

## FORMER ROCKWELL INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION ALLEGAN, MICHIGAN

### INTRODUCTION

Clean up is now being conducted at the Former Rockwell International Corporation Facility (the Site). The work is being conducted by ArvinMeritor, Inc., the successor company of Rockwell, under the oversight of the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA). This project fact sheet has been prepared by ArvinMeritor (and reviewed by U.S. EPA) to provide the community with an overview of the clean up activities to be performed at the Site. A community information board has been established at the Site where information pertaining to the progress of the clean up activities will be posted. The information on the community information board will be updated periodically over the next several months.

The clean up is anticipated to continue until August 2006. The major components of the clean up are:

- Demolition of portions of the former manufacturing building (offices will remain);
- Cleaning and/or removing underground sewers;
- Digging up and removing sediments contained in the three former wastewater treatment ponds for off-Site disposal;
- Digging up and removing contaminated soil for off-Site disposal;
- Backfilling and grading of excavated areas; and
- Site restoration.

### SITE BACKGROUND

The Site is an inactive manufacturing facility that occupies approximately 30 acres of land. The Site is located off of North Street in Allegan, Michigan, adjacent to the City of Allegan waste water treatment plant and the Kalamazoo River (see Site map).

From 1901 to 1914, the Site was owned by Allegan Mirror and Plate Glass Company, which



manufactured glass products. In 1914, Blood Brothers Machine Company purchased the Site to manufacture universal joints and automobiles. From 1914 to 1938, the operations included steel heat-treatment and machining and parts assembly. The Site was purchased by Standard Steel Spring in 1938 for the manufacturing of drivelines. Case-hardening using cyanide-salt baths was conducted until 1947, after which Rockwell became the Site owner in 1953 through a series of mergers. Rockwell operated the Site until 1990. The City of Allegan currently owns the Site.

A variety of contaminants, resulting from the historical manufacturing operations, are present at low levels in the soil and groundwater at the Site. The primary chemical compounds of concern at the Site are Polychlorinated Biphenyls, more commonly referred to as PCBs. PCBs are colorless "man-made" liquids used in hundreds of industrial and commercial applications including electrical, heat transfer and hydraulic equipment; as plasticizers in paints, plastics and rubber products; in pigments, dyes and carbonless copy paper, and in many other applications until the late 1970s.

## REMEDIAL ACTION

A Remedial Action involves the short- and long-term response activities taken to address an actual or potential release of hazardous substances. The Scope of the Remedial Action at the Site includes components to address the following:

- Removal and appropriate off-Site disposal of all soils and sediments at depths up to two feet below ground surface to meet Michigan Residential Criteria;
- Removal and appropriate off-Site disposal of all soils at depths greater than two feet below ground surface up to the water table to meet Michigan Industrial Criteria;
- Removal and appropriate off-Site disposal of all oil and oil-impacted soils that could result in migration of oil to the river;
- Demolition of the former manufacturing building to the extent necessary to remove soils to meet the above requirements;
- Conduct post soil and sediment removal groundwater monitoring to confirm the effectiveness of the removal activities; and
- Place deed restrictions on the property to ensure that future development is consistent with the clean up.

Remedial Action Project Updates will be issued periodically during the implementation of the Remedial Action program to keep the community informed of ongoing activities at the Site.

**DON'T FORGET TO CHECK THE COMMUNITY INFORMATION BOARD REGULARLY!!**

## SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

The activities at the Site began in early July 2005. The expected schedule is outlined below:

- **Set up of the Site for Remedial Action**  
July 2005
- **Preparation of building for demolition**  
July/August 2005
- **Building demolition**  
August – November 2005
- **Pond area cleanup**  
August – November 2005
- **Impacted soil removal**  
November/December 2005
- **Winter shut down**  
December 2005 – March 2006
- **Complete impacted soil and oil removal**  
April – June 2006
- **Site restoration**  
June – July 2006
- **Finish remedial activities**  
August 2006
- **Initiate monitoring program**  
Fall 2006

Updates on the schedule, along with information on progress, will be posted on the community information board.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

If you would like more information about this project, please contact either one of the following:

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