		State of Washington Department of Ecology WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT COMPLIANCE INSPECTION REPORT			Northwest Regional Office PO Box 330316 Shoreline, WA 98113 ph: (206) 594-0000 (rev. 5-28-21)	
Section A: General Information						
Report Version	PERMIT #	mm/dd/yy	Inspection Type	Inspector Code	Facility Type	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Changed <input type="checkbox"/> Deleted	ST0007316	12/6/2021	I	S	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2 Industrial	
Remarks						
Inspection work days	Facility Self-Monitoring	Photos Taken	Samples Taken	BI	QA	
0.5	5	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	N	N	
Lead Ecology Inspector(s) Maia Hoffman						
Section B: Facility Data						
Name, Location, and Phone of Facility Inspected Artisan Finishing Systems 14219 Smokey Point Blvd Marysville, WA 98271			Entry Time 11:00am		Permit Effective Date 11/1/2021	
			Exit Time 1:25 pm		Permit Expiration Date 10/31/2026	
Name(s)/Title(s) of On-Site Representative(s) Tyler Brown, Owner Barb Brown, Owner Shane Storm, QC Manager			Ecology Staff On-Site Lucie Kubasova Katelynn Piazza			
Name, Address, Title, Phone, and Fax Number of Responsible Official Tyler Brown and Barb Brown 14219 Smokey Point Blvd Marysville, WA 98271 tyler@artisanfinishingsystems.com accounting@artisanfinishingsystems.com			Other Facility Data			
Contacted? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No						
Section C: Areas Evaluated During Inspection (Check only those areas evaluated)						
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Permit	<input type="checkbox"/> Flow Measurement	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Operations & Maintenance	<input type="checkbox"/> CSO/SSO (Sewer Overflow)			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Records/Reports	<input type="checkbox"/> Effluent ○ Receiving Water	<input type="checkbox"/> Sludge Handling/Disposal	<input type="checkbox"/> Pollution Prevention			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Facility Site Review	<input type="checkbox"/> Compliance Schedules	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pretreatment	<input type="checkbox"/> Multimedia			
<input type="checkbox"/> Self-Monitoring Program	<input type="checkbox"/> Laboratory	<input type="checkbox"/> Storm Water	<input type="checkbox"/> Other			

I. INTRODUCTION

Ecology inspectors, Maia Hoffman, Lucie Kubasova, and Katelynn Piazza, visited Artisan Finishing Systems (Artisan Finishing) to provide technical assistance to the new owners of the company. Shane Freeman, City of Marysville pretreatment tech, also joined for the visit and collected wastewater compliance samples.

Tyler and Barb Brown purchased Artisan Finishing from Wally Thomas around March 2021. The new owners have not submitted the transfer request form. The operations at the facility have not changed since the sale.

Ecology inspectors started the visit with a tour of the facility and operations conducted led by Tyler Brown, Barb Brown, and Shane Storm. After the tour, Ecology inspectors, T. Brown, and B. Brown moved to a conference room for discussions and technical assistance on the water quality and hazardous waste requirements applicable to the site. The majority of the discussion time was spent on hazardous waste topics.

The following report focuses on the water quality site inspection and technical assistance. L. Kubasova and K. Piazza will draft a separate technical assistance report regarding the hazardous waste topics.

II. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Industrial Process and Wastewater Pretreatment:

Artisan Finishing is a metal finishing job shop. The facility conducts metal finishing pretreatment (cleaning, etching, and chromium conversion coating) of primarily aluminum followed by painting or powder coating. Wastewater is only generated from the metal finishing pretreatment rinse tanks. There is no water associated with painting or powder coating.

Wastewater from the metal finishing pretreatment rinse tanks are continuously discharged to a pH mix tank. The rinse tank from the chromium conversion coating line is periodically discharged (~4 times per year) to a treatment tank for chromium reduction.

A thorough description of the wastewater generating industrial processes and wastewater pretreatment are included in the current fact sheet to the permit. The fact sheet is available publicly online, <https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/paris/DownloadDocument.aspx?id=384709>.

Sampling:

Artisan Finishing is required to continuously monitor the pH of the discharge. A new meter was recently installed in the effluent line. At the time of the inspection, the effluent pH was 9.85 standard units.

The pH mix tank is also equipped with a pH meter to automatically dose pH adjust chemicals. During the inspection, the pH mix tank meter was nonoperational. B. Brown stated that staff check the pH in the mix tank hourly and manually adjust based on the reading.

Staffing:

The production staff have been predominantly retained during the sale of the company, including the metal finishing pretreatment team lead who is responsible for managing the wastewater pretreatment system. Artisan Finishing operates two shifts. However, the metal finishing pretreatment line is only operated during the day shift.

M. Hoffman inquired if there was an operations and maintenance manual or standard operating procedures for the wastewater pretreatment system. B. Brown stated that the metal finishing pretreatment process lead was trained on managing the system. No specific document was reviewed.

Records Review:



M. Hoffman reviewed the October 2021 water usage log and November 2021 pH logs. The water usage log was compared to the October 2021 monthly DMR, no issues were identified. At the time of inspection, the November 2021 monthly DMR had not yet been submitted. However, M. Hoffman did observe several instances of pH max limit exceedances noted in the pH logs.

