

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

B717170803

FACILITY: MIDWEST PLATING PLANT 1		SRN / ID: B7171
LOCATION: 613 NORTH AVE NE, GRAND RAPIDS		DISTRICT: Grand Rapids
CITY: GRAND RAPIDS		COUNTY: KENT
CONTACT: Brian Wortman , President		ACTIVITY DATE: 01/30/2024
STAFF: April Lazzaro	COMPLIANCE STATUS: Compliance	SOURCE CLASS: MINOR
SUBJECT: Unannounced, scheduled inspection.		
RESOLVED COMPLAINTS:		

Air Quality Division (AQD) staff April Lazzaro and Laura Martin conducted an unannounced scheduled inspection. The purpose of the inspection was to determine the facility's compliance with state and federal air pollution regulations. Upon arrival at the facility, no odors or visible emissions were noted. Accompanying AQD staff was Brian Wortman, President, and we were later joined by Casey Wortman.

#### FACILITY DESCRIPTION

Midwest Plating is a job shop that conducts zinc electroplating and chromate conversion coatings on a variety of steel parts. There are two zinc electroplating lines at the facility and associated equipment.

#### COMPLIANCE EVALUATION

There are two, manual hoist, zinc electroplating lines. A third, automatic zinc plating line was removed in December 2017. The two manual lines were once permitted, but since all tanks on the lines are exhausted into the in-plant environment the equipment is considered exempt from permitting under Rule 285(2)(r) and previously issued permits were voided. The first line is a barrel plating line for small parts. The second line is used for larger parts placed on 10 ft long part racks. There have been no changes since the last AQD inspection. The two lines have a similar tank sequence and chemical make-up. The line sequence is as follows:

1. Alkaline soap (no phosphate)
2. Caustic and reverse DC current to remove imperfections
3. Double rinse
4. 10% muratic acid (hydrochloric acid) tank with wetting agent to keep down fumes
5. Double rinse
6. Alkaline zinc plating bath with DC current
7. Rinse
8. Chromate conversion coating (trivalent chrome black, hexavalent chrome yellow, trivalent chrome clear)
9. Occasionally an additional sealer
10. Dryers

Wastewater goes through an on-site water treatment system then is discharged to the city sewer system. It is noted that no cyanide compounds or solvents are used at the plant. Mr. Wortman stated that they are ceasing production use of the hexavalent chrome conversion coating in the next few months and plan to disperse the remaining solution through the wastewater treatment plant.

The applicability of 40 CFR Part 63, Subpart WWWW for the Plating and Polishing National Emission Standard for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP) was not evaluated as the State of Michigan does not have delegated authority for these rules.

#### SUMMARY

Midwest Plating appeared to be in compliance at the time of the inspection.

NAME April Lazzaro

DATE 02/13/2024

SUPERVISOR 