

Air Permit Modification Fact Sheet

- **Project:** Installation of a Robotically Operated Paint Booth
- **Applicant:** Oneida Molded Plastics
- **Facility:** 104 South Warner Street, Oneida, New York 13421
- **NYSDEC Application Number:** 7-2512-00017/00025
- **A Public Participation Plan (PPP) has been developed in accordance with NYSDEC Commissioner Policy 29, Environmental Justice and Permitting (CP-29)**

What is the Proposed Project?

The applicant proposes to install and operate a robotically operated paint booth as part of the facility's overall spray painting activities. To implement the proposed project, the applicant has submitted an application to the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) for a state facility air permit to regulate air emissions associated with the proposed new paint booth, as well as the currently existing seven (7) paint booths and Pozzi hydrographic dip system. The purpose of this fact sheet is to inform the public about this proposed project and to involve the community during the NYSDEC permit application review process.

Why does Oneida Molded Plastics need to install and operate the proposed robotic paint booth?

Currently the OMP facility has an Air Facility Registration with NYSDEC for the potential to emit volatile organic compounds (VOCs) from the facility's seven (7) manually applied paint booths and a Pozzi hydrographic dip system. Due to changes in the state's air regulations specific to applied coating activities (6 NYCRR 228), OMP and NYSDEC commenced a collaborative permit review process, and as a result, OMP applied for a New York State Facility Air Permit to continue covering OMP's current base manufacturing operations, as well as the proposed installation of a new robotically operated paint booth to meet increased customer demands.

OMP manufactures plastic parts. Specifically, OMP is a custom injection molding and decorating company located at 104 South Warner Street, in Oneida NY.

The company has been at this location for several decades. OMP currently provides jobs for approximately 170 people living in Oneida area. The facility operates 24 hours a day, 5 days a week with the capability of operating 24 hours a day, 7 days a week depending on the manufacturing workload to satisfy customers' needs.

One of the many decorative processes OMP provides to its customers is the ability to paint plastic molded parts. This process requires a highly skilled workforce. Currently the painting process is applied to the parts with a paint operator using a handheld spray gun.

OMP is experiencing challenges not being able to satisfy customers production requirements. This is caused by the number of parts the painters can paint by hand within a 24-hour time frame and the lack of labor force in the area to train to paint these parts. Not being able to satisfy customers needs in a timely manner has a negative impact on our company's future growth and the ability to provide more jobs for residents in the area.

To increase production capability, OMP decided to purchase a painting robot. The robot doesn't require a highly skilled painter to operate it. Because any of our operators can load and unload the parts to be painted, the robot does not eliminate operating labor.

Realizing the limiting factors to be able to paint more parts, OMP decided to purchase a robotically operated paint booth, which will increase production capacity, as well as create additional jobs.

How might the project affect the surrounding community?

The calculated worst case facility wide VOC emissions for this project is approximately 11 tons per year, which is significantly less than current levels (~20-24 tons per year). This is due to better overspray efficiencies and improved coating formulations (less VOC content). Specifically, the robotically operated paint booth uses approximately 29% less paint per painted part versus manually operated painting activities, thus generating less potentially harmful chemicals (volatile organic compounds and hazardous air pollutants) released into the air.

Furthermore, air dispersion modeling for the painting activities at the facility shows that the emissions for all specific VOC compounds identified in the coating formulations are well below the state and federal ambient air quality impact concentration guidelines (both short term and annual basis). These guideline concentration thresholds are based on published adverse health impact studies and data.

Finally, it is not anticipated that there will be an increase in delivery truck traffic and associated mobile air emissions from these diesel trucks with the anticipated increase in production activities from the proposed project.

On a positive note, the installation of the proposed robotically operated paint booth would not eliminate jobs. Painting with the robot would require approximately seven (7) additional full-time employees for paint mixing, material handling, quality inspection, etc.

Operating the robot does not require a skilled person to paint parts. The robot requires an operator with minimal training to load and unload the parts from the robotically operated paint booth.

The painting robot eliminates operator fatigue, the potential repetitive motion injuries, and downtime for not having skilled labor to paint parts.

The robot provides consistent painted part quality and productivity.

Painting with the robot increases daily productivity to satisfy our customer requirements. This results in company growth and opportunity for more jobs in our other manufacturing departments that support the robot.

How can I participate in the permit review process?

- Attend the upcoming virtual public meeting scheduled for June 24, 2025 at 6:00 pm to learn about the project, ask questions and/or express concerns about the project.
- Ask questions, express concerns, provide input or submit by comments in writing, by phone or email to the project contact person identified below.

Where can I get more information about the proposed project?

- Visit the online document repository at: www.oneidamoldedplastics.com to obtain application materials, relevant documents, and information about the project.
- Contact Richard Harrington by phone at: [(315) 363-7680 ext. 258, by email at: rharrington@oneidamoldedplastics.com or in writing at: 104 South Warner Street, Oneida, New York 13421 for information on the project, instructions on how to attend the upcoming virtual public meeting, or to find out about the status of the permit application and public comment period.

Who is responsible for reviewing the Permit Application?

- NYSDEC Region 7 Headquarters, 5785 Widewaters Parkway, Syracuse, New York 13214 is responsible for reviewing and issuing the required permits. Tel: (315) 426-7438; email: DEP.R7@dec.ny.gov.