

**OFFICE OF ADJUDICATIONS**

**IN THE MATTER OF** : **APPLICATION NO.199801912**

**CINTAS CORPORATION** : **NOVEMBER 22, 2005**

**PROPOSED FINAL DECISION**

Cintas Corporation has filed an application with the DEP to renew its permit to discharge treated industrial laundry wastewaters to the Town of Branford publicly owned treatment works and to modify its wastewater treatment system. General Statutes §22-430. The Commissioner has made a tentative determination that the proposed treatment system would protect the waters of the state from pollution. §22a-430(c). The DEP Bureau of Water Management, Permitting and Enforcement Division (staff) have prepared a draft permit that would authorize the discharge.

The parties to this proceeding are the applicant, staff and intervening party UNITE HERE. The parties have submitted the attached *Agreed Draft Decision* for consideration as my proposed final decision in this matter. A revised draft permit is appended to this agreement. (Attachment I). This draft permit provides effluent limitations, monitoring requirements and other terms and conditions consistent with the requirements of §22a-430 and relevant provisions of Regs., Conn. State Agencies §§22a-430-1 through 22a-430-8.

The *Agreed Draft Decision* satisfactorily conveys the findings of fact and assessments of applicable law necessary to support this conclusion. I therefore adopt this agreement as my proposed final decision and recommend that the Commissioner issue the requested permit.

November 22, 2005  
Date

/s/ Jean F. Dellamarggio  
Jean F. Dellamarggio, Hearing Officer

cc: Mark J. Zimmerman, Esq., Cintas Corporation  
Peter B. Cooper, Esq., UNITE HERE  
Krista E. Trousdale, Asst. Attorney General

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
OFFICE OF ADJUDICATIONS**

**IN THE MATTER OF** : **APPLICATION NO. 199801912**

**CINTAS CORPORATION** : **NOVEMBER 15, 2005**

**AGREED DRAFT DECISION**

**A. FINDINGS OF FACT**

1. The applicant, Cintas Corporation (“Cintas”), is an industrial laundry with a facility at 11 Commercial Street, Branford, CT. (DEP-1) On March 27, 1998, Cintas submitted to the Commissioner an application to renew its state wastewater discharge permit, No. SP0000093. (DEP-1) That permit, which had been issued December 6, 1993, authorized Cintas to discharge treated industrial laundry wastewaters to the Branford publicly owned treatment works. (DEP-16). The application includes an extensive summary, a general description of the applicant’s business, site and floor plans, topographical maps, discharge quantities and a spill prevention and control plan. (DEP-1, 6, 8, 9, 13, 14, 15, 17A, 34, 39; APP-4, 6). The application also includes descriptions of the proposed wastewater collection, treatment and disposal system, specific discharge information and an evaluation of the characteristics of said discharge (DEP-1, 6, 8, 17A).

2. During the period September 9, 1998 through February 2005, Cintas submitted several revisions and supplements to its original application. (DEP-6, 8, 9, 13, 14, 15, 17A, 34,

39; APP-4). Some of these revisions and supplements were provided in response to comments from Department of Environmental Protection Staff (“Staff”) (DEP-7, 18 and 19).

3. The activity that is the subject of this application is located within the coastal area, but not the coastal boundary as defined in C.G.S. § 22a-94 (DEP-10).

4. The project site is not located within an area identified as a habitat for endangered, threatened or special concern species as identified on the “State and Federal Listed Species and Natural Communities Map” (DEP-1).

5. The project site is not located within a town required to establish Aquifer Protection Areas or within an initial setback or recharge area as identified in a Level B map (DEP-1).

6. The project site is not located on federally recognized Indian lands (DEP-1).

7. The application does not include any stormwater discharges to a Medium Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (DEP-1).

8. Cintas is in the business of laundering and mending uniforms, linens and floors mats for industrial clients (DEP-1).

9. Cintas has certified that, with the exception of small amounts of solvents that may be handled on-site for maintenance purposes, no total toxic organic compounds will be used or generated on the site (DEP-1). An approved vendor will supply and dispose of these solvents (DEP-6).

