

#### MAY 2 5 2021

# SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

INDIANA DEPT OF LABOR 1.O.S.H.A

The Commissioner of Labor (hereinafter referred to as "Commissioner") and Foam Rubber Products (hereinafter referred to as "Employer") hereby agree as follows:

A Safety Order and notification of Penalty resulting from IOSHA Inspection No. 318127123 was issued to the Employer on May 4, 2021 and is resolved in the following manner.

#### Citation 01:

- Item 1: Upheld, Penalty reduced: \$3,500.00, Abatement due: 6/3/2021
- Item 2: Upheld, Penalty reduced: \$3,500.00, Abatement due: 6/3/2021
- Item 3: Upheld, Grouped with 1-4, Penalty reduced: \$3,500.00, Abatement due: 6/3/2021
- Item 4: Upheld, Grouped with 1-3, No penalty, Abatement due: 6/3/2021
- Item 5: Upheld, Penalty reduced: \$3,500.00, Abatement due: 6/3/2021
- Item 6: Upheld, Penalty reduced: \$3,500.00, Abatement due: 6/3/2021
- Item 7: Upheld, Penalty reduced: \$3,500.00, Abatement due: 6/3/2021
- Item 8: Upheld, Penalty reduced: \$3,500.00, Abatement due: 6/3/2021

#### The TOTAL AGREED PENALTY is \$24,500.00

In consideration, The Employer has agreed to the following enhanced abatement:

- Work with INSafe or 3<sup>rd</sup> party safety consultant in a full-service and comprehensive safety and health consultation at the 2600 Troy Avenue, New Castle, IN 47362 facility within ninety (90) days of signed Settlement Agreement.
  - a. Consultation should pay special attention to control of hazardous energy and confined spaces.
  - b. Consultation to include a full review of employer's safety and health program.
  - c. Employer shall provide copy of confirmation of consultation request by the consultant.

Employer agrees that a request must be made in writing to IOSHA for a Petition for Modification of Abatement prior to the above abatement date if abatement cannot be met by the respective dates and an extension is required. Except for the above specified amendments all other provisions of Safety Order Number 318127123 are retained intact.

Employer agrees that failure to abide by the terms of enhanced abatement as stated herein above will rescind any penalty adjustment provided by the enhanced abatement, and the original penalty amount will be due within 15 business days of the Commissioner's knowledge of said failure.

Employer is required under the authority of §1903.16 to post copies of all amendments or changes to citations resulting from informal conferences. Employer must provide employee representatives with copies of any agreements.

The Commissioner agrees to allow the Employer a total of 25 consecutive months to pay the TOTAL AGREED PENALTY. The Employer shall make one payment of at least Nine Hundred Eighty 00/100 Dollars (\$980.00)] each consecutive month until the TOTAL AGREED PENALTY of \$24,500.00 is paid in full. The first payment shall be due with the Employer's execution of this Agreement. Subsequent payments shall be due by the 15th day of each month until said penalty is paid in full. If the Employer fails to make timely payments or fails to pay the full TOTAL AGREED PENALTY as stated herein, the full amount of unpaid penalty that remains shall be immediately due to the Commissioner, the Commissioner may use every legal remedy available to collect such unpaid amount, interest shall begin to accrue on said unpaid amount at the rate of 12% apr compounded daily, and the Commissioner may collect legal fees from the Employer for any collection action that may be necessary.

If paying online, visit: https://payingov.com/Payment/SelectEntity/475

If paying by check or money order: Please make your check or money order payable to "Indiana DOL/IOSHA," indicate IOSHA's Inspection Number (indicated above) on your remittance, and send payments to the following address:

Indiana Department of Labor 402 West Washington Street – Room W195 Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

Upon full execution of this Settlement Agreement the Employer will post this Agreement for three (3) working days or until abatement is completed, whichever period is longer.

The Safety Order(s) and Notification(s) of Penalty, as amended herein, shall be a final and enforceable Order of the Board of Safety Review.

THE EMPLOYER IS SATISFIED WITH THE AMENDMENTS STATED ABOVE AND ACCORDINGLY WAIVES ITS RIGHT TO FILE A NOTICE OF CONTEST OF THE SAFETY ORDER(S) AND NOTIFICATION(S) OF PENALTY AS AMENDED AND AGREES TO WITHDRAW ANY PREVIOUSLY FILED NOTICES OF CONTEST IN THIS MATTER.

