

24-Hour Emergency Hotline Number: 1-800-943-0003

04-08-525402

<b>Date &amp; Military Time Of Incident:</b> 03/16/04 1600 Hours		<b>Date &amp; Military Time Reported:</b> 03/17/04 0700 Hours		<b>Spill File #</b> BRRTS # <b>040852 5402</b>	
<b>Person Reporting:</b> Glen Pingel			<b>Representing:</b> Chilton Wastewater Plant		<b>Phone #</b> (920)849-9562 <b>Fax #</b> (920)849-2025
<b>Responsible Party (RP) / Spiller:</b> Chilton Plating Inc.			<b>RP Decision Based On:</b>		<b>Phone #</b> (920)849-9355 <b>Fax #</b> (920)849-4087
<b>RP Address:</b> 420 E. Main Street, Box 27				<b>City</b> Chilton	<b>State</b> WI <b>Zip Code</b> 53014
<b>RP Contact Name &amp; Title:</b> J.W. McNeely - Vice President				<b>Phone #</b> (920)849-9355 <b>Fax #</b> (920)849-4087	
<b>Substance Involved:</b> Zinc Cyanide, Copper Cyanide, Sodium Cyanide, Sodium Hydroxide, and Water			<b>Amount &amp; Units Released:</b> Approx. 200-600 gallons (mixture)		<b>Amount &amp; Units Recovered:</b> Unknown <i>None</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> Solid		<input type="checkbox"/> Semisolid		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Liquid	
<input type="checkbox"/> Gas		<b>Color:</b> Clear / Faint White		<b>Odor:</b> Unknown	
<b>Exact Location Of Incident:</b> (including street name, bldg. #, mileage, etc.) Inside of building at 420 E. Main Street, Chilton, 53014				<b>Facility Name / Property Owner:</b> Chilton Plating Inc. - J.W. McNeely	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City <input type="checkbox"/> Village <input type="checkbox"/> Township		<b>County</b> Calumet		<b>Latitude/Longitude</b>	
<b>DNR Region:</b> NER		1/4 1/4 Sec T N R <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> W		<b>Weather Conditions:</b> Cool	
<b>Cause Of Incident:</b> Operator error. An employee at the company left a water hose running, which caused a holding (brass) tank to overtop.					
<b>Spilled Substance Impact To:</b> (check X all that apply) <input type="checkbox"/> Air <input type="checkbox"/> Potential <input type="checkbox"/> Concrete/Asphalt <input type="checkbox"/> Potential <input type="checkbox"/> Contained/Recovered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Groundwater <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Potential <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Well <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Potential <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sanitary Sewer <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Potential <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Soil <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Potential <input type="checkbox"/> Storm Sewer <input type="checkbox"/> Potential <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Surface Water <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Potential Name: Manitowoc River <input type="checkbox"/> Other:		<b>Spill Cause/Site:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Ag Coop/Food Factory <input type="checkbox"/> Airport Facility <input type="checkbox"/> Railroad Facility <input type="checkbox"/> Construction, Excavation, Wrecking, Quarry, Mine <input type="checkbox"/> Gas/Service Station/Garage/Auto Dealer/Repair Shop <input type="checkbox"/> Hydraulic Line Break <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial Facility <input type="checkbox"/> Paper Mill <input type="checkbox"/> Chemical Co. <input type="checkbox"/> Pipeline/Terminal/Tank Farm/Oil Jobber/Wholesaler <input type="checkbox"/> Private Property (home/farm) <input type="checkbox"/> Public Property (city, state, church, school, etc.) <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation Accident, Fuel Tank Spill <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation Accident, Load Spill <input type="checkbox"/> Utility Co. Power Generating/Transfer Facility <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: Plating Company		<b>Action Taken By Spiller:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Cleanup Method: <input type="checkbox"/> Absorbent <input type="checkbox"/> Excavation <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Containment <input type="checkbox"/> Contractor Hired Name: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Monitor <input type="checkbox"/> No Action Needed <input type="checkbox"/> No Action Taken <input type="checkbox"/> Waste Destination: <input type="checkbox"/> Other:	
<b>Injuries?</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No If yes how many?		<b>Has An Evacuation Occurred?</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		<b>Potential?</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
<b>Are There Any Resource Damages?</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Potential		<b>What Kind?</b> Surface Water Quality - Manitowoc River			
<b>Other Agencies Notified:</b> (check first column, if notified; check both columns, if on the scene) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fire Department <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local DNR <input type="checkbox"/> EPA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local Law Enforcement <input type="checkbox"/> Div. Emerg. Mgt. <input type="checkbox"/> Nat'l Resp Ctr 800-442-8802 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LEPC or Local Emer. Mgt. <input type="checkbox"/> Coast Guard <input type="checkbox"/> Chemtrec 800-424-9300 <input type="checkbox"/> Level A/Level B Team <input type="checkbox"/> DHFS 608-258-0099 <input type="checkbox"/> Other:				<b>Incident Commander:</b> Glen Pingel - Wastewater Plant Supervisor <b>Phone #</b> (920)849-9562	
<b>Prepared By:</b> Warden Michael Disher		<b>Phone #</b> 920-439-1027	<b>Date:</b> 03/18/04	<b>Rpt'd To DATCP?</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <b>Date:</b>	
<b>Person Notified:</b> Michael Disher		<b>Phone #</b> 920-439-1027	<b>Date:</b> 03/17/04 <b>Time:</b> 7:00 AM	<b>Transferred to DATCP?</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <b>Date:</b>	
<b>Investigated By:</b> Warden Michael Disher and Wastewater Engineer David Gerdman		<b>Sign:</b>	<b>Date:</b> 03/17/04	<b>Spill Packet Sent?</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <b>Date:</b>	
<b>Spill Coordinator Signoff:</b> <i>[Signature]</i>		<b>Date:</b> 3-29-04	<b>Transferred to ERP?</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <b>Date:</b> Case # <i>Transferred to W.W. &amp; L.E.</i>		
			<b>NFA Letter Sent?</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <b>Date:</b> <i>for review</i>		
			<b>Incident Closed?</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <b>Date:</b> 3-29-04 <i>WW-Eden</i>		