10. Cintas’ discharge consists of wastewater from the laundering of uniforms, linens and floor mats. Process wastewater generated from the laundry operations is initially treated through an oil/water separator, used as an Equalization Tank. The skimmed oil, if present, is disposed of by a licensed waste hauler. The wastewater is pumped to a wastewater holding tank

and treated through an ultrafiltration unit and treated with ozone prior to discharge to the town of Branford sanitary sewer (DEP-1, 6, 8).

11. Given the flow of the wastewater, the concentrations of the permitted parameters, and the discharge to the Town of Branford Sewage Treatment Facility, the Cintas treated effluent is not anticipated to cause pollution to the waters of the State (DEP-1, 6, 8).

12. The compliance history information submitted with the application indicates that Cintas has been the subject of a recently settled civil enforcement action (DEP-1). There are no unresolved enforcement actions pending against Cintas.

13. Cintas provided information pertaining to its resource conservation strategies. These strategies include its ultrafiltration system, water reuse and recycling, and the use of a heat exchanger. (DEP-1, 6, 8, 41; Adj. Docket # 53).

14. The facility is equipped with a computer control and monitoring system. All of the instrumentation is wired to this computer to enable the operator to have complete control of the system via a wall mounted touch screen panel installed in the water treatment room (DEP-6, 8).

15. The sole wastewater collection point is a trench that conveys wastewater from the washers to the washroom sump. A bar screen is located at the end of the trench to collect larger debris. The bar screen and trench are cleaned every few hours to maintain uninterrupted flow. The trench empties to a pit with a sump to pump wastewater to a shaker screen, which removes larger particles. The pit also collects waste that is too heavy to be pumped (DEP-8).

16. Wastewater is then drained to a 22,000 gallon dual chamber oil/water separator that also serves as an equalization unit. This unit has an underflow baffle that splits the unit into

two chambers. A typical retention time for wastewater in this tank is about three hours and forty-five minutes. Oil and solids are removed by a licensed waste hauler, as necessary (DEP-8).

17. Once the wastewater has been separated it is pumped to the 21,000 gallon fiberglass lined steel Process Tank (DEP-8).

18. At the beginning of each week the Process Tank is empty. When it reaches 13,200 gallons the primary ultrafilter turns on automatically. This tank serves as the supply to the ultrafilters. At the end of the week when processing is complete, the ultrafilter is run until no further permeate can be pulled from the tank. The concentrate is then pumped to the waste tank. This process, which occurs at the end of each operating week, is referred to as “Batch Down” (DEP-8).

19. Ultrafiltration is the major treatment step at the facility. The ultrafilter (“UF”) unit, when properly maintained and operated, is capable of removing metal particles and emulsified oils and of providing permeate that is clean enough to discharge or to reuse in Cintas’ laundering process (DEP-8).

20. The facility utilizes two UF model 600 units. Each unit holds 272 membrane tubes and flow at a higher rate than that of the wastewater collection (DEP-8).

21. The UF units and their pumps, as well as some of the valves, are automatically controlled. In the event of a power outage, the collection points and pumps will cease operating so as to prevent an untreated or partially treated wastewater discharge. Further, when power is regained the system is reset and will operate properly (DEP-8).

22. There are two objectives to this system. First of all, the discharge must be compliant with the parameters of the discharge permit. Secondly, the system maximizes the volume of reused water (DEP-8).

23. Once the wastewater passes through the UF unit it proceeds to an automatically controlled sewer valve, which splits the flow to two streams: one to the Reuse Tank and one to the sewer (DEP-8).

24. With recent modifications, the treatment system is able to supply the maximum possible amount of reuse water. The Reuse Tank is 6,000 gallons and 16 feet high. If the tank volume reaches 13.5 feet the reuse valve is automatically closed and the wastewater is diverted to the Process Tank. As an added precaution, the entire treatment system is designed to automatically shut down if the tank volume reaches 14 feet. The retention time in this tank is typically 2 ½ hours. Typically, approximately 65 percent of the incoming water is reused at the facility in this manner (DEP-8).

25. After ultrafiltration and the sewer control valve, the wastewater passes through the Mag Meter, which records the discharge volume and rate of flow to the sanitary sewer (DEP-8).