Foam Rubber Products	COMMISSIONER OF LABOR	
By: Ben Retts	By:	
Title: VP Corporate RISK	Title: Director of General Industry	
Date: 5/24/2021	Date: 5-25-21	

Indiana Occupational Safety and Health Administration 402 West Washington St - Room W195 Indianapolis, IN 46204

Phone: (317)232-1979 FAX: (317)233-3790



# **Safety Order and Notification of Penalty**

To:Inspection Number:318127123Foam Rubber ProductsCSHO ID:T60732006 Troy AvenueOptional Report No.:2154-21

New Castle, IN 47362 **Inspection Date(s):** 11/6/2020 - 4/21/2021

**Issuance Date:** 4/30/2021

**Inspection Site:** 

2000 Troy Avenue The violation(s) described in this Safety Order and New Castle, IN 47362 Notification of Penalty is (are) alleged to have occurred

on or about the day(s) the inspection was made unless otherwise indicated within the description given below.

An inspection of your place of employment has revealed conditions which we believe do not comply with the provisions of the Indiana Occupational Safety and Health Act (Indiana Code Chapter 22-8-1.1) or the standards or rules adopted thereunder. Accordingly, enclosed please find safety order(s) and notification(s) of penalty describing such violation(s) with references to applicable standards, rules, or provisions of the statute and stating the amount of any penalty(ies).

Informal Conference - Please be advised that it may be possible to informally settle any potential dispute without initiating the more elaborate proceedings brought on by a petition for review. Prior to filing a petition for review, you may request an informal conference concerning any of the results of the inspection (safety orders, penalties, abatement dates, etc.) by contacting the Indiana Department of Labor/IOSHA, preferably by telephone, in a prompt manner. Please be advised that a request for an informal conference cannot extend the fifteen working day period for filing a petition for review. Informal conferences frequently resolve any possible disputes, and therefore you are urged to take advantage of this opportunity. Because of the limited time period and in order to facilitate scheduling, any requests for an informal conference should be made promptly upon your receipt of the safety order(s) and notification(s) of penalty.

**Right to Contest** - You are hereby also notified that you are entitled to seek administrative review of the safety order(s), penalty(ies), or both by filing a written petition for review at the above address postmarked within fifteen working days of your receipt of the safety order(s) and notification(s) of penalty. ("Working days" means Mondays through Fridays, but does not include Saturdays, Sundays, legal holidays under a state statute or days on which the Indiana Department of Labor's offices are closed during regular business hours). If you do not file such a petition for review (contest), the safety order(s) and penalty(ies) shall be deemed final orders of the Board of Safety Review and not subject to review by any court or agency. The issuance of a safety order does not constitute a finding that a violation has

occurred unless no petition for review is filed, or if a petition for review (contest) is filed, it must contain a statement of its basis and should reference the above inspection number. Upon receipt of your petition for review, we will affirm, amend or dismiss the safety order(s) and notification(s) of penalty. If we affirm, your petition for review will be granted (unless it was not timely) and the dispute will be certified by the Board of Safety Review for further proceedings. The Board of Safety Review is an independent board appointed by the governor with authority to conduct legal proceedings leading up to and including administrative hearings, or assign an Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) to conduct the same, and to issue decisions concerning disputed safety orders and notifications of penalties. If we amend the safety order(s) or notification(s) of penalty, your petition for review shall be deemed moot. However, you will then be given an opportunity to file a petition for review concerning the amended safety order(s) and notification(s) of penalty.

Please be advised that an employee or representative of employees may file a petition for review to contest the reasonableness of the time stated in the safety order(s) for the abatement of any violation.

**Posting** - Upon receipt of any safety order(s) you are required to post such safety order(s), or a copy thereof, unedited, at or near each place an alleged violation referred to in the safety order(s) occurred. However, if your operations are such that it is not practicable to post the safety order(s) at or near each place of alleged violation, such safety order(s) shall be posted, unedited, in a prominent place where it will be readily observable by all affected employees. For example, if you are engaged in activities which are physically dispersed, the safety order(s) may be posted at the location from which the employees operate to carry out their activities. You must take steps to ensure that the safety order is not altered, defaced, or covered by other material. Posting shall be until the violation is abated, or for three working days, whichever is longer.

