## ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD May 23, 1972

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REX	CHAINBELT,	INC.		)	

OPINION AND ORDER OF THE BOARD (BY SAMUEL T. LAWTON, JR.)

Complaint was filed by the Environmental Protection Agency against Rex Chainbelt, Inc., alleging that Respondent, in the operation of its Downers Grove bearing manufacturing facility, on May 27, 1971, permitted the escape of cyanide and/or cyanogen compounds so as to violate Sanitary Water Board Regulation SWB-5, and further, that on May 27, 1971, Respondent caused or allowed the discharge of effluent containing cyanide and heavy metals into a storm sewer which flows into the St. Joseph's Creek so as to cause, or tend to cause, water pollution, in violation of Section 12(a) of the Environmental Protection Act ("Act").

A penalty in the maximum statutory amount and the entry of such other and further Orders as may be proper were requested of the Board. A stipulation and proposal for settlement was entered into between the parties, which acknowledges that on or about May 27, 1971, Respondent permitted cyanide and heavy metals to escape from its plant into a drainage ditch on its property which flows into St. Joseph's Creek. Representatives of the Agency and Respondent took samples of the flow in the ditch on May 27, which analysis is appended to the stipulation and which notes the presence of cyanide and heavy metals, particularly copper, cadmium, nickel, zinc, chromium and iron in the ditch. Investigation by Respondent disclosed that a leak had occurred in the copper plating tank running to the floor drain and ultimately into a line connected with the drainage ditch.

On May 28, 1971, Respondent blocked the floor drain line leading to the drainage ditch and installed a holding tank to contain any future spillage. The plating tanks were replaced with polyethylene lined fiberglass tanks equipped with alarms to guard against undetected leaks. Respondent contracted for a survey of the plant plumbing and made corrections limiting future sources of water pollution. Respondent is considering the possibility of adopting different manufacturing techniques which will eliminate the present plating room activities.

Periodic sampling of the flow into the ditch subsequent to May 27, 1971 through February 14, 1972, disclose an absence of cyanide in the effluent. Subsequent sampling by the Agency indicates an absence of cyanide and satisfactory heavy metal levels.

The terms of settlement provide that Respondent admits that the violations complained of did, in fact, take place as set forth in the stipulation, but that it is now in compliance with all provisions of the Act and all rules and regulations of the Act pursuant thereto. Respondent agrees to the payment of a penalty in the amount of \$2,000.00 for the violations aforesaid, and agrees not to repeat the violations admitted. The Agency will be given the right of reasonable inspection of Respondent's facilities in accordance with Section 4(d) of the Act. The stipulation, both in the undertakings of the Respondent and the amount of penalty, appear satisfactory and we will enter our Order accordingly.

This opinion constitutes the findings of fact and conclusions of law of the Board.

IT IS THE ORDER of the Pollution Control Board:

- Rex Chainbelt, Inc., Respondent, shall cease and desist the discharge of cyanide and heavy metals, in violation of the Rules and Regulations of the Pollution Control Board and the Environmental Protection Act.
- 2. Penalty in the amount of \$2,000.00 is assessed against Rex Chainbelt, Inc. for violation of SWB-5 and Section 12(a) of the Environmental Protection Act, payable to the State of Illinois and sent to the Environmental Protection Agency, Fiscal Services Division, 2200 Churchill Drive, Springfield, Illinois 62706.

I, Christan Moffett, Clerk of the Pollution Control Board, certify that the above Opinion and Order was adopted on the day day of May, 1971 by a vote of 4-0.

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