26. Prior to releasing wastewater to the sewer it is subject to two additional steps in the treatment process: heat recovery and chemical addition. The wastewater is sent through a heat exchanger to recover the heat, thereby conserving energy and making the discharged water more conducive to ozone treatment (DEP-8).

27. The final treatment process is ozone and acid injection. Wastewater goes from the 500 gallon Heat Recovery Tank to the Ozone Contact System, where it is treated in a recirculation loop until it overflows the Heat Recovery tank to the sanitary sewer (DEP-8).

28. A probe that is installed at the beginning of the Ozone Contact System measures the pH and the controller determines whether acid needs to be added into the system just prior to

the Heat Recovery Tank. There is also a second pH probe in the Heat Recovery tank which monitors the pH of the effluent as it is discharged to the sewer line (DEP-8).

29. At the end of each processing week the concentrate that cannot be pulled from the Process Tank (usually 1,000 to 1,500 gallons per week) is transferred to the 3,200 gallon Waste Tank. Hydrogen peroxide, sulfuric acid and bentonite clay are added to the Waste Tank and thoroughly mixed with the concentrate. The resulting mixture is then pumped to the CETCO Unit in 200 gallon increments to produce sludge (DEP-8).

30. In the CETCO Unit approximately two pounds of Acrilimide Polymer is mixed with the concentrate and squeezed through a roller to drain any remaining liquid. The solid waste then falls into a hopper for off-site disposal. The drained filtrate is pumped back to the Equalization Tank (DEP-8).

31. The total discharge to the sewer system will average 55,000 gpd daily and the maximum daily discharge will be 75,000 gpd (DEP-10, 41).

32. Cintas has characterized the wastewater discharge to the sewer system. Cintas calculated wastewater characteristics based on its past operations, its knowledge of the treatment process, known characteristics of the water supplied by the Town, and the chemicals and pollutants that may be present on their customers' uniforms and linens (DEP-1, 6, 8). Staff has determined that the parameters identified in the draft permit should be monitored (DEP-41).

33. The Town of Branford Sewage Treatment Facility is considered a publicly owned treatment works ("POTW"). (Int-20). The sewer line connection located adjacent to Cintas' facility will convey wastewater to the POTW. (DEP-17A) The POTW operates under a permit issued by the DEP. The plant design capacity is 4.9 mgd and the flow during a July 2004

inspection was 4.2 mgd. (Int-20). The POTW permit contains certain discharge effluent limits and sludge disposal requirements (Int. 17, 23).

34. Cintas compared the characteristics of its wastewater discharge with the pretreatment standards required by the POTW permit. Cintas documented that the discharge will not interfere with or pass through the POTW to cause a violation of its permit or prevent disposal or use of sludge. (Test. O. Rea 8/11/05).

35. Representatives of the Town of Branford and the POTW are aware of, and have not objected to, Cintas' determination that the sewer system and the POTW have the capacity and ability to accommodate this discharge (DEP-2, 10, 11, 21, 36). The wastewater from the facility will not contain chemicals that might cause a fire or an explosion, corrode the sewer system or the POTW, or cause flow obstruction in the sewer system or at the POTW. Oil, chemicals or other substances will not be in concentrations or flow rates that will interfere with the POTW. There will be no toxins, vapors or fumes that might cause health or safety problems at the POTW. The wastewater will not contain pollutants in excess of the limits set by the State (DEP-1, 6, 8).

36. Instrument calibration and monitoring will be part of the on-going maintenance activities at the facility. Cintas will maintain an inventory of essential spare parts necessary for continuous operation of the facility and continuous compliance with wastewater effluent limitations. All of the instrumentation in the treatment system, as well as all pumps and valves, are wired to a computer control and monitoring system, which enable the operator to have complete control of the system via a wall mounted touch screen panel installed in the water treatment room. The computer control has a mobile unit which can be monitored and accessed off-site. This monitoring system simplifies tracking and logs all pertinent parameters (DEP-8).



37. The Wastewater Treatment Operation and Maintenance Plan contains a detailed description of the plan elements (DEP-8).