III. CONCLUSION

Ecology understands there is a learning curve to understanding and complying with the applicable environmental regulations. For water quality, the requirements are all included in the State Waste Discharge Permit ST0007316. Artisan Finishing is encouraged to reach out to Maia Hoffman (425-507-5681 or mhof461@ecy.wa.gov) as needed for technical assistance on anything related to the permit.

Recommendations:

- **The owner must immediately submit the required permit transfer form. Ecology has been communicating this requirement to the new owners beginning in June 2021. The requirement was discussed during this inspection as well.**
- The new permit, effective on 11/1/2021, instituted a lower maximum pH limit than the previous permit. **The maximum pH limit is now 10.0**, reduced from 11.0. M. Hoffman believes that some of the exceedances noted in the November 2021 pH logs are due to lack of communication to the responsible staff that the limit has been decreased. When the new pH mix meter is installed, the program must be adjusted to maintain the pH with the current limits. Ecology highly recommends Artisan Finishing review the new permit limits with responsible staff and the necessary changes to operations to comply with the new limit.
- This is a reminder that the **Slug Discharge Control Plan update is due to Ecology on February 1, 2022**. The requirements for this plan are outlined in permit condition S8.A which begins on page 20 of the permit. Additionally, the **Operations and Maintenance Manual is due to Ecology on November 1, 2022**. The requirements for this manual are outlined in permit condition S4.A which begins on page 15 of the permit.

Name(s) and Signatures of Inspector(s)	Agency/Office/Telephone	Date
Maia Hoffman 	WA Dept. of Ecology, NWRO, (425) 507-5681	12/7/2021
Name and Signature of Management QA Reviewer	Agency/Office/Telephone	Date
Monika Kannadaguli 	WA Dept. of Ecology, NWRO, (206) 594-0000	12/26/2021

ANNOUNCED Inspection

INSTRUCTIONS**Section A: General Information**

Report Version: N for 1st version, C for Changed or amended, or D for Delete

NPDES Permit No.: Enter the facility's NPDES or State permit number.

Inspection Date: Insert the date entry was made into the facility. Use the month/day/year format (e.g., 06/30/04 = June 30, 2004).

Inspection Type: Use one of the codes listed below to describe the type of inspection:

A Performance Audit	L Enforcement Case Support	2 IU Sampling Inspection
B Compliance Biomonitoring	M Multimedia	3 IU Non-Sampling Inspection
C Compliance Evaluation (non-sampling)	P Pretreatment Compliance Inspection	4 IU Toxics Inspection
D Diagnostic	R Reconnaissance	5 IU Sampling Inspection with Pretreatment
E Corps of Engineers Inspection	S Compliance Sampling	6 IU Non-Sampling Inspection with pretreatment
F Pretreatment Follow-up	U IU Inspection with Pretreatment Audit	7 IU Toxics with Pretreatment
G Pretreatment Audit	X Toxics Inspection	
I Industrial User (IU) Inspection	Z Sludge	

Inspector Code: Use one of the codes listed below to describe the *lead agency* in the inspection:

C - Contractor or Other Inspectors (Specify in Remarks Columns)	N - NEIC Inspectors
E - Corps of Engineers	R - EPA Regional Inspector
J - Joint EPA/State Inspectors - EPA Lead	S - State Inspector
	T - Joint State/EPA Inspectors - State Lead

Facility Type: Use one of the choices below to describe the facility.

1 - Municipal. Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTWs) with 1987 Standard Industrial Code (SIC) 4952.

2 - Industrial. Other than municipal, agricultural, and Federal facilities.

3 - Agricultural. Facilities classified with 1987 SIC 0111 to 0971.

4 - Federal. Facilities identified as Federal by the EPA Regional Office

Remarks: These columns are reserved for remarks.

Inspection Work Days.: Estimate the total work effort (to the nearest 0.1 work day), up to 99.9 days, that were used to complete the inspection. This estimate includes the accumulative effort of all participating inspectors; any effort for laboratory analyses, testing, travel time and preparation time. This estimate does not require detailed documentation.

Facility Evaluation Rating: Use information gathered during the inspection (regardless of inspection type) to evaluate the quality of the facility self-monitoring program. Grade the program using a scale of 1 to 5 with a score of 5 being used for very reliable self-monitoring programs, 3 being satisfactory, and 1 being used for very unreliable programs.

Biomonitoring Information. Enter D for static testing. Enter F for flow through testing. Enter N for no biomonitoring.

Quality Assurance Data Inspection. Enter Q if the inspection was conducted as follow-up on quality assurance sample results. Enter N otherwise.

Photos Taken: Yes or No

Samples Taken: Yes or No

Lead Ecology Inspector: Enter lead inspector's name

Section B: Facility Data

This section is self-explanatory except for: "Other Facility Data," which may include new information not in the permit or PCS (e.g., new outfalls, names of receiving waters, new ownership, and other updates to the record), e-mail addresses...; and "Ecology Staff On-Site", which may include staff names, titles, phone numbers, or e-mail addresses.

Section C: Areas Evaluated During Inspection

Check only those areas evaluated by marking the appropriate box. Use Section D and additional sheets as necessary.

Section D: Summary of Findings/Comments

Support the findings, as necessary, in a narrative report. Use the headings given on the report form (staffing, back-up power) as appropriate. Reference a list of attachments, such as completed checklists, photos, lab reports, etc. Use extra sheets as necessary.