

N4123

MANILA

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY  
 AIR QUALITY DIVISION  
 ACTIVITY REPORT: On-site Inspection

N412368603

FACILITY: <del>American Conexion, Inc.</del> Advantage Pallets LLC		SRN / ID: N4123
LOCATION: 6000 Tireman Avenue, DETROIT		DISTRICT: Detroit
CITY: DETROIT		COUNTY: WAYNE
CONTACT: Andrea Grant , Manager		ACTIVITY DATE: 09/08/2023
STAFF: Gerald Krawiec	COMPLIANCE STATUS: Compliance	SOURCE CLASS: Minor
SUBJECT: FY2023 On-site Inspection		
RESOLVED COMPLAINTS:		

**EGLE/AQD Inspection September 8, 2023**

AQD staff conducted an On-site Inspection for FY 2023 of Advantage Pallets LLC formerly known as American Conexion (N4123), located at 6000 Tireman Street in the City of Detroit. The purpose of the inspection was to determine the facility's compliance with applicable state and federal air pollution rules and regulations. General Manager, Andrea Grant accompanied AQD staff during this inspection.

**BACKGROUND:**

The facility is located on a 5.83-acre parcel of land on the north side Tireman Street between the railroad tracks and west of Epworth Street in an industrial/residential area. Advantage Pallets LLC formerly known as American Conexion stated that there has been a pallet company operating at this location since 2019.

On June 3, 2020, an anonymous complaint (C-20-03847) was received alleging clouds of dust and fallout from this facility on a daily basis. This complaint was investigated that same day. The complaint was not verified. This complaint was resolved on 6/3/2020.

On June 16, 2020, a similar complaint (C-20-03888) was received making similar allegations. This complaint was resolved on 6/16/2020.

**FACILITY DESCRIPTION:**

As the name suggests, Advantage is in the business of supplying wooden pallets to customers. Advantage builds new wooden pallets and reconditions used wooden pallets. The facility has a very large supply of various sized pallets on hand. Utilizing 3 radial arm saws that have sawdust collectors that vent inside the building and 1 compound table saw that is connected to a cyclone dust collector that was installed in early 2020 (photos attached). In addition, there is a 1,000 gallon off road diesel fuel tank.

The back part of the property had been leased to Detroit Mulch Company. Due to a conflict between the 2 companies, Detroit Mulch vacated the site leaving behind a large amount of soil, mulch, and broken wood products and landscape material that Detroit Mulch had been shredding. General Manager, Andrea Grant claims that the complaints AQD received in June 2020 were the fault of Detroit Mulch mishandling their operations.

## OPERATING SCHEDULE

The company currently employees 20 people and operates 8-hours a day (7:30am – 4:30pm) 5 days a week.

## INSPECTION NARRATIVE

Prior to this inspection, I conducted surveillance at this site on 8/8/2023 and 9/8/2023 before entering the facility. I did not observe any visible emissions.

General Manager, Andrea Grant accompanied AQD staff during this inspection. The inspection started on the main floor where the all the saws are located. Only 1 radial arm saw was in operation at this time. Sawdust was being directed to a container to be collected later. There was not obvious concern with this operation. The compound table saw was not operating. It is connected to a cyclone dust collector that was installed in early 2020 (photos attached). There was not any sawdust on the ground or around the saw to indicate that the collector was not operating properly. We preceded outside the building and walked around the property.

The back part of the property is as described earlier in the facility description. The roadways are largely paved with asphalt, and fugitive dust was not a concern.

## POST INSPECTION

General Manager, Andrea Grant and I returned to the office. Ms. Grant has been in this position for 2 years. She has never experienced an AQD inspection and had concern, and I addressed her questions. I then explained that there is a permit exemption that applies to their operations. The primary operations at this facility – the fabrication and disassembly of wood pallets – are exempt from AQD permitting requirements per the provisions of Michigan Administrative Rule 285(I)(vi).

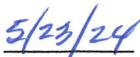
## COMPLAINT DETERMINATION

Based upon the results of this On-site Inspection, Advantage Pallets LLC in Detroit appears to be operating in compliance with applicable air quality rules and regulations, enforceable by AQD.

NAME



DATE



SUPERVISOR

