



REGION 5

CHICAGO, IL 60604

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: CLEAN AIR ACT INSPECTION REPORT
The Ford Meter Box Company, Inc., Wabash, Indiana

FROM: Dakota Prentice, Environmental Engineer
AECAB (IL/IN)

THRU: Nathan Frank, Section Supervisor
AECAB (IL/IN)

TO: File

BASIC INFORMATION

Facility Name: The Ford Meter Box Company, Inc.

Facility Location: 775 Manchester Avenue, Wabash, Indiana

Date of Inspection: June 4, 2024

EPA Inspector(s):

1. Dakota Prentice, Environmental Engineer
2. Meaghan Pashen, Environmental Engineer

Other Attendees:

1. John Haney, The Ford Meter Box Company, Inc. – Environmental Engineer
2. Chris Shanks, The Ford Meter Box Company, Inc. – Executive Vice President
3. Angela G. Verseman, Indiana Department of Environmental Management – Environmental Manager

Contact Email Address: John Haney – jhaney@fordmeterbox.com

Purpose of Inspection: to determine compliance with the Clean Air Act and Indiana state implementation plan

Facility Type: brass foundry

Facility Name: The Ford Meter Box Company, Inc.
Facility Location: 775 Manchester Avenue, Wabash, Indiana
Date of Inspection: June 4, 2024

Regulations Central to Inspection: National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants: Area Source Standards for Aluminum, Copper, and Other Nonferrous Foundries (NESHAP ZZZZZZ) at 40 C.F.R. Part 63, Subpart ZZZZZZ

Arrival Time: 1:00 PM

Departure Time: 2:45 PM

Inspection Type:

- ☒ Unannounced Inspection
- ☐ Announced Inspection

OPENING CONFERENCE

- ☒ Presented Credentials
- ☒ Stated authority and purpose of inspection
- ☒ Provided Small Business Resource Information Sheet via email following inspection
- ☐ Small Business Resource Information Sheet not provided
- ☒ Provided CBI warning to facility

The following information was obtained verbally from John Haney unless otherwise noted.

Process Description:

The facility produces brass water utility products to connect municipal potable water service main lines to homes and buildings. Production begins with the melting of metal, consisting of brass ingot, internal scrap, and metal shavings at one of eight furnaces. Two of the furnaces are dedicated to leaded brass production and two additional furnaces produce leaded brass, as needed, based on demand. When the melt cycle at the furnace is complete, the molten brass is poured into a ladle. The ladle is moved to a pouring station when the molten brass is poured into molds. The molds are allowed to cool and then moved to shakeout where the sand is removed from the casting. After the sand is removed, the casting moves through a series of finishing steps including shot blasting and grinding. After finishing, the casting is prepared for shipment to customers. The facility also has mold and core production lines and a sand reclamation system.

Staff Interview:

The facility has a total of 10 baghouse to control particulate matter emissions. The baghouse controlling emissions at melting and pouring has a bag leak detection system (BLDS), but this BLDS has reportedly had technical problems. Leaded brass products are used for products that either do not come into contact with drinking water or are exported. Currently, leaded products make up 30% of production. The highest lead content ingot used at the facility is 5% lead. The facility uses separate furnaces, shot blast units, and sand handling systems for leaded brass. Core production has a scrubber to control amines.

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TOUR INFORMATION

EPA Toured the Facility: Yes

Data Collected and Observations:

EPA observed leaded and non-leaded furnaces in operation. The furnaces had covers with side-draft emission capture systems. The roof located above the furnaces had ventilation fans blowing melt shop air up and out of the building. EPA also observed emissions from an auto-pour system with a dedicated emission capture system above the unit. There is one cooling tower onsite but water does not make contact with lead.

Photos and/or Videos: were taken during the inspection and are listed in Appendix A.
See Appendix A

Field Measurements: were not taken during this inspection.

CLOSING CONFERENCE

☒ Provided U.S. EPA point of contact to the facility

Requested documents:

- Calculations and assumptions associated with capture efficiency determinations included in the current Title V permit.
- The most recent performance test at each location at the facility.
- All BLDS records, with associated compliance setpoints, for the last 12 months. If the BLDS was not in operation or was in malfunction, provide supplemental documentation demonstrating compliance as is appropriate.
- The last two full years of actual emission calculations. Include a modifiable spreadsheet that documents how the emissions are calculated.

DIGITAL SIGNATURES

Report Author: DAKOTA PRENTICE
Digitally signed by
DAKOTA PRENTICE
Date: 2024.07.09
09:39:45 -05'00'

Section Supervisor: NATHAN FRANK
Digitally signed by
NATHAN FRANK
Date: 2024.07.17
11:25:35 -05'00'

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APPENDICES

Appendix A: Digital Image Log and Digital Video Log

Facility Name: The Ford Meter Box Company, Inc.
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APPENDIX A: DIGITAL IMAGE LOG AND DIGITAL VIDEO LOG

Inspector Name: M. Pashen **Archival Record Location:** R5 Electronic Record Center > AECAB Library > Enf_Ford Meter Box_IN_24 > Inspection > Photos

Image Number	File Name	Date and Time (incl. Time zone and DST)	Description of Image
1	IMG_0755.JPG	6/4/2024 13:03	Non-Leaded Furnace Nos. 1 and 2
2	IMG_0756.JPG	6/4/2024 13:04	Roof vent above Furnace Nos. 1 and 2
3	IMG_0757.JPG	6/4/2024 13:04	Roof vent above Furnace Nos. 1 and 2
4	IMG_0759.JPG	6/4/2024 13:05	Melt Deck
5	IMG_0760.JPG	6/4/2024 13:06	Pouring Line
6	IMG_0761.JPG	6/4/2024 13:22	Auto-Pour Unit
7	IMG_0762.JPG	6/4/2024 13:22	Auto-Pour Unit
8	IMG_0763.JPG	6/4/2024 13:23	Capture System at Auto-Pour Unit
9	IMG_0764.JPG	6/4/2024 13:23	Capture System at Auto-Pour Unit

Video Number	File Name	Date and Time (incl. Time zone and DST)	Description of Video
1	IMG_0755.JPG	6/4/2024 13:03	Non-Leaded Furnace Nos. 1 and 2