

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

A267739129

FACILITY: AMERIKAM		SRN / ID: A2677
LOCATION: 1337 JUDD AVE SW, GRAND RAPIDS		DISTRICT: Grand Rapids
CITY: GRAND RAPIDS		COUNTY: KENT
CONTACT: Patrick Fitzpatrick, Manufacturing Engineer		ACTIVITY DATE: 03/30/2017
STAFF: April Lazzaro	COMPLIANCE STATUS: Compliance	SOURCE CLASS: SM OPT OUT
SUBJECT: Unannounced, scheduled inspection.		
RESOLVED COMPLAINTS:		

Staff, April Lazzaro arrived at the facility to conduct an unannounced, scheduled inspection and met with Patrick Fitzpatrick, Manufacturing Engineer.

FACILITY DESCRIPTION

Amerikam is a precision turned metal components manufacturer that provides parts to the automotive, medical and plumbing industries. A variety of metals are utilized including brass, stainless steel, steel and aluminum. The metals come in either a rod or block form, which is then processed in any of the various internally vented machining operations on site. The facility is permitted pursuant to Opt-out Permit to Install No. 121-05, which provides limitations for Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC) and Hazardous Air Pollutants (HAP). The Opt-out PTI was needed to limit the potential emissions from the trichloroethylene vapor degreaser that the facility has operated since the 1980's.

Amerikam had been searching for a replacement to the existing degreaser, due to the toxicity of the trichloroethylene used. In August 2015, they found a replacement operation and decommissioned the vapor degreaser, and all trichloroethylene was removed from the site by November 2015. All electrical components to the unit have been disconnected from the power source. As such, at this time, I will remove this source from the Category III designation.

Amerikam has stated that at this time, they want to keep the permit, and Mr. Fitzpatrick knows that if they re-wire and start up the unit it will again become fee subject.

COMPLIANCE EVALUATION

The trichloroethylene vapor degreaser has been decommissioned for over 12 months and as such, there are no emissions or recordkeeping available for this unit. Therefore, at this time, the facility is in compliance with Opt-out PTI No. 121-05.

After the parts are made in the machining process, they have excess oil on them. All chips are spun in a centrifuge to remove and reclaim excess oils. All brass chips are conveyed through an internal trough to the centrifuge for oil removal.

Since there is also excess oil on the part, they need to be cleaned prior to going to the customer. This is why Amerikam has the need for a part cleaning system.

The new cleaning emission unit operates as an enclosed, internally vented system. The parts enter the unit in a rack, and all cleaning solvent is contained in enclosed tanks. The door closes and the rack is vacuumed of all ambient air. Then the heated solvent is introduced to the parts and soaked or spun to remove the residual oils. Then, the rack is again placed under vacuum and the solvent is piped back into the holding tank. The parts are dry upon removal, and no liquid is exposed to the air during the opening of the door. Mr. Fitzpatrick stated that since start up in August 2015, they have added 10 gallons of cleaning solvent. The cleaning solvent is 89 g/L VOC. Amerikam has identified that this emission unit is exempt per Rule 285(2)(r)(iv).

SUMMARY

Due to the vapor degreaser being decommissioned, there are no emissions generated from the use of the trichloroethylene. It was clarified in an e-mail that the small amount of VOC emissions generated by the new cleaning emission unit should be maintained through recordkeeping.

Amerikam was in compliance at the time of the inspection.

NAME April Simpson

DATE 4-28-17

SUPERVISOR [Signature]