

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

N382162825

FACILITY: High Performance Metal Finishing		SRN / ID: N3821
LOCATION: 1821 VANDERBILT RD, PORTAGE		DISTRICT: Kalamazoo
CITY: PORTAGE		COUNTY: KALAMAZOO
CONTACT: Pat Greene , President		ACTIVITY DATE: 04/27/2022
STAFF: Monica Brothers	COMPLIANCE STATUS: Compliance	SOURCE CLASS: MINOR
SUBJECT: Unannounced scheduled inspection		
RESOLVED COMPLAINTS:		

Staff, Monica Brothers, arrived at High Performance Metal Finishing at about 9:30 am. The front door was locked, and it looked like no one was inside. I called the facility's number and spoke to the receptionist. She let me in and explained that they have been keeping the front doors locked ever since COVID began. I let her know that I was there to conduct an air quality inspection. She said that the owner, Pat Greene, had just left for the day, but that I could conduct the inspection with Bill Gallup, one of the other employees at the facility. Bill met with me in the reception area, and then we went to a conference room to discuss some preliminary questions.

High Performance Metal Finishing does electropolishing, passivation, powder coating, and sandblasting of metal parts primarily for the pharmaceutical and food industries. The powder coating and sandblasting operations have been a recent addition to the facility, but Bill did not know exactly when they began. They do not have any boilers, cold cleaners, or stationary emergency generators at the facility.

After our conversation in the conference room, Bill walked me through all of the facility processes. I viewed the powder coating booth, which was completely enclosed and had the appropriate fabric filters. Bill said they typically change the filters about once every two weeks. There is an associated cure oven for the powder-coated parts. Bill said that it typically operates at about 325-450°F for anywhere between 10-30 minutes per cycle. After the inspection I asked Pat in an email for more information about the cure oven. He said that the oven footprint is 8' X 20' X 8' and that they typically use 1733 BTU/hr of gas or 1.7 scf/hr. He said that they run it on average about 15 days each month. The powder coating and associated cure oven are considered exempt under Rule 287(2)(d).

I also viewed the sandblasting operation, which is also completely enclosed and has the appropriate fabric filters installed. This can be considered exempt under Rule 285(2)(l)(vi).

Bill then took me to see the passivation and electropolishing processes. There are three tanks, degreasing, deoxidizing, and nitric acid, associated with the passivation process. There is also one tank for electropolishing. The passivation tanks are operated at room temperature with no agitation. The electropolishing tank is operated at 110-115°F with no agitation other than the DC current used. Attached to this report are the SDS sheets for the materials used in the passivation and electropolishing tanks. The materials consist of sodium hydroxide, gluco-heptonic acid and monosodium salt, phosphoric acid, sulfuric acid, and nitric acid. These processes can be considered exempt under Rule 285(2)(r).

The facility seemed to be in compliance at the time of inspection.

NAME *Monirul*

DATE *5/19/22*

SUPERVISOR *RIL 5/20/22*