



Press Information

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Chem Arrow ensures customers are AQMD compliant

30th April 2013: As a responsible organization, environmental issues are paramount to Los Angeles based metalworking fluid specialist, Chem Arrow. So when the South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD) introduced new legislation; Rule 1144, last year, Chem Arrow had already acted to ensure its products met the stringent requirements and were correctly labelled.

AQMD is the air pollution control agency responsible for controlling emissions from stationary sources of pollution. It aims to protect the health of residents whilst remaining sensitive to local businesses. The area under South Coast AQMD jurisdiction is home to 16.8 million people - and is the second most populated urban area in the United States and one of the most polluted.

Regular Air Quality Management Plans look at a number of ways of improving air quality – regulating pollution caused by the use of vanishing oils and rust-inhibitors was first consulted on in 2008 and Rule 1144 became a legal requirement as of January 1, 2012.

Rule 1144 aims to reduce Volatile Organic Components (VOC) emissions by strictly limiting VOC content in metalworking fluids and direct-contact lubricants at industrial facilities used in the four counties overseen by AQMD – Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside and San Bernardino.

The legislation applies to everyone that uses metalworking fluids and direct-contact lubricants on products and parts during manufacture and assembly; and all manufacturers and suppliers who supply, sell, or offer for sale metalworking fluids and direct-contact lubricants for use at industrial facilities.

Ensuring product compliance with Rule 1144 was no mean feat, but the fact that Chem Arrow offers both compliant and super compliant products means its customers can also be sure that they are meeting the requirements set out by AQMD. It also produces a range of zero VOC products which are widely used in HVAC applications.

Chem Arrow's General Manager, Shawneen Mitchell, was quoted in a leading industry publication shortly after Rule 1144 was introduced. Explaining why meeting all of Rule 1144's requirements was a 'very large undertaking', she said, "I've been working on this all of 2011. The most difficult part is that we use many, many raw materials and we had to gather the VOC content information on each one."

"We need this information when formulating our products, but many of our suppliers didn't know about this rule so it took a while to get all of the information we needed. We then had to work



out the VOC content for all of our products and change our labels accordingly in time to comply with the new legislation.”

Chem Arrow sells its industrial metalworking fluids in more than 25 countries worldwide, and although Rule 1144 only currently applies to Southern California, the forward thinking company has updated the labels on all of its products as a future-proofing initiative.

Shawneen continues, “Whilst the introduction of Rule 1144 initially resulted in a lot of additional work, Chem Arrow believes its introduction is a good thing. It’s important that the health of both residents and workers is protected – not only in California, but globally in every manufacturing facility that uses metalworking fluids. And if this regulation does spread around the rest of the country, or even the world, we’re ready!”

Visit www.chemarrow.com to find out more about Chem Arrow’s environmental commitment.

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Image caption (l-r):

Chem Arrow label listing VOC content

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Editor’s notes:

Chem Arrow Corporation is a global manufacturer and service provider of industrial metalworking fluids, lubricants, cleaners and specialty chemical products. With over 35 years of formulating and manufacturing experience, Chem Arrow is dedicated to technological innovation and the development of superior metalworking fluids.

Chem Arrow Corporation is an undisputed global leader in the design and production of specialty fluids for a vast number of applications in the metalworking industry. It is strongly committed to maintaining high quality assurance standards as well as its responsibilities to environmental, health and safety regulations.

With manufacturing locations on three continents, Chem Arrow is large enough to handle a wide variety of client needs, yet flexible enough to provide individual, personalized service to meet its customer's unique metalworking requirements.