

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT  
Eastern Plating Fire - Removal Polrep



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
Region III

**Subject:** **POLREP #4**  
**Cleanup continues, hazardous wastes removed**  
**Eastern Plating Fire**

**Baltimore, MD**  
**Latitude: 39.2790181 Longitude: -76.5677062**

**To:**  
**From:** Gregory Ham, On Scene Coordinator  
**Date:** 5/31/2012  
**Reporting Period:** May 12 - 30, 2012

## 1. Introduction

### 1.1 Background

|                            |         |                                |           |
|----------------------------|---------|--------------------------------|-----------|
| <b>Site Number:</b>        | A3UG    | <b>Contract Number:</b>        |           |
| <b>D.O. Number:</b>        |         | <b>Action Memo Date:</b>       |           |
| <b>Response Authority:</b> | CERCLA  | <b>Response Type:</b>          |           |
| <b>Response Lead:</b>      | PRP     | <b>Incident Category:</b>      |           |
| <b>NPL Status:</b>         | Non NPL | <b>Operable Unit:</b>          |           |
| <b>Mobilization Date:</b>  |         | <b>Start Date:</b>             | 4/23/2012 |
| <b>Demob Date:</b>         |         | <b>Completion Date:</b>        |           |
| <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 due to a fire at an anodizing facility.

#### 1.1.2 Site Description

Former anodizing operation in a small brick building located within a residential community.

##### 1.1.2.1 Location

1200 South Bayliss Street, Baltimore, MD 21224

##### 1.1.2.2 Description of Threat

Primarily sulfuric, chromic, and nitric acids in open vats.

#### 1.1.3 Preliminary Removal Assessment/Removal Site Inspection Results

During the fire large volumes of water were poured on the site. Since the acids were in open vats, the water mixed with the acids and flowed out of the building into two adjacent alleys. The fire department put hoses on each alley to dilute the acid, which flowed down the alleys, into storm drains, and eventually to the harbor. Tests at the outfall into the harbor indicated that the liquid was approximately neutral pH at the discharge.

## 2. Current Activities

### 2.1 Operations Section

#### 2.1.1 Narrative

The Baltimore City Haz Mat unit, the Maryland Department of the Environment Emergency Response Division, and EPA are overseeing the cleanup of the site.

#### 2.1.2 Response Actions to Date

As of May 30, most of the liquid in the vats has been removed. The majority of these liquids were neutralized onsite and placed into a 6,000 gallon temporary storage tank onsite. This tank is now being tested and with the approval of the City will be discharged to the sanitary sewer in accordance with Eastern's discharge permit.

Only two vats still have liquids in them. These are rinsewater vats that have levels of chromium in them that is too high to allow discharge to the sanitary sewer. These vats contain approximately 400 gallons of liquid. This liquid will be combined with the water used to clean the empty chromium tanks, which will then be drummed and shipped offsite for proper treatment and/or disposal.

The debris remaining inside the building has been tested and determined to be non-hazardous, with the exception of some debris in the area of the former chromium tanks. This debris (which contains chromium) will be handled separately. The company is now in the process of sorting through the non-hazardous debris to recover product materials and recyclable scrap. Once that is removed the remainder will be disposed of appropriately.

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

Work is currently being done voluntarily by the PRP.

### 2.1.4 Progress Metrics

| <i>Waste Stream</i>   | <i>Medium</i> | <i>Quantity</i> | <i>Manifest #</i> | <i>Treatment</i> | <i>Disposal</i> |
|-----------------------|---------------|-----------------|-------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Acid wastes, sulfuric | liquid        | 1,300 gal       | 008980654JJK      |                  |                 |
| Acid wastes, chromic  | liquid        | 2,350 gal       | 000184652JJK      |                  |                 |
| Chromium rinsewater   | liquid        | 1,783 gal       | 009701032JJK      |                  |                 |
| Non haz debris        | solids        | 2 rolloffs      |                   |                  |                 |

## 2.2 Planning Section

### 2.2.1 Anticipated Activities

Continued oversight of PRP activities by MDE and EPA.

#### 2.2.1.1 Planned Response Activities

Liquid wastes in the temporary tank onsite are being sampled to ensure compliance with the discharge permit. If in compliance, the City will be notified and provided with the sample results, and will be able to take a sample if needed prior to approving the discharge. Any remaining small amounts of liquid and debris in the vats and in the building sump will be drummed and tested for proper disposal, according to the company owner.

The vendor who supplies materials for the company will remove the usable materials in the storage area. These will be taken to the company's other location for use in their process. This transfer is scheduled for Friday, June 1, 2012.

#### 2.2.1.2 Next Steps

Continued sampling and removal of all wastes and debris in the building.

### 2.2.2 Issues

## 2.3 Logistics Section

No information available at this time.

## 2.4 Finance Section

No information available at this time.

## 2.5 Other Command Staff

No information available at this time.

## 3. Participating Entities

### 3.1 Unified Command

### 3.2 Cooperating Agencies

Baltimore City Fire Department Haz Mat Unit, MDE, US Coast Guard, EPA.

## 4. Personnel On Site

EPA OSC Greg Ham was onsite and May 17th, 24th, and 30th during this reporting period.

## 5. Definition of Terms

No information available at this time.

## 6. Additional sources of information

### 6.1 Internet location of additional information/report

[www.epaosc.org/easternplating](http://www.epaosc.org/easternplating)

### 6.2 Reporting Schedule

## 7. Situational Reference Materials

No information available at this time.