



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 5
77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD
CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

January 5, 2009

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:

LC-8J

CERTIFIED MAIL

Receipt No. 7001 0320 0006 0183 0425

Mr. Gary E. Gresko
Gary E. Gresko, L.L.C.
Attorney & Counselor at Law
4079 Wooster Road Suite B
Fairview Park, Ohio 44126 - 1661

RECEIVED
JAN 05 2009

REGIONAL HEARING CLERK
U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION AGENCY

Consent Agreement and Final Order, Docket No. EPCRA-05-2009-0008

Dear Mr. Gresko:

Enclosed is a copy of a fully executed Consent Agreement and Final Order in resolution of the above case. This document was filed on January 5, 2009 with the Regional Hearing Clerk.

The civil penalty in the amount of \$7,672 is to be paid in the manner described in paragraphs 48 and 49. In the comment or description field of the electronic funds transfer, please state: Valtronic Technologies (USA), Inc, the docket number of this CAFO (above), and the following billing document number BD 2750944E008. Payment is due by February 4, 2009 (within 30 calendar days of the filing date).

Thank you for your cooperation in resolving this matter.

Sincerely,

Robert Allen
Pesticides and Toxics Compliance Section

Enclosures

**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 5**

In the Matter of:)	Docket No. EPCRA-05-2009-0008
)	
Valtronic Technologies (USA), Inc.)	Proceeding to Assess a Civil Penalty
Solon, Ohio)	Under Section 325(c) of the Emergency
)	Planning and Community Right-to-Know
Respondent.)	Act of 1986, 42 U.S.C. § 11045(c)
<hr/>		

**Consent Agreement and Final Order
Commencing and Concluding a Proceeding**

Preliminary Statement

RECEIVED
JAN 05 2009

REGIONAL HEARING CLERK
U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION AGENCY

1. This is an administrative action commenced and concluded under Section 325(c) of the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act of 1986 (EPCRA), 42 U.S.C. § 11045(c), and Sections 22.13(b) and 22.18(b)(2) and (3) of the *Consolidated Rules of Practice Governing the Administrative Assessment of Civil Penalties and the Revocation/Termination or Suspension of Permits* (Consolidated Rules) as codified at 40 C.F.R. Part 22.
2. The Complainant is the Director of the Land and Chemicals Division, United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA), Region 5.
3. Respondent is Valtronic Technologies (USA), Inc. (Valtronic), a corporation doing business in the State of Ohio.
4. Where the parties agree to settle one or more causes of action before the filing of a complaint, the administrative action may be commenced and concluded simultaneously by the issuance of a consent agreement and final order (CAFO). 40 C.F.R. § 22.13(b).
5. The parties agree that settling this action without the filing of a complaint or the adjudication of any issue of fact or law is in their interest and in the public interest.

6. Respondent consents to the assessment of the civil penalty specified in this CAFO, and to the terms of this CAFO.

Jurisdiction and Waiver of Right to Hearing

7. Respondent admits the jurisdictional allegations in this CAFO and neither admits nor denies the factual allegations in this CAFO.

8. Respondent waives its right to request a hearing as provided at 40 C.F.R. § 22.15(c), any right to contest the allegations in this CAFO, and its right to appeal this CAFO.

9. Respondent certifies that it is complying with Section 313 of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11023.

Statutory and Regulatory Background

10. The U.S. EPA promulgated the Toxic Chemical Release Reporting Community Right-to-Know Rule at 40 C.F.R. Part 372 pursuant to Sections 313 and 328 of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. §§ 11023 and 11048.

11. Section 313(b) of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11023(b), and 40 C.F.R. § 372.22 provide that the requirements of Section 313 and Part 372 apply to any facility that has 10 or more full-time employees, a Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) 3679 and that manufactures, imports, processes, or otherwise uses a toxic chemical identified at Section 313(c) and listed at 40 C.F.R. § 372.65 in an amount that exceeds the threshold for reporting, as set forth in Section 313(f) and in 40 C.F.R. §§ 372.25, 372.27 and 372.28.

