

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

U41151064331579

FACILITY: Champion Die Incorporated		SRN / ID: U411510643
LOCATION: 5510 West River Drive		DISTRICT: Grand Rapids
CITY: Comstock Park		COUNTY: KENT
CONTACT: Robert Champion, President		ACTIVITY DATE: 09/30/2015
STAFF: Denise Plafcan	COMPLIANCE STATUS: Compliance	SOURCE CLASS:
SUBJECT: Inspection to follow-up on smoke observed coming from a stack by an AQD co-worker.		
RESOLVED COMPLAINTS:		

Denise Plafcan (DP) conducted an unannounced self-initiated inspection to determine compliance with state and federal Air Quality rules and regulations and investigate a co-workers complaint of smoke from a stack. Prior to the inspection staff drove by the area on two different occasions from surrounding property. No smoke or obvious issues of concern with odors, malfunctions or fugitive emissions. DP met with, Bob Champion, President, after a brief introduction and discussion requesting access, DP explained the purpose of the inspection and reviewed the Environmental Inspection brochure. Mr. Champion eventually allowed access and escorted me through the plant and around the exterior of the plant.

Champion Die Incorporated has less than 20 employees and manufactures small steel dies used for cutting unique designs. In 2013 Champion Die manufactured the dies used to cut the presidential Christmas card. As part of the operation small squares (1.5 -2 inch squares) are cut into plywood using a laser cutter. There is only one laser cutter in the plant and it is on the east wall. The laser cutter is attached to a stack that emits the smoke from the burned wood.

During the inspection the laser unit was operating but there wasn't any visible smoke from the stack. Mr. Champion said the amount of smoke depends on how many squares and the depth and thickness of the square that are being cut. There are also a few miscellaneous pieces of machining equipment in a back area of the plant.

Following the end of the inspection DP explained the process of finalizing the report and sending an electronic copy of the report. Mr. Champion was reluctant to provide an e-mail address and DP offered to send the report via traditional mail. After reassurance that his e-mail would not be shared with any entity and would only be used to send the report Mr. Champion provided his e-mail address. DP also explained Rule 201 permitting requirements, however, the laser process should be exempt from requiring a permit under a Rule 285(I) (vi).

Based on the physical inspection it appears that the facility is exempt from Rule 201 requirements and in compliance with state and federal Air Quality Division rules and regulations.

NAME Denise Pagan

DATE 9-30-15

SUPERVISOR PMB