38. The draft permit (DEP-41) specifies effluent limitations and monitoring requirements for the facility wastewater. The permit requires the maintenance of continuous flow and pH meters and recorders. Cintas will be required to monitor the discharge for cadmium, chromium, lead, copper, zinc, oil and grease, certain chlorinated compounds and total volatile organics. The monitoring location is the 500 gallon heat recovery tank effluent (DEP-41).

39. After review by Staff of the application and the supplemental information submitted by Cintas, on February 1, 2005 the Commissioner published in the *New Haven Register* her notice of tentative determination to grant Cintas' renewal application. (DEP-10 and DEP-12). Staff also sent copies of this notice to the First Selectman of Branford, the Chairpersons of Branford's Planning and Zoning and Conservation Commissions, Branford's Inland Wetlands Commission, and Branford's Director of Health. (DEP-11).

40. On March 3, 2005, UNITE HERE filed a petition with the signatures of more than twenty-five persons requesting a public hearing on the renewal application. (Adj. Docket # 1) On March 28, 2005, UNITE HERE filed a petition to intervene as a party under the Connecticut Environmental Protection Act, Conn. Gen. Stat. § 22a-19(a) (Adj. Docket # 10), which petition was granted on April 19, 2005, (Adj. Docket # 11).

41. In its petition to intervene, UNITE HERE raised three issues: the use by Cintas of detergents containing alkylphenol ethoxylates ("APEs"); the adequacy of Cintas' spill control plan; and the increase in Cintas' maximum daily flow from 38,000 gallons per day to 75,000 gallons per day. (Adj. Docket # 10).

42. On May 17, 2005, UNITE HERE filed a Supplemental Notice of Intervention, which questioned the adequacy of the proposed permit's aggregate limit on total volatile organic compounds on the grounds that the aggregate limit did not contain a sublimit for certain chlorinated compounds. (Adj. Docket # 18). This notice was accepted as a supplement to UNITE HERE's initial petition on June 2, 2005 (Adj. Docket # 26).

43. At the pre-hearing conference held on July 11, 2005, Staff requested a three-month continuance of the proceedings to allow time to review the environmental impacts of APEs. This request was granted, over the objection of Cintas. (Adj. Docket # 42)

44. On August 9, 2005, Cintas, UNITE HERE, and Staff filed a Letter Term Sheet setting forth the major terms of an agreement among the parties to resolve this permit proceeding. (Adj. Docket # 53) The Letter Term Sheet also includes some terms to be included in the resolution of *Rocque v. Cintas Corp.*, No. HHD CV 02-0818622-S, an environmental enforcement action brought by the Commissioner against Cintas in Connecticut Superior Court in 2002.

45. The terms on which Cintas, UNITE HERE, and Staff have agreed to resolve this permit proceeding are as follows:

a. The draft renewal permit that was published on February 1, 2005 may issue with two changes to page 4 of the permit: (i) an aggregate maximum instantaneous limit of 400 µg/l will be imposed for the following chlorinated compounds: 1,1,1 trichloroethane; 1,1,2 trichloroethylene; 1,1,2,2 tetrachloroethylene; and methylene chloride; and (ii) footnote 6 will be added, which will read: "Permittee shall not use any laundering chemicals containing Alkylphenol Ethoxylates." A copy of the proposed

permit, with the revised page 4, has been admitted into evidence as DEP-41 and is attached to this Agreed Draft Decision.

b. Cintas has revised its Spill Prevention and Control Plan to reflect that all Cintas employees shall receive spill control training and that Cintas will have a spill team member present at the Branford facility during all working hours. This revised Spill Prevention and Control Plan has been admitted into evidence as Applicant-6.

c. The permit will allow Cintas to discharge the maximum daily flow Cintas applied for, which is 75,000 gallons per day.

d. The Commissioner intends to investigate the use of products containing APEs by industrial laundries in Connecticut and intends to propose the regulation of APEs in a manner that will insure that the waters of the State are protected from pollution. If the Commissioner establishes limits for APEs or otherwise regulates APEs in the industrial laundry industry, Cintas shall have the opportunity to establish that it can meet those limits or satisfy such regulation, by applying to modify its permit or for a variance, as appropriate, in accordance with Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies §§ 22a-430-4(p) and (q). If the Commissioner elects not to establish limits for APEs or otherwise regulate APEs, or has not done so at the time that Cintas desires to switch back to an APE-containing product, Cintas shall have the opportunity to establish that its discharge would be protective of the waters of the state, by applying to modify its permit or for a variance, as appropriate, in accordance with the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies §§ 22a-430-4(p) and (q). Any such application shall be subject to the public notice and hearing requirements of Conn. Gen. Stat. § 22a-430(c).

e. UNITE HERE withdraws its objections to issuance of the permit.

