



Facts About...

Matrix Metals
(VOLUNTARY CLEANUP PROGRAM)

Site Location:

This 5.75-acre property, located at 2001–2045 Winchester Street, is in a zoned industrial area of Baltimore City. A tire company borders the property to the west; an asphalt manufacturing plant borders to the property to north; east of the property are railroad tracks; and woods and residential dwellings border the property to the south. Municipal water and sewer services are supplied by the City of Baltimore.

The property is improved with six buildings and an asphalt parking area. The property also contains bag houses for the cupola furnace, sand cooler, shakeout system and shot blast cabinet used in manufacturing operations. There are no streams or ponds located on the property.

Site History:

The Phase I environmental assessment indicates the property was owned by the Baltimore Car Wheel Company from 1890 to 1914. The company operated a railroad car manufacturing facility on site, and according to the Phase I environmental assessment and Sanborn maps of the property, the existing buildings were constructed in 1890. The Phase I does not provide a list of property owners between 1914 and 1950.

The Phase I report also notes that the property was referred to as the American Brake Shoe & Foundry in 1950. The company operated a brake shoe manufacturing facility on site. Based on MDE files, between 1982 and 1993 the property was operated by ABEX Corporation or ABEX, Inc. The facility continued to manufacture brake shoes for railroad cars and began manufacturing rotor drums for transit vehicles. In 1993, the property came under the control of ABC Rail Corporation, which continued to perform manufacturing operations for railroad cars and transit vehicles. ABC Rail Corporation merged with the North American Casting Company, forming ABC-NACO, in 1999. In 2000, Matrix Metals, LLC acquired the property under their subsidiary, Baltimore Casting Company. Emanuel Tire Company purchased the property from Matrix Metals, LLC in November 2004.

Environmental Investigations and Actions:

Since 1890, the manufacturing operations on the property have generated hazardous wastes. Such operations included the use of bag houses to collect silica rich dust produced during manufacturing operations. Prior to 1992, dust was collected within the bag houses and disposed off-site as hazardous waste, because of the lead and chromium content. Beginning in 1992, facility operations used Bantox, a compound to stabilize waste containing heavy metals, and the dust collected within the bag houses was no longer disposed of as hazardous waste. The lead and chromium content of the dust passed the federally regulated Toxicity Characteristic Leaching Procedure testing for hazardous waste disposal, and was no longer classified as hazardous waste.



The property also has Air Radiation and Management Administration corrective actions on file. On January 6, 1989, a Notice of Civil Penalty was issued for the discharge of dust from two bag houses. On April 26, 1996, a Notice of Violation was issued for observable heavy particulate emissions emanating from the cupola furnace bag house. On May 20, 1996, a second Notice of Violation was issued for visible emissions, this time emanating from all on-site bag houses. There have been no further reported Notice of Violations for the property.

During October 2004, a 2,000-gallon steel underground storage tank was removed from the property. The underground storage tank, which was over 20 years old, contained gasoline that was disposed off-site. Soil in the area surrounding the underground storage tank showed no signs of contamination. Four additional underground storage tanks were decommissioned and remain on the property.

Current Status:

Emanuel Tire Company submitted a Voluntary Cleanup Program application package on November 3, 2004, requesting expedited inculpable person approval and seeking a No Further Requirements Determination for the property. An inculpable person approval letter was issued to the applicant on November 5, 2004. The Voluntary Cleanup Program application was withdrawn on July 26, 2006.

Contact:

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