

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT  
Armitage Auto Parts Fire Response - Removal Polrep  
Initial and Final Removal Polrep



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
Region I

**Subject:** POLREP #1  
Initial and Final  
Armitage Auto Parts Fire Response  
  
Wrentham, MA  
Latitude: 42.0348506 Longitude: -71.3474213

**To:**  
**From:** Dan Wainberg, On-Scene Coordinator  
**Date:** 2/5/2010  
**Reporting Period:** 02/04/2010

## 1. Introduction

### 1.1 Background

<b>Site Number:</b>	<b>Contract Number:</b>
<b>D.O. Number:</b>	<b>Action Memo Date:</b>
<b>Response Authority:</b> CERCLA/OPA	<b>Response Type:</b> Emergency
<b>Response Lead:</b> EPA	<b>Incident Category:</b>
<b>NPL Status:</b> Non NPL	<b>Operable Unit:</b>
<b>Mobilization Date:</b> 2/4/2010	<b>Start Date:</b> 2/4/2010
<b>Demob Date:</b> 2/4/2010	<b>Completion Date:</b> 2/4/2010
<b>CERCLIS ID:</b>	<b>RCRIS ID:</b>
<b>ERNS No.:</b>	<b>State Notification:</b>
<b>FPN#:</b>	<b>Reimbursable Account #:</b>

#### 1.1.1 Incident Category

Emergency Response

#### 1.1.2 Site Description

##### 1.1.2.1 Location

The incident location includes Armitage Autoparts, located at 1143 South St in Wrentham, Massachusetts and the unnamed pond immediately across South Street from Armitage Autoparts.

##### 1.1.2.2 Description of Threat

At approximately 1400, MassDEP notified the EPA Phone Duty Officer of a fire in progress that involved tires and other automotive parts. At the time of notification, MassDEP indicated they had a responder en route, that the fire chief had requested air monitoring assistance, but it was unknown the magnitude of the fire or the quantity of tires and other automotive debris involved in the fire. MassDEP requested EPA provide air monitoring assistance if necessary.

## 2. Current Activities

### 2.1 Operations Section

#### 2.1.1 Narrative

Subsequent to MassDEP's request for assistance, OSC Wainberg was dispatched to the incident. Concurrently, the Phone Duty officer put the Superfund Technical Assistance and Response Team (START) on standby to respond to the fire and provide air monitoring and environmental assessment support.

**At 1535, the OSC arrived on site at met with the MassDEP responder and Wrentham Fire Chief (IC), who provided the following information:**

- The Wrentham Fire Department received the call at 1314.
- The fire was extinguished by approximately 1415.
- The fire started when the owner/operator was cutting up a vehicle with a torch and some material caught fire. The owner/operator tried to extinguish the fire with a fire extinguisher, but was unsuccessful and called 911.
- Wrentham, Franklin, and Norfolk Fire Departments responded along with the Southeast District HAZMAT Team.
- Fire suppression activities commenced utilizing water for approximately 30-40 minutes until a foam trailer arrived on site.

- Once foam was utilized to suppress the fire, the smoke plume was reduced drastically and the fire was put out quickly.
- MassDEP and the district HAZMAT team conducted air monitoring and collected an air sample in the residential area downwind from the fire. The air monitoring and collected sample, which was analyzed in the HAZMAT team's field laboratory, indicated no airborne contaminants.
- MassDEP and the HAZMAT team deployed sorbent pads and boom at two location in the autoparts yard on a small unnamed stream that runs through the property.

**While the OSC was on-scene, the following activities and observations occurred:**

- The owner/operator was separating debris involved in the fire under the oversight of the fire department to ensure the fire was extinguished.
- MassDEP and the OSC inspected the unnamed stream and pond for sheening (earlier some minor sheening had been observed). A small amount of petroleum product was observed pooled in the stream above the boom deployment locations. It was unclear if this petroleum product originated from the area of the fire and was transported via fire water run-off or whether the petroleum product had been deposited on the ground along the stream previously and was transported when the stream level rose due to the fire water run-off. It appeared to be the latter although inconclusive. No sheening was observed below the pad and boom locations.
- MassDEP required the owner/operator to hire an environmental clean-up contractor to immediately mobilize to the site to address the petroleum product identified in the stream above the boom locations.

**2.1.3 Enforcement Activities, Identity of Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPs)**

Armitage Autoparts is the owner/operator of the facility. MassDEP will be conducting a compliance inspection on 2/5/2010.

**2.2 Planning Section**

**2.2.1 Anticipated Activities**

- MassDEP will provide oversight of the clean-up contractor (Dowling Corp.) hired by the owner/operator to address the petroleum product identified in the unnamed stream. This work was anticipated to be complete on the evening of 2/4/2010.
- MassDEP will perform a compliance inspection on 2/5/2010. The owner/operator will be required to hire a Licensed Site Professional (LSP) to address any environmental issues caused by the fire or identified during the compliance inspection.

**2.2.2 Issues**

There are indications of compliance issues at this site. MassDEP will conduct a compliance inspection on 2/5/2010.

**2.3 Logistics Section**

N/A

**2.4 Finance Section**

No information available at this time.

**2.5 Other Command Staff**

**2.5.1 Safety Officer**

N/A

**2.6 Liaison Officer**

N/A

**2.7 Information Officer**

Initially there was some media interest, but the fire was put out relatively quickly and media interest waned.

Links to new pieces:

<http://www1.whdh.com/news/articles/local/BO134826/>

NECN inaccurately reported that "EPA" said there was oily product in the stream. EPA did not speak with the any media outlets (no interest by the time EPA arrived), but MassDEP did and mentioned the oily product.

<http://www.necn.com/pages/landing?blockID=175094>

**3. Participating Entities**

**3.1 Unified Command**

- Wrentham Fire
- Southeast District HAZMAT Team
- MassDEP
- EPA

**3.2 Cooperating Agencies**

**4. Personnel On Site**

- Wrentham, Franklin, and Norfolk, Fire Departments
- Southeast District HAZMAT Team
- Wrentham Police Department

- MassDEP
- EPA

#### **5. Definition of Terms**

No information available at this time.

#### **6. Additional sources of information**

No information available at this time.

#### **7. Situational Reference Materials**

No information available at this time.