See Additional Comments On Reverse (Please, print page 2 of 2)

**Date and Military Time Of Incident:** 03/16/04 1600 Hours

**Responsible Party:** Chiton Plating Inc., Chilton, WI 53014

**Additional Comments :** On 03/17/04 at approximately 7:00AM, Conservation Warden Michael Disher received a telephone call from Glen Pingel, Chilton Wastewater Treatment Plant Supervisor. Pingel said on 03/16/04 at approximately 8:50 PM, he was notified of a cyanide spill at Chilton Plating Inc. Pingel told Disher that approximately 600 gallons of dilute liquid cyanide entered the Wastewater Treatment Plant facility. Pingel said, "The chemical killed all my bugs." Pingel told Disher the plant normally operates with readings of 0.3 to 0.6 dissolved oxygen in their oxidation ditches. Pingel said readings were now 5.5 to 6.5 dissolved oxygen without the bugs. After speaking with Pingel, Disher immediately notified Warden Supervisor Todd Schaller, RR Program Team Supervisor Bruce Urben, Wastewater Engineer Mark Stanek, and Wastewater Engineer David Gerdman.

At approximately 2:30PM, Disher and Gerdman met at the Chilton Wastewater Treatment Plant. Disher and Gerdman spoke with Pingel and Todd Schwarz, Chilton Director of Public Works. Pingel told Disher he inspected the effluent that was being discharged to the Manitowoc River. Pingel said he noticed cloudy (white) water coming from the discharge site and extending approximately 30 feet downstream. Pingel said the water in the river was flowing fast and he expected little, if any, serious impacts to the river. Pingel said most, but not all, of his nitrofires (bugs) were killed by the cyanide. Pingel was concerned the plant might exceed WPDES permit standards because of the spill. Pingel said a water sample from the treatment plant was tested in the AM hours at Chilton Plating Inc. Pingel said the sample tested 0.045 mg/L cyanide. Gerdman obtained several water samples from the treatment plant. At approximately 3:15PM, Disher and Gerdman left the treatment plant facility.

At approximately 3:18PM, Disher and Gerdman arrived at Chilton Plating Inc. Inside the building, Disher and Gerdman spoke with J.W. McNeely, Vice President of the company. McNeely told Disher and Gerdman he had nothing to hide, and wanted to cooperate fully. McNeely said Disher and Gerdman were welcome to go anywhere in the building. When asked, McNeely told Disher he was notified of the spill on 03/16/04 at approximately 8:00PM. McNeely said an employee accidentally left a hose running in there brass tank. McNeely said he believed the hose had been running for about 4 hours, and that about 200 gallons of cyanide/water mixture spilled into a floor drain. McNeely told Disher the main portion of this mixture was destroyed by there "in house" treatment system, with the remainder passing to the City of Chilton Wastewater Treatment Plant. McNeely said he contacted the Chilton Police and Fire Departments. In a signed letter provided to Gerdman, McNeely stated the 200 gallons would have contained approximately 15 lbs. of Zinc Cyanide, 50 lbs. of Copper Cyanide, 70 lbs. of Sodium Cyanide, and 20 lbs. of Sodium Hydroxide. Gerdman was also provided with MSDS data sheets for the various chemicals.

McNeely escorted Disher and Gerdman to the brass tank. While at this location, Disher took photographs of the tank, hose handle, and floor drain. Disher noticed a warning sign that said "Cyanide" on the side of the tank. Disher also noticed a clear liquid on the floor next to the tank. When asked, McNeely said, "Oh thats just water." McNeely then escorted Disher and Gerdman to another area of the plant to inspect there "in house" treatment equipment. While walking through the plant, Disher noticed several unlabeled barrels containing unknown liquids. These barrels had no lids and were sitting on pallets. When asked about the barrels, McNeely said, "Oh those are just some chemicals we plan to use someday soon." Disher noticed several employees who were not wearing safety glasses while working with or near chemical containers. When Gerdman asked McNeely for a liquid sample from the brass tank, McNeely said, "No problem, but remember it's not legal." At approximately 3:44 PM, Disher and Gerdman left Chilton Plating Inc.

