). There were several electrically fired air compressors noted in the production area that are not subject to Rule 201 air permitting requirements.

We then took the walkway to the southern building which is primarily used as a warehouse to store plastic resins, pattern molds, etc. There was a small parts assembly area in this building and staff asked if isopropyl alcohol or any other solvent is used to assemble parts. Mr. Seedorf said that most parts assemble requires no

other materials but that a couple booths apply grease to a fitting for ease of assembly. Application of grease to the small parts is exempt from permitting under Rule 284(a).

Staff thanked Mr. Seedorf for his time and left the facility at 2:25 p.m. At the time of the inspection, the facility appeared to be in compliance with state air quality rules. -RIL

NAME Ken J. June

DATE 11/25/13

SUPERVISOR MA 11/26/2013