

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

FY 2016 INSP

U6308018232784

FACILITY: Filtra Systems, Inc.	SRN / ID: U63080182
LOCATION: 23900 Haggerty Rd, Farmington	DISTRICT: Southeast Michigan
CITY: Farmington	COUNTY: OAKLAND
CONTACT: <i>[Signature]</i>	ACTIVITY DATE: 11/12/2015
STAFF: Iranna Konanahalli	COMPLIANCE STATUS: Compliance
SUBJECT: FY 2016 inspection of Filtra Systems, Inc.	SOURCE CLASS:
RESOLVED COMPLAINTS:	

U-63-08-0182 - SAR - 2015 11 12

Filtra Systems, Inc. (U-63-08-0182)
23900 Haggerty Road
Farmington Hills, Michigan 48335-2618

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Rules: 283, 285, 287: R&D, testing, pilot plant studies, warehousing, engineering, corp. offices. All production moved to Gordonsville, Tennessee.

On November 12, 2015, I conducted a level 2 self-initiated inspection of Filtra Systems, Inc. ("Filtra"), located at 23900 Haggerty Road, Farmington Hills, Michigan 48335-2618. The inspection was conducted to determine compliance with the Federal Clean Air Act; Article II, Part 55, Air Pollution Control, of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451 and Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, Air Quality Division (MDEQ-AQD) administrative rules.

During the inspection, Mr. Joseph T. Haligowski (Phone: (248) 427-9090-ext. NA; Fax: (248) 427-9895; Mobile: (248) 640-5877; E-mail: JoeH@FiltraSystems.com), International Sales Manager and Chemical Engineer, assisted me.

Mr. Scott Bratten (Phone: (248) 427-9090-ext. 121; Fax: (248) 427-9893; Mobile: (248) 640-7126; E-mail: scottB@FiltraSystems.com), President, was busy with other prior appointments.

About June 2012, Mr. Craig Wills (Phone: (248) 427-9090-ext. 114; Fax: (248) 427-9895; Mobile: (248) 640-3829; E-mail: craigw@filtrasystems.com), Vice President of Engineering, retired.

At this Farmington Hills location, Filtra conducts Research and Development, Engineering, Testing, Pilot Plant Studies, Warehousing, Support & Project Management activities. Also, sales, finance, marketing activities are performed. Besides, Farmington Hills facility is headquarters (HQ) for the company. There is no manufacturing taking place at this time; all manufacturing moved to Gordonsville (near Nashville), Tennessee, about 2007.

In order to make use of available building space and also for logistics reasons, Filtra Systems (F/S) started warehousing the filtration products manufactured at Tennessee.

Filtration systems are produced to control particulate pollution in water and air media for industrial processes, automotive industry in particular. Filtra's business corresponds to 70% from cutting oils filtration and 30 from chemicals, wastewater, etc., filtration.

Some of the filtration products are:

1. Deep-bed filter (DBF)
2. Verti-Press Automatic Filter
3. Magne-Tight Filter (Magnetic Separation) for ferrous metal contaminated oils
4. Hydra-Lift Pump for pumping metal-containing cooling fluid
5. VPC Pressure Filter for separating steel from cutting oil
6. Hydro-Vac PMSS Vacuum Filters (recently most production is due to this product line)
7. Mist collectors

Rule 287(c) Paint Spray Booth

About 2009, one paint booth (15 ft. x 15 ft.) with back-draft dry filter system was removed. All production of air / water pollution control equipment / devices using filtration moved to Gordonsville, Tennessee.

Fluidization and vacuum compressor unit

This unit was used for demonstration and testing. The metal chips are fluidized using air. Air and chips go through about 30 feet pipe and chips were filtered by a fabric filter system. The exhaust air after filtration of metal chips / flakes is recycled into the plant. Because the fluidization unit was used only for demonstration, testing and not exhausted outside, the equipping was exempt from Rule 336.1201 (Permit-to-Install) pursuant to Rules 336.1283 and 336.1285.

The fluidization unit had not been used since 2009 due to 2008-2010 economic crises known as great recession. General Motors Corp. was not asking for its use. This was supposed to test pneumatic conveyor system for metal chips for industrial production process. About 2014, this unit was permanently and completely removed.

Rule 285 mist eliminator demonstration units

One smaller unit (installed in 2009) was used for demonstration and testing. There was one knock-out drum to take out liquid particles where liquid oil is taken out. This was a demonstration unit and removed about 2014.

About 2013, second larger unit, consisting of a knock-out drum for liquid oil and a cartridge / pleated filter system, was installed for testing purposes. By November 2015, this unit is significantly modified. Both units were installed for testing and engineering purposes. All emissions, upon filtration are released to in-plant environment. All filtration products production to engineering specifications takes place in Tennessee.

Mist generator and associated mist eliminator are exempt from Rule 336.1201 (Permit-to-Install) pursuant to Rules 336.1283 or 336.1285.

Wind mills testing

Wind mill engineering studies were performed. Wind mills were tested and studied for aerodynamics, structural integrity (stresses and strains), materials selection and so on. This testing operation was removed about 2011

Warehousing

In order to make use of vacant manufacturing area, Filtra started warehousing SS filters, bag filters, surplus filtration units, mist eliminators, cartridge filters, pleated filters, etc. Warehousing in Michigan provides better logistics for the products for automotive industry.

There is no cold-cleaner or parts cleaner at the facility.

Conclusion

This is a sales, engineering, R & D and testing facility. All production moved to Tennessee. I did not find any compliance problem.

MCDS Misc-1612

NAME

J. Stenavahall

DATE

12/30/2015

SUPERVISOR

CJE