**Penalties** - Penalties are due within fifteen (15) working days of receipt of this notification unless contested. Abatement does not constitute payment of penalties.

**Abatement** - The conditions cited in the safety order(s) must be corrected (abated) on or before the date shown for each item on the safety order(s) and notification(s) of penalty and proof of abatement must be sent to the email address: <u>AbatementGI@dol.in.gov</u> unless:

- (1) You file a petition for review concerning the violation, in which case the full abatement period shall commence from the issuance of a final decision by the Board of Safety Review or the courts which requires compliance with the safety order; or
- (2) The abatement period is extended by the granting of a petition for modification of abatement date.
- **PMAs** The petition for modification of abatement date is a manner in which you may seek additional time to correct (abate) a violation without having to file a petition for review concerning the safety order, or after the expiration of the time period to file such a petition for review when it becomes apparent that you need extra time to abate the violation. A petition for modification of abatement date shall be in writing and shall be sent to the email address: <a href="mailto:AbatementGI@dol.in.gov">AbatementGI@dol.in.gov</a> shall include the following information:
- (1) All steps you have taken, and the dates of such actions, in an effort to achieve compliance during the prescribed abatement period.

- (2) The specific additional abatement time necessary in order to achieve compliance.
- (3) The reasons such additional time is necessary, including the unavailability of professional or technical personnel or of materials and equipment, or because necessary construction or alteration of facilities cannot be completed by the original abatement date.
- (4) All available interim steps being taken to safeguard employees against the cited hazard during the abatement period.
- (5) A certification that a copy of the petition has been posted, and if appropriate, served on the authorized representative of affected employees, and a certification of the date upon which such posting and service was made.

A petition for modification of abatement date shall be filed with the Indiana Department of Labor/IOSHA no later than the close of the next working day following the date on which abatement was originally required sending the Petition to <a href="Motorweighted">AbatementGI@dol.in.gov</a>. A later-filed petition shall be accompanied by the employer's statement of exceptional circumstances explaining the delay. A copy of such petition shall be posted in a conspicuous place where all affected employees will have notice thereof or near such location where the violation occurred. The petition shall remain posted until the time period for the filing of a petition for review of the Commissioner's granting or denying the petition expires. Where affected employees are represented by an authorized representative, said representative shall be served a copy of such petition.

**Notification of Corrective Action** - Correction of the alleged violations which have an abatement period of thirty (30) days or less should be reported in writing to us promptly upon correction and sent to the email address <u>AbatementGI@dol.in.gov</u>. A "Letter of Abatement" form and an "Abatement Photographs" worksheet are enclosed for your assistance in providing adequate documentation of abatement. Reports of corrections should show specific corrective action on each alleged violation and the date of such action. On alleged violations with abatement periods of more than thirty (30) days, a written progress report should be submitted via email at <u>AbatementGI@dol.in.gov</u>, detailing what has been done, what remains to be done, and the time needed to fully abate each such violation. When the alleged violation is fully abated, we should be so advised. Timely correction of an alleged violation does not affect the initial proposed penalty..

**Followup Inspections** - Please be advised that a followup inspection may be made for the purpose of ascertaining that you have posted the safety order(s) and corrected the alleged violations. Failure to correct an alleged violation may result in additional penalties for each day that the violation has not been corrected.

**Employer Discrimination Unlawful** - The law prohibits discrimination by an employer against an employee for filing a complaint or for exercising any rights under this Act. An employee who believes that he/she has been discriminated against may file a complaint no later than 30 days after the discrimination occurred with the Indiana Department of Labor/IOSHA at the address shown above.

**Notice to Employees** - The law gives an employee or his/her representative the opportunity to object to any abatement date set for a violation if he/she believes the date to be unreasonable. The contest must be mailed to the Indiana Department of Labor/IOSHA at the address shown above within fifteen (15)

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stated above.		
If you wish additional information, you may direct	t such requests to us at the	address or telephone number
penalty.	lays) of receipt by the emp	loyer of this safety often and
working days (excluding weekends and State holid	love) or receipt by the emp	lover of this safety order and

## NOTICE TO EMPLOYEES OF INFORMAL CONFERENCE

An informal conference has be 4/30/2021. The conference wil					
Room W195, Indianapolis, IN					
and/or representatives of employees have a right to attend an informal conference.					