12. Section 313(a) of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11023(a), and 40 C.F.R. § 372.30 require the owner or operator of a facility subject to the requirements of Section 313 and Part 372 to complete and submit to the Administrator of U.S. EPA and to the state in which the facility is located, no later than July 1, 1988 and each July 1 thereafter, a chemical release form published

pursuant to Section 313(g) for each toxic chemical listed under Section 313(c) that was manufactured, processed, or otherwise used at the facility during the preceding calendar year in a quantity exceeding the threshold established by Section 313(f).

13. The U.S. EPA published the Toxic Chemical Release Inventory Reporting Form, U.S. EPA Form 9350-1 (1-88) (Form R) at 40 C.F.R § 372.85 pursuant to Section 313(g) of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11023(g).

14. All persons required to report pursuant to Section 313(b) must use Form R according to Section 313(a) of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11023(a).

15. The Administrator of U.S. EPA may prescribe regulations as may be necessary to carry out EPCRA. 42 U.S.C. § 11048.

16. Section 325(c)(1) and (3) of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11045(c)(1) and (3), authorizes the Administrator of U.S. EPA to assess a civil penalty of up to \$25,000 per day for each violation of Section 313 of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11023. The Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act of 1990, 28 U.S.C. § 2461 note (1990), as amended by the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996, 31 U.S.C. § 3701 note (1996), required federal agencies to issue regulations adjusting for inflation the maximum civil penalties that can be imposed pursuant to each agency's statutes. The U.S. EPA may assess a civil penalty of up to \$27,500 per day for each violation of Section 313 that occurred from January 31, 1997 through March 15, 2004, and may assess a civil penalty of up to \$32,500 per day for each violation of Section 313 that occurred after March 15, 2004, pursuant to Section 325(c)(1) and (3) of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11045(c)(1) and (3), and 40 C.F.R. Part 19.

Factual Allegations and Alleged Violations

17. Respondent is a "person" as defined by Section 329(7) of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C.

§ 11049(7).

18. Respondent is a corporation doing business in the State of Ohio.

19. Respondent owned or operated a facility located at 6168 Cochran Road, Solon, Ohio during calendar years 2005 through 2007.

20. At all times relevant, Respondent's facility consisted of buildings, equipment and structures and other stationary items which are located on a single site or on contiguous or adjacent sites and which are owned by the same person, entity, or corporation.

21. During calendar years 2005 through 2007, Respondent employed at its facility the equivalent of at least 10 employees with total paid hours equal to or more than 20,000 hours per calendar year.

22. At all times relevant, Respondent's facility was covered by SIC Code 3679.

23. On July 19, 2007, a representative of the U.S. EPA inspected Respondent's facility.

24. Respondent's facility processed 228 pounds of lead, CAS No. 7439-92-1 during calendar year 2005.

25. After the inspection, Respondent self disclosed that Respondent's facility processed 169 pounds of lead, CAS No. 7439-92-1 during calendar year 2006.

26. After the inspection, Respondent also self disclosed that Respondent's facility processed 169 pounds of lead, CAS No. 7439-92-1 during calendar year 2007.

27. Lead is a chemical identified at Section 313(c) of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11023(c), and listed at 40 C.F.R. § 372.65.

28. The reporting threshold for lead that is manufactured (including imported), processed, or otherwise used during calendar years 2005 through 2007 is 100 pounds. 42 U.S.C. § 11023(f) and 40 C.F.R. 372.28.

29. During calendar years 2005 through 2007, Respondent “processed,” as defined by 40 C.F.R. § 372.3, toxic chemicals identified at Section 313(c) of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11023(c), and listed at 40 C.F.R. § 372.65, in quantities exceeding the thresholds for reporting set forth at Section 313(f) and at 40 C.F.R. § 372.28.

30. Section 313 of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11023, required Respondent to submit to the Administrator of U.S. EPA and to Ohio a Form R for lead for calendar year 2005 on or before July 1, 2006.

31. Section 313 of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11023, required Respondent to submit to the Administrator of U.S. EPA and to Ohio a Form R for lead for calendar year 2006 on or before July 1, 2007.