After leaving Chilton Plating, Disher inspected the Manitowoc River downstream from the Chilton Wastewater Treatment Plant discharge area. Disher did not observe any dead fish or animals. Disher noticed that water levels were high and there was a fast current. Disher also spoke with Chilton Police Officer Jason Kvalheim about the spill. Kvalheim was dispatched to Chilton Plating the night of the spill. Kvalheim will be providing Disher with a report documenting his observations and conservations regarding the incident.

**Case Activity Report:**  Yes  No CAR#:

(Please, attach copy of all CAR and other documentation)

**Enforcement Action:**  Yes  No (Explain Below)

As of 03/17/04 there was no enforcement action taken.

*LE. & W.O. Reviewing for enforcement*

## Chronert, Roxanne N.

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**From:** Urben, Bruce G  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 23, 2004 4:47 PM  
**To:** Chronert, Roxanne N.  
**Subject:** FW: Chilton Plating Spill

FYI!  
Urbs-

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Gerdman, David A  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 23, 2004 9:36 AM  
**To:** Disher, Michael J.; Schaller, Todd A.; Urben, Bruce G; Fabian, Stefan H.  
**Subject:** RE: Chilton Plating Spill

Thank you Mike. It appears that the wastewater facility is slowly recovering, fortunately. I will let you know if there are any other problems that were not investigated last week.

Dave G.

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Disher, Michael J.  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 18, 2004 5:24 PM  
**To:** Schaller, Todd A.; Urben, Bruce G; Fabian, Stefan H.; Gerdman, David A  
**Subject:** Chilton Plating Spill

<< File: Chilton Plating-Spill 03-16-04.doc >>  
Thanks for all your help.

 *Michael J. Disher*

Conservation Warden  
NER-Calumet County  
Bureau of Law Enforcement  
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources  
(☎) phone: (920) 439-1027  
(✉) e-mail: Michael.Disher@dnr.state.wi.us

## **Chronert, Roxanne N.**

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**From:** Gerdman, David A  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 17, 2004 9:37 AM  
**To:** Stanek, Mark F; Kazmierczak, Ronald W.; Verhoeven, Charles R; Rossberg, Doug C; Fabian, Stefan H.; Chronert, Roxanne N.; Disher, Michael J.; Brey, Anne  
**Cc:** Haack, Jeffrey J.; Vogen, Linda K; McLennan, Robin; Jameson, Nan E; Corbett, Mark K.  
**Subject:** RE: Cyanide Spill - Chilton Plating, POTW, Manitowoc River

Mark, thank you for the information. Mike Disher and I will be meeting at 2:30 this afternoon in Chilton to investigate this incident. The POTW will be collecting grab samples of its effluent for cyanide and metals ASAP, and additional samples will be collected later.

Dave G.

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Stanek, Mark F  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 17, 2004 8:03 AM  
**To:** Kazmierczak, Ronald W.; Verhoeven, Charles R; Rossberg, Doug C; Fabian, Stefan H.; Chronert, Roxanne N.; Disher, Michael J.; Gerdman, David A; Brey, Anne  
**Cc:** Haack, Jeffrey J.; Vogen, Linda K; McLennan, Robin; Jameson, Nan E; Corbett, Mark K.  
**Subject:** Cyanide Spill - Chilton Plating, POTW, Manitowoc River  
**Importance:** High

Stanek received a call from Warden Mike Disher at 7:20 this morning. Warden Disher was contacted by the Chilton Police Dept. about a cyanide spill at Chilton Plating that occurred around 8:50 p.m. Tuesday night. We discussed the actions that the Dept. needs to take.

Stanek left a message with Warden Stephan Fabian, and then spoke with Jeff Haack to discuss our ability to calculate the toxicity potential of cyanide reaching the Manitowoc River. Haack will be running calculations using the current stream flow of the Manitowoc River coupled with treatment plant volume and the cyanide concentrations and volume dumped into the treatment plant. This will allow us to predict if there will be impacts to the aquatic life in the river system.

Haack explained that Chilton Plating is very close to the treatment plant, and that it would be almost impossible to block that wastewater from entering the treatment plant.

Disher spoke with Glenn Pingel (920-849-9562) Operator of the Chilton treatment plant and the affects of the cyanide dump/spill are wiping out the treatment capabilities of the treatment system. Chilton has a large oxidation ditch type treatment facility. It is likely their will be WPDES permit violations as a result of this spill. Chilton Plating has a pretreatment control document issued by the Department.

The spill is apparently the result of an intentional act at the plating facility. Police Dept. is investigating this matter.

Haack will be contacting Dave Gerdman, since he is the compliance engineer for the Chilton facilities.

## **Chronert, Roxanne N.**

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