Occupational Safety and Health Administration

**Inspection Number:** 318127123

**Inspection Date(s):** 11/6/2020 - 4/21/2021

Issuance Date: 4/30/2021 CSHO ID: T6073 Optional Report No.: 2154-21

## **Safety Order and Notification of Penalty**

**Company Name:** Foam Rubber Products

**Inspection Site:** 2000 Troy Avenue, New Castle, IN 47362

#### Safety Order 01 Item 001 Type of Violation: Serious

29 CFR 1910.146(c)(2): The employer did not inform exposed employees, by posting danger signs or by any other equally effective means, of the existence and location of and the danger posed by the permit spaces:

Bonded Department - No danger signs or other equally effective means of informing employees to the existence and hazards of permit required confined spaces such as, but not limited to, mixer #1 were in place which exposed employees to hazards such as blunt force trauma.

Occupational Safety and Health Administration

**Inspection Number:** 318127123

**Inspection Date(s):** 11/6/2020 - 4/21/2021

Issuance Date: 4/30/2021 CSHO ID: T6073 Optional Report No.: 2154-21

## **Safety Order and Notification of Penalty**

**Company Name:** Foam Rubber Products

**Inspection Site:** 2000 Troy Avenue, New Castle, IN 47362

#### Safety Order 01 Item 002 Type of Violation: Serious

29 CFR 1910.146(d)(2): Under the permit-required confined space program required by 29 CFR 1910.146(c)(4), the employer did not identify and evaluate the hazards of permit spaces before employees entered:

Bonding Department - The hazards of permit-required confined spaces such as, but not limited to, mixer #1 were not evaluated prior to entry by employees to perform required work activities which exposed employees to the possibility of serious or fatal injuries such as blunt force trauma.

Occupational Safety and Health Administration

**Inspection Number:** 318127123

**Inspection Date(s):** 11/6/2020 - 4/21/2021

Issuance Date: 4/30/2021 CSHO ID: T6073 Optional Report No.: 2154-21

## **Safety Order and Notification of Penalty**

**Company Name:** Foam Rubber Products

**Inspection Site:** 2000 Troy Avenue, New Castle, IN 47362

## Safety Order 01 Item 003 Type of Violation: Serious

29 CFR 1910.146(d)(6): Under the permit-required confined space program required by 29 CFR 1910.146(c)(4), the employer did not provide at least one attendant outside the permit space into which entry was authorized for the duration of entry operations:

Bonded Department - No employee included in the permit required confined space entry program was designated or trained as an attendant to be present outside the permit required confined space such as, but not limited to, mixer #1 which exposed employees to the possibility of serious or fatal injuries such as blunt force trauma.

Occupational Safety and Health Administration

**Inspection Number:** 318127123

**Inspection Date(s):** 11/6/2020 - 4/21/2021

Issuance Date: 4/30/2021 CSHO ID: T6073 Optional Report No.: 2154-21

## **Safety Order and Notification of Penalty**

**Company Name:** Foam Rubber Products

**Inspection Site:** 2000 Troy Avenue, New Castle, IN 47362

#### Safety Order 01 Item 004 Type of Violation: Serious

29 CFR 1910.146(d)(8): Under the permit-required confined space program required by 29 CFR 1910.146(c)(4), the employer did not designate the persons who were to have active roles in entry operations, identify the duties of each such employee, or provide each such employee with the training required by paragraph (g) of this section:

Bonded Department - Employees included in the permit required confined space entry program were not designated as to what their active roles were for each individual, and were not provided training, which exposed employees to the possibility of serious or fatal injuries such as blunt force trauma during entry into permit required confined spaces such as, but not limited to, mixer #1.

Occupational Safety and Health Administration

**Inspection Number:** 318127123

**Inspection Date(s):** 11/6/2020 - 4/21/2021

Issuance Date: 4/30/2021 CSHO ID: T6073 Optional Report No.: 2154-21

## **Safety Order and Notification of Penalty**

**Company Name:** Foam Rubber Products

**Inspection Site:** 2000 Troy Avenue, New Castle, IN 47362

#### Safety Order 01 Item 005 Type of Violation: Serious

29 CFR 1910.146(e)(1): Before entry was authorized, the employer did not document the completion of measures required by 29 CFR 1910.146(d)(3) by preparing an entry permit:

Bonded Department - No documentation was provided regarding air sampling results, hazard analysis or personal protective equipment evaluation prior to entry into permit required confined spaces such as, but not limited to, mixer #1, which exposed employees to the possibility of serious or fatal injuries such as blunt force trauma.