32. Section 313 of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11023, required Respondent to submit to the Administrator of U.S. EPA and to Ohio a Form R for lead for calendar year 2007 on or before July 1, 2008.

33. On July 2, 2007, Respondent submitted a Form R for lead for calendar year 2005 to the Administrator of U.S. EPA.

34. Respondent resubmitted a revised Form R for lead for calendar year 2005 on November 5, 2008 to the Administrator of U.S. EPA and Ohio.

35. Respondent submitted a Form R for lead for calendar year 2006 on November 5, 2008 to the Administrator of U.S. EPA and to Ohio.

36. Respondent submitted a Form R for lead for calendar year 2007 on November 5, 2008 to the Administrator of U.S. EPA and to Ohio.

37. Respondent’s failure to timely submit a Form R for lead for calendar years 2005 through 2007 to the Administrator of U.S. EPA and to Ohio violated Section 313 of EPCRA,

42 U.S.C. § 11023, and 40 C.F.R. § 372.30.

Count 1

38. Complainant incorporates paragraphs 1 through 37 of this Complaint as if set forth in this paragraph.

39. Respondent's failure to timely submit to the Administrator of U.S. EPA and to Ohio a Form R for lead for calendar year 2005 on or before July 1, 2006 is a violation of Section 313 of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11023, and 40 C.F.R. § 372.30.

40. Respondent's violation of Section 313 of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11023, and 40 CFR § 372.30 makes Respondent liable to the United States for a civil penalty under Section 325 of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11045(c).

Count 2

41. Complainant incorporates paragraphs 1 through 37 of this Complaint as if set forth in this paragraph.

42. Respondent's failure to submit to the Administrator of U.S. EPA and to Ohio a Form R for lead for calendar year 2006 on or before July 1, 2007 is a violation of Section 313 of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11023, and 40 C.F.R. § 372.30.

43. Respondent's violation of Section 313 of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11023, and 40 CFR § 372.30 makes Respondent liable to the United States for a civil penalty under Section 325 of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11045(c).

Count 3

44. Complainant incorporates paragraphs 1 through 37 of this Complaint as if set forth in this paragraph.

45. Respondent's failure to submit to the Administrator of U.S. EPA and to Ohio a Form R for lead for calendar year 2007 on or before July 1, 2008 is a violation of Section 313 of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11023, and 40 C.F.R. § 372.30.

46. Respondent's violation of Section 313 of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11023, and 40 CFR § 372.30 makes Respondent liable to the United States for a civil penalty under Section 325 of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11045(c).

Civil Penalty

47. Pursuant to Section 325 of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11045, Complainant determined that an appropriate civil penalty to settle this action is \$7,672. In determining the penalty amount, Complainant considered the nature, circumstances, extent and gravity of the violations, and with respect to Respondent, its ability to pay, prior history of violations, economic benefit or savings resulting from the violations, and any other matters as justice may require. Complainant also considered U.S. EPA's *Enforcement Response Policy for Section 313 of the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (1986) and Section 6607 of the Pollution Prevention Act (1990) (amended)* (April 12, 2001).

48. Within 30 days after the effective date of this CAFO, Respondent must pay a \$7,672 penalty for the EPCRA violations. Respondent must pay the penalty by sending a cashier's or certified check, payable to the "Treasurer, United States of America," to:

Checks sent by regular U.S. Postal Service mail:

U.S. EPA
Fines and Penalties
Cincinnati Finance Center
P.O. Box 979077
St. Louis, MO 63197-9000

Checks sent by express mail:

U.S. Bank
Government Lockbox 979077 U.S. EPA Fines and Penalties
1005 Convention Plaza
Mail Station SL-MO-C2GL
St. Louis, MO 63101

The check must note the case title, the docket number of this CAFO and the billing document number.

