

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT
International Imaging Materials (IIMAT) - Removal Polrep
Initial and Final Removal Polrep



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Region II

Subject: POLREP #1
Initial and Final POLREP
International Imaging Materials (IIMAT)

Amherst, NY
Latitude: 43.0280660 Longitude: -78.8089330

To:
From: Kimberly Staiger, OSC
Date: 10/27/2014
Reporting Period:

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

Site Number:	Contract Number:
D.O. Number:	Action Memo Date:
Response Authority: CERCLA	Response Type: Emergency
Response Lead: PRP	Incident Category: Removal Assessment
NPL Status: Non NPL	Operable Unit:
Mobilization Date: 10/24/2014	Start Date:
Demob Date:	Completion Date: 10/24/2014
CERCLIS ID:	RCRIS ID:
ERNS No.:	State Notification: 10/24/2014
FPN#:	Reimbursable Account #:

1.1.1 Incident Category

Chemical explosion involving methyl ethyl ketone (MEK) and toluene.

1.1.2 Site Description

The IIMAK facility manufactures thermal transfer ribbons, transfer inks and related printing products.

1.1.2.1 Location

The facility is located in a commercial business/light industrial area. Private residences are located approximately 1/2 mile away.

1.1.2.2 Description of Threat

The explosion caused minor damage inside the production area. Chemical residue and spilled chemicals were collected in floor drains together with fire suppression water from ceiling-mounted sprinklers.

1.1.3 Preliminary Removal Assessment/Removal Site Inspection Results

At 1600 hours EPA OSC Mark Bellis arrived on scene and met with the NYSDEC responder. Conditions at the facility had stabilized since the initial report. Multiple local news outlets were at the scene reporting on the incident. IIMAK uses solvent-borne ink to print bar codes, signs, etc. At the time of the explosion a portion of the plant was shut down for a process change. An upset of unknown cause in the operating process occurred in the vent system for printing ink solvent vapors, which is a mixture of the above mentioned chemicals.

Both the vent pipe and associated connecting flanges were involved in the explosion. Any residual vapors in other parts of the vent line at the time of the incident were released to the atmosphere through a broken skylight. An estimated 1 gallon of solvent was released to the atmosphere and an unknown amount of chemicals were involved in the actual explosion. Any chemicals present within the fire suppression water is contained within the facility and did not enter any drains. IIMAK has an on-site environmental response team that will address the spilled materials.

One worker was injured in the explosion and was transported to a local hospital; he is in stable condition.

The injuries were believed to be from the physical effects of the explosion and not from chemical exposure. The cause of the explosion is under investigation by the local fire department and IIMAK's insurance company.

No EPA assistance has been requested from NYSDEC. OSC Bellis departed the scene at 1640 hours.

2. Current Activities

2.1 Operations Section

2.1.1 Narrative

2.1.2 Response Actions to Date

The sole response action to date was the deployment of one EPA OSC from the Buffalo NY Office.

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

Inasmuch as there is no information regarding the amount of solvent(s) actually released to the environment there does not appear to be any justification for an enforcement activity at this time.

2.1.4 Progress Metrics

<i>Waste Stream</i>	<i>Medium</i>	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Manifest #</i>	<i>Treatment</i>	<i>Disposal</i>
MEK		unk			
toluene		unk			
contam. water		unk			

2.2 Planning Section

2.2.1 Anticipated Activities

None

2.2.1.1 Planned Response Activities

None

2.2.1.2 Next Steps

None

2.2.2 Issues

None

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

No information available at this time.

4. Personnel On Site

No information available at this time.

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.