

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

U70161176537469

FACILITY: Innotec		SRN / ID: U701611765
LOCATION: 233 W. Washington, Zeeland		DISTRICT: Grand Rapids
CITY: Zeeland		COUNTY: OTTAWA
CONTACT: Tom VanderHenst, Furniture Division		ACTIVITY DATE: 11/01/2016
STAFF: Kaitlyn DeVries	COMPLIANCE STATUS: Non Compliance	SOURCE CLASS:
SUBJECT: The purpose of this unannounced, unscheduled inspection was to investigate a complaint received regarding blue/black smoke and to determine compliance with all applicable air quality rules and regulations.		
RESOLVED COMPLAINTS:		

On Tuesday November 1, 2016 AQD Staff Kaitlyn DeVries (KD) conducted a self-initiated inspection of Innotec located at 233 W. Washington, Zeeland Michigan. The purpose of this inspection was to investigate a complaint received regarding blue/black smoke emanating from the side of the building and to determine compliance with all applicable air quality rules and regulations.

KD surveyed the perimeter of the facility prior to entering and noted some odors in the parking lot only. There was also some opacity (<5%) coming from a vent in the east side of the building. KD entered and spoke with Mr. Doug Tubergen who showed KD around the facility.

KD explained the purpose of her visit to Mr. Tubergen, who stated that they are actively working on improvements for the smoke and a Mr. Tom Vander Henst would be able to provide more details on the status of the improvements and the line itself. Mr. Vander Henst was not on site at the time of her arrival. After the tour, KD left her phone number with Mr. Tubergen and had Mr. Vander Henst call her when he had returned to the facility.

Mr. Tubergen explained that the processes in the plant are all independently done. The tour started with the line in question, however, this will be discussed in further detail below.

The other main line in the facility takes coiled steel, un-coils it, stamps it, washes it with water, sprays it with powder coating, then dries it with a natural gas oven, cuts, and embosses it before it is packaged. The powder coating is controlled by a small baghouse that is exhausted internally. The stamping and cutting operations are exempt from Rule 201 permitting under Rule 285(l)(i) and 285(l)(vi), respectively. The washing operation is exempt from Rule 201 permitting under Rule 281(e). The powder coating is exempt from Rule 201 permitting under Rule 287(d).

The final area in the facility is used for assembly, storage, and shipping.

KD met with Mr. Vander Henst at the facility later that same afternoon. Mr. Vander Henst explained that the facility was receiving mill scale, or slag, from a steel mill in Indiana, drying it, and then extruding it to make the final product. The final product from this line is a counterweight that is sold to various furniture manufacturers. The first step in the process is the drying process. The mill scale is dried using an infrared oven that is exhausted uncontrolled out the side of the building. After the product exits the dryer, it drops into a hopper. The drop from the conveyor into the hopper is controlled by a small cyclone, which is exhausted internally. KD asked if Innotec was keeping any records associated with this process, and Mr. Vander Henst stated that he could figure out the throughput based on weight, but that was it. A violation Notice will be sent for Rule 201, failure to obtain a permit to install for the re-grind line, and associated infrared oven, exhausting to the ambient atmosphere.

After this process, the material then goes over to the extrusion line, where high density polyethylene (HDPE) is mixed with the scale inside the extrusion mold. Various portions of the extrusion process are either vented to a fabric filter that is exhausted either back into the plant or externally, depending on the season, or to a cyclone which then goes to an 8,000 cfm pulsejet baghouse. This is exempt from rule 201 permitting under Rule 285(l)(vi)(C). Per verification with Mr. Vander Henst, the mixing of the HDPE and the mill scale occur in the mold where the extrusion takes place. The HDPE is stored in a large tank on the east side of the building and is conveyed in from the tank to be mixed with the dried mill scale. The HDPE storage tank is exempt from Rule 201 permitting under Rule 284(a). The extrusion of the plastic is exempt from permitting under Rule 286(a).

Compliance Determination

Based on the observations made and a discussion with Mr. Tom Vander Henst about the process, a Violation Notice will be sent for the exhausting of the infrared drying oven to the ambient atmosphere with out a permit.

NAME Kaitlyn DeKie DATE 11/7/2016 SUPERVISOR [Signature]