49. A transmittal letter, stating Respondent's name, the case title, Respondent's complete address, the case docket number and the billing document number must accompany the payment. Respondent must send a copy of the check and transmittal letter to:

Regional Hearing Clerk (E-13J)
U.S. EPA, Region 5
77 West Jackson Blvd.
Chicago, IL 60604

Robert Allen (LC-8J)
Pesticides and Toxics Compliance Section
U.S. EPA, Region 5
77 West Jackson Blvd.
Chicago, IL 60604

Nidhi O'Meara (C-14J)
Office of Regional Counsel
U.S. EPA, Region 5
77 West Jackson Blvd.
Chicago, IL 60604

50. This civil penalty is not deductible for federal tax purposes.

51. If Respondent does not pay the civil penalty timely, U.S. EPA may bring an action to collect any unpaid portion of the penalty with interest, handling charges, nonpayment penalties and the United States' enforcement expenses for the collection action. The validity, amount and appropriateness of the civil penalty are not reviewable in a collection action.

52. Pursuant to 31 C.F.R. § 901.9, Respondent must pay the following on any amount overdue under this CAFO. Interest will accrue on any amount overdue from the date the

payment was due at a rate established pursuant to 31 U.S.C. § 3717. Respondent must pay a \$15 handling charge each month that any portion of the penalty is more than 30 days past due. In addition, Respondent must pay a 6 percent per year penalty on any principal amount 90 days past due.

General Provisions

53. This CAFO resolves only Respondent's liability for federal civil penalties for the violations and facts alleged in the CAFO.

54. This CAFO does not affect the right of the U.S. EPA or the United States to pursue appropriate injunctive or other equitable relief or criminal sanctions for any violations of law.

55. This CAFO does not affect Respondent's responsibility to comply with EPCRA and other applicable federal, state, and local laws.

56. This CAFO is a "final order" for purposes of U.S. EPA's Enforcement Response Policy for Section 313 of EPCRA.

57. The terms of this CAFO bind Respondent, its successors, and assigns.

58. Each person signing this agreement certifies that he or she has the authority to sign for the party whom he or she represents and to bind that party to its terms.

59. Each party agrees to bear its own costs and attorney's fees in this action.

60. This CAFO constitutes the entire agreement between the parties.

Valtronic Technologies (USA), Inc., Respondent

12/4/8
Date

Jon Jay Wimer
J. Jay Wimer, President and CEO
Valtronic Technologies (USA), Inc.

United States Environmental Protection Agency, Complainant

12/23/08
Date

Margaret M. Guerriero
Margaret M. Guerriero, Director
Land and Chemicals Division

**In the Matter of:
Valtronic Technologies (USA), Inc.
Docket No. EPCRA-05-2009-0008**


RECEIVED
JAN 05 2009

**REGIONAL HEARING CLERK
U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION AGENCY**

Final Order

This Consent Agreement and Final Order, as agreed to by the parties, shall become effective immediately upon filing with the Regional Hearing Clerk. This Final Order concludes this proceeding pursuant to 40 C.F.R. §§ 22.18 and 22.31. IT IS SO ORDERED.

12/30/08
Date



for Lynn Buhl
Regional Administrator
United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region 5

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that the original signed copy of the Consent Agreement and Final Order in resolution of the civil administrative action involving Valtronic Technologies (USA), Inc., was filed on January 5, 2008, with the Regional Hearing Clerk (E-13J), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5, 77 West Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois 60604, and that I mailed, by Certified Mail, Receipt No. 7001 0320 0006 0183 0425 a copy of the original to the Respondent:

Mr. Gary E. Gresko
Gary E. Gresko, L.L.C.
Attorney & Counselor at Law
4079 Wooster Road Suite B
Fairview Park, Ohio 44126 - 1661

and forwarded intra-Agency copies to:

Marcy Toney, Regional Judicial Officer, ORC/C-14J
Nedhi O'Meara, Counsel for Complainant/C-14J
Eric Volck, Cincinnati Finance/MWD



Frederick Brown, PTCS (LC-8J)
U.S. EPA - Region 5
77 West Jackson Boulevard
Chicago, Illinois 60604

Docket No. **EPCRA-05-2009-0008**

RECEIVED
JAN 05 2009

REGIONAL HEARING CLERK
U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION AGENCY