Occupational Safety and Health Administration

**Inspection Number:** 318127123

**Inspection Date(s):** 11/6/2020 - 4/21/2021

Issuance Date: 4/30/2021 CSHO ID: T6073 Optional Report No.: 2154-21

## **Safety Order and Notification of Penalty**

**Company Name:** Foam Rubber Products

**Inspection Site:** 2000 Troy Avenue, New Castle, IN 47362

#### Safety Order 01 Item 006 Type of Violation: Serious

29 CFR 1910.146(g)(2)(i): The employer did not provide training to each affected employee before the employee was first assigned duties under 29 CFR 1910.146, Permit-required confined spaces:

Bonded Department - Employees who were involved in permit required confined space entry of spaces such as, but not limited to, mixer #1 were not trained on topics including, but not limited to, their roles and responsibilities while included in the permit required confined space entry program.

Occupational Safety and Health Administration

**Inspection Number:** 318127123

**Inspection Date(s):** 11/6/2020 - 4/21/2021

Issuance Date: 4/30/2021 CSHO ID: T6073 Optional Report No.: 2154-21

## **Safety Order and Notification of Penalty**

**Company Name:** Foam Rubber Products

**Inspection Site:** 2000 Troy Avenue, New Castle, IN 47362

#### Safety Order 01 Item 007 Type of Violation: Serious

29 CFR 1910.147(c)(7)(i): The employer did not provide training to ensure that the purpose and function of the energy control program are understood by employees and that the knowledge and skills required for the safe application, usage, and removal of the energy controls are acquired by employees:

Bonded Department - Employees were not provided effective training and no observation was made of the skills required to ensure the proper energy isolation of equipment such as, but not limited to, mixer #1, which exposed employees to the possibility of serious or fatal injuries such as blunt force trauma.

Occupational Safety and Health Administration

**Inspection Number:** 318127123

**Inspection Date(s):** 11/6/2020 - 4/21/2021

Issuance Date: 4/30/2021 CSHO ID: T6073 Optional Report No.: 2154-21

## **Safety Order and Notification of Penalty**

**Company Name:** Foam Rubber Products

**Inspection Site:** 2000 Troy Avenue, New Castle, IN 47362

#### Safety Order 01 Item 008 Type of Violation: Serious

29 CFR 1910.147(d)(2): The machine or equipment was not turned off or shut down using the procedures established for the machine or equipment:

Bonded Department - Equipment such as, but not limited to, mixer #1 did not have the energy effectively isolated and locked out prior to a permit required confined space entry, which exposed employees to the possibility of serious or fatal injuries such as blunt force trauma.

Date By Which Violation Must Be Abated: Proposed Penalty:

6/3/2021 \$7,000.00

Jameson Berry

Director of General Industry

Indiana Occupational Safety and Health Administration 402 West Washington Street, Room W195 Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

Phone: (317) 232-2691 FAX: (317) 233-3790



#### INVOICE/DEBT COLLECTION NOTICE

**Company Name:** Foam Rubber Products

and its successors

**Inspection Site:** 2000 Troy Avenue, New Castle, IN 47362

**Issuance Date:** 4/30/2021

**Summary of Penalties for Inspection Number: 318127123** 

Safety Order 1, Serious = \$56,000.00 TOTAL PENALTIES = \$56,000.00

Penalties are due within fifteen (15) working days of receipt of this notification unless contested. Make your check or money order payable to: "Indiana DOL/IOSHA." Please indicate IOSHA's Inspection Number (indicated above) on the remittance. You may also make a payment online at <a href="https://payingov.com/dol/">https://payingov.com/dol/</a>. Your account number is your inspection number.

IOSHA does not agree to any restrictions or conditions or endorsements put on any check or money order for less than full amount due, and will cash the check or money order as if these restrictions, conditions, or endorsements do not exist.

Corrective action, taken by you for each alleged violation should be submitted to this office on or about the abatement dates indicated on the Safety Order and Notification of Penalty.

A worksheet has been provided to assist in providing the required abatement information. A completed copy of this work sheet should be posted at the worksite with the safety order(s).

Jameson Berry

Date

4/30/2021

Director of General Industry