



Is Your Manufacturing Operation Compliant With “Ontario Environmental Laws”?

Is your manufacturing operation compliant with Ontario's Environmental Laws or, put another way, does your operation have extra dollars to throw away in fines for non-compliance?

While the majority of individuals and companies comply with Ontario Environmental Laws, there are still ones that do not, according to the Ontario Ministry of Environment.

Non-compliance can be attributed to: (1) lack of knowledge or a poor interpretation of the Environmental Protection Act or (2) a quiet plan to avoid compliance, hoping that no one individual, or no government agency will notice.

The vast majority of non-compliance issues in industry occur with regards to the former. The most common non-compliance issue is with regard to equipment that discharges a contaminant to the natural environment. Companies often do not realize that **all** equipment new/existing, including alterations to that equipment, must be approved for operation under the EPA, unless exempt from the regulations.

The Ontario Ministry of the Environment (MOE) in the past has reduced its field inspections, allowing many non-compliance situations to continue. However, during the past year the MOE has increased the regulation field support (District Officers) and created the Province-Wide “Environmental Swat Team”, a highly mobile team that conducts provincial wide inspection sweeps of various industries. The team is dedicated to getting tough on companies which are defying the Environmental Regulations and Legislation. The Swat Team compliments the enforcement work of the District Office ensuring a

greater chance that operations are inspected.

The Swat Teams arrive at the door unannounced and conduct surprise inspections which could last several hours to several days depending on the complexity of operations. During these inspections, discussions with employees, the taking of samples, and inspection of documents (Certificate of Approvals) supporting the use of all equipment discharging to the atmosphere or Industrial Wastewater discharges to sewers, take place.

After the inspection is completed, the inspectors have a variety of enforcement powers to ensure compliance and corrective action is taken.

There appears to be a change of direction within the Ministry of Environment (MOE) to a more stringent time frame with the issuance of “provincial orders” to resolve non-compliance situations.

Of course, MOE follow-up inspections are completed to ensure that all non-compliance issues are controlled or eliminated and remain so.

Several recent examples of companies being charged include:

- a sawmill for replacing and operating equipment without obtaining a Certificate of Approval;
- a woodworking operation for discharging sawdust to the atmosphere (\$15,000); and
- a plastics manufacturer for discharging a contaminant without approval (\$45,000).

HSP's environmental team has completed many environmental audits and many Certificate of Approval Applications to ensure compliance. We would be happy to discuss your concerns.

Green Tips

The number of trees saved by recycling one tonne of newspaper: approximately 17. (Source: *Toronto Environmental Handbook '99*)

Cars are the largest single source of carbon dioxide (CO₂), by far the most prevalent global warming gas. (Source : "*Transportation and Global Warming*". *Pollution Probe*)

What is Ontario's Smog Patrol?

Ontario's Smog Patrol is an on-road campaign targeting grossly polluting vehicles. The Smog Patrol was first launched in July, 1998. It started the Drive Clean program by introducing enhanced enforcement of Ontario's vehicle emission regulation (Regulation 361/98).

Last year the Smog Patrol operated mainly in the Golden Horshoe area of Southern Ontario.

This year it has expanded province wide with a team of full-time staff.

During on-road inspections, the Smog Patrol officers, in partnership with local enforcement agencies, identify and test vehicles that don't appear to be complying with the emission regulations. If the vehicles are out of compliance, drivers or owners can be ticketed.

"How to Cope with Bad Air Days"

- stay away from heavy traffic areas
- put off mowing the lawn or use electric powered equipment
- avoid using aerosol sprays & cleaners, or oil based paints

What is Regulation 361/98?

Regulation 361/98 sets emission standards for light-duty and heavy-duty vehicles.

Regulation 361/98 makes it an offence to operate a vehicle emitting visible smoke for more than 15 seconds in any five-minute period.

In addition, Section 23(1) of the Environmental Protection Act makes it illegal to operate, or permit the operation of, a vehicle that does not comply with the emission standards in Regulation 361/98.

HSP Employee Profile



Lena Perry, B. Sc., Applied Chemistry
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Lena has over 20 years of process and environmental experience, 10 of those years in industry and over 10 in process and environmental consulting engineering for various industrial sector and commercial clients. She has carried out water and air quality monitoring projects, and completed numerous environmental approvals applications, environmental audits and site assessments, and emission monitoring reports and inventories.

Lena is currently an Environmental Specialist with HSP.



Selected Project Reference List

Air Emission Summaries and Dispersion Modeling Reports / Certificates of Approval (Air)

The preparation of the Certificate of Approval application package requires an Emission Summary and Dispersion Modeling Report. A review of the proposed process operations, process descriptions, estimation and calculation of air emissions and dispersion modeling all form part of this emission report.



<u>Facility</u>	<u>Key Processes and/or Contaminants</u>
<u>Glass Product Manufacturing</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Combustion Processes (NO_x)</u> • <u>Painting Processes (VOC's)</u> • <u>Dust Collection (particulate)</u>
<u>Polystyrene Moulding Facility</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Process Emissions (VOC's)</u>
<u>Polyethylene Bag Manufacturing Facility</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Process Emissions (VOC's)</u>
<u>Custom Woodworking Facility</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Paint Spray Booth (VOC's)</u> • <u>Dust Collection (particulate)</u>
<u>Oil and Hydraulic Fluid Additives Manufacturing Facility</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Process Emissions (VOC's)</u>
<u>Sound-Proof Materials Manufacturing Facility</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Paint Spray Booths (VOC's)</u>
<u>Pharmaceutical and Chemical Product Manufacturing Facility</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Process Emissions (inorganic chemicals, VOC's)</u> • <u>Dust Collection (particulate)</u> • <u>Combustion Processes (NO_x)</u>
<u>Inorganic Chemical Mixing, Filling and Transfer Facility</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Process Emissions (inorganic chemicals)</u> • <u>Dust Collection (particulate)</u> • <u>Combustion Processes (NO_x)</u> • <u>Paint Spray Booths (VOC's)</u>
<u>Foam Board Insulation Manufacturing Facility</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Process Emissions (VOC's)</u> • <u>Dust Collection (particulate)</u> • <u>Combustion Processes (NO_x)</u>
<u>Motor Vehicle Parts Manufacturing</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Process Emissions (VOC's)</u> • <u>Dust Collection (particulate)</u> • <u>Combustion Processes (NO_x)</u>
<u>Pulp and Paper Manufacturing</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Process Emissions (TRS, particulate, VOC's CL₂, CLO₂)</u> • <u>Combustion Processes (NO_x)</u>



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TO:

HSP Hot Topics

by David Gordon

Although the weather is not cooperating, we are starting into our third summer of weekly barbeques in our patio area. These barbeques are generally held on either Wednesday or Thursday each week, weather permitting.

Staff and clients are invited to drop in on an informal basis and enjoy lunch, on us.

Please don't hesitate to contact the office for the date of the next scheduled barbeque.

Mourning

Many hockey fans in this area are presently in mourning due to the end of the Stanley Cup run for the Ottawa Senators. They came close, but not close enough. All this means is another summer of having something in common with Maple Leaf fans.

Wait till next year!

Have a good summer!