

**U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
POLLUTION REPORT**

DATE: February 7, 2003

SUBJECT: HS Finishing Products Corporation, Brooklyn, Kings County, NY
Pollution Report No: 1

FROM: Steven R. Touw, On-Scene Coordinator
Response and Prevention Branch

TO:

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I. BACKGROUND:

SITE NO:	TM
DELIVERY ORDER NO:	0068 (Earth Tech)
D. ORDER COMPLETE DATE:	9/15/03
RESPONSE AUTHORITY:	CERCLA
ERNS NO:	88706
CERCLIS NO:	NYD114854551
NPL STATUS:	no
STATE NOTIFICATION:	2/03/03
ACTION MEMO APPROVAL:	pending
START DATE:	2/04/03
MOBILIZATION DATE:	2/04/03
DEMOBILIZATION DATE:	na
COMPLETION DATE:	na

II. SITE INFORMATION:

A. Incident Category: Abandoned manufacturing facility

B. Site Description:

1. Site description

The Site consists of one, single-story building, approximately 160 by 100 feet in size, located at 1768 to 1784 Dean Street, Brooklyn, Kings County, New York. The facility was operated by H.S. Finishing Products Corporation, performing electroplating and coating operations, until apparently being abandoned in June or July 2001.

2. Description of threat

The exterior wall on the east side of the building contains several large cracks, and was visibly buckling during the Expedited Removal Assessment (ERA) performed on February 3, 2003. The NYC Department of Buildings constructed wooden shoring along the entire eastern wall on February 4th to provide structural integrity. The metal roof is in deteriorated condition, as evidenced by numerous leaks observed during the ERA, including large leaks in the vicinity of the eastern wall. Five of the ten vats are located along the eastern wall, and their contents are at risk of either being released due to the potential collapse of the wall, or by overflowing due to continued rainwater intrusion. The other 5 vats are along the front of the building, where a pedestrian sidewalk is located immediately on the other side of the wall. Several hundred 5-gallon containers of flammable liquids, stored along the western side of the building, are also exposed to rainwater intrusion from several leaks in the roof, and have evidence of rusting. Numerous other containers and drums are scattered haphazardly throughout the rest of the building, with no apparent concern for compatibility. Drums and containers are co-mingled with cardboard boxes and other debris, posing a fire hazard.

C. Preliminary Assessment Results:

EPA and the Removal Support Team (RST) performed an Expedited Removal Assessment (ERA) of the Site. RST performed a Level B entry to conduct air monitoring, and down-graded to Level C to conduct an initial inventory and photodocumentation. An initial inventory of containers discovered in the building included methyl ethyl ketone, trichloroethylene, sodium hydroxide and hydrochloric acid. Several small containers labeled 'cyanide' were also found in the building, as well as several hundred 5-gallon containers labeled as

flammables, corrosives and oxidizers. In addition, ten vats were discovered, and several of them contain liquids that are labeled as caustics, nitric acid and chromic acid.

Based on this evaluation, verbal authorization to conduct an emergency removal action was approved on February 3, 2003. NYPD provided site security until EPA was able to provide 24-hour security service through the ERRS contractor on February 4, 2003.

D. Planned Removal Actions

The objective of this removal action is to eliminate the threat posed by the release of a hazardous substances, including the potential for direct human contact. This action will include the following:

- Stabilization and securing of drums and other containerized hazardous substances found at the Site.
- Removal and containerization of acids and caustics from the vats.
- Sampling and analysis of drums, containers, liquids recovered from the vats, and contaminated debris.
- Determination of waste characteristics and subsequent waste consolidation.
- Preparation of waste streams for shipment.
- Transportation and disposal of all hazardous substances at a RCRA or TSCA-approved disposal facility in compliance with EPA's CERCLA Off-Site Disposal Rule.

III. RESPONSE INFORMATION:

A. Current situation:

ERRS was mobilized to the Site on February 3, 2003, and commenced removal activities on February 4th. All drums and containers will be secured, inventoried, sampled and staged during the week of February 3rd.

B. Actions Taken:

On February 4th, the OSC and ERRS Response Manager performed a site walk-through; discussed the scope of work, health and safety concerns, and logistical arrangements; and prepared the Daily Work Order. The ERRS foreman and clean-up technicians were en-route to the Site.

On February 5th, the ERRS crew commenced the collection and initial segregation of drums and containers from throughout the building, separating empty containers from those containing product. A generator, temporary lighting, a forklift, breathing air, port-a-johns, and a security shed were delivered to the Site.

A contingent from the local FDNY firehouse visited the Site, and conducted a walk-through with the OSC.

The ERRS chemist arrived on-site on February 6th and commenced inventory and sampling activities. The ERRS crew continued to segregate drums and containers by potential waste streams. Containers with product were staged in the center of the building, where the roof is in good shape and some natural light is available.

Staging and sampling activities were completed on February 7th, and the ERRS crew demobed. Site security will continue on a 24 hour basis.

C. Key Issues:

At this time, the current ownership of the property remains unknown. The OSC continues to work with city and state investigators and ORC to identify the property owner and potential PRPs.

D. Next Steps:

Laboratory analysis of sampled materials is expected within two weeks of the completion of sampling activities. Upon receipt of analytical results, ERRS will identify waste streams, prepare bulking strategies, and remobilize to prepare all materials for disposal.

IV. COST INFORMATION:

Cost information will be included in POLREP #2.

Final Polrep: _____

Further Polreps Forthcoming: __X__