46. On June 25, 2005, the Commissioner published notice in the *New Haven Register* that the public hearing in this matter would be held on July 27, 2005 at 6:30 p.m. at the Canoe Brook Senior Center, 11 Cherry Hill Road, Branford. (DEP-37) On July 27, 2005, the Commissioner issued a Notice of Continued Public hearing, continuing the public hearing until August 11, 2005 at 6:30 p.m. at the same location. This notice was faxed to all parties, and was posted on the door of the Canoe Brook Senior Center and on the Department's web site.

47. On August 11, 2005, at 6:30 p.m., the public hearing was held at the Canoe Brook Senior Center in Branford. The following exhibits were admitted into evidence: App.-1 through App.-5; DEP-1 through DEP-3; DEP-6 through DEP-21; DEP-34 through DEP-37; DEP-39 through DEP-41; and Int.-1 through Int.-23.

48. Olimpia Rea, representing Staff, summarized the procedure and considerations leading to Staff's recommendation to grant the permit, and described the proposed changes to the permit agreed upon by the parties. Ms. Rea stated that Staff had reviewed Cintas' compliance history and that there were no outstanding compliance issues that would preclude issuance of the permit. Ms. Rea explained that Cintas had made enhancements to its treatment system by increasing the capacity of its ultrafilters and by installing an ozone contact system to reduce volatile organic compounds. Ms. Rea stated that Staff recommends that these modifications be approved. Although Ms. Rea did not so state, these modifications are contained in DEP-6 and DEP-8, which are submissions by Cintas dated September 13, 2002, and April 3, 2003, respectively.

49. Counsel for UNITE HERE gave a short statement in support of the agreement. Public comment was then taken. Written comments were accepted until September 1, 2005, at which time the record in this matter was closed.

50. On September 22, 2005, Staff moved to open the record to admit as DEP-42 a letter from Staff to Cintas dated September 14, 2005 approving the modifications contained in DEP-6 and DEP-8. (Adj. Docket # 55). This motion by Staff also contained a request to replace DEP-17, which is a diagram of Cintas' facility, with DEP-17A, which is a diagram reflecting the approved modifications. Cintas and UNITE HERE supported Staff's motion, which was granted on September 23, 2005. (Adj. Docket # 57).

## **B. CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

1. The Commissioner of Environmental Protection ("the Commissioner") is authorized to issue a permit or to renew a permit for any discharge of water, substance or material into the waters of the state provided the terms and conditions of the permit are consistent with the provisions of the federal Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1251-1387) and Connecticut General Statutes § 22a-430. When the Commissioner has determined that an applicant's system to treat a discharge will prevent pollution of the waters of the state, she will issue or renew, as appropriate, the permit for discharge. § 22a-430(b) and (c). The Commissioner has adopted regulations that specify the criteria and standards she must consider to determine whether a discharge will pollute the waters of the state and whether the applicant's treatment system is adequate to protect the waters of the state. Regs., Conn. State Agencies §§ 22a-430-3 and 22a-430-4.

2. Cintas' renewal application is made pursuant to Conn. Gen. Stat. § 22a-430(c). Since filing its renewal application timely on March 27, 1998, Cintas has been, under the authority granted by Conn. Gen. Stat. § 4-182(b), discharging treated wastewaters to the POTW pursuant to the provisions of the permit issued December 6, 1993.

3. The applicant has demonstrated that the proposed activity is consistent with all applicable goals and policies contained in C.G.S. § 22a-92 and that such activities incorporate all reasonable measures mitigating any adverse impacts on coastal resources and future water-dependent development activities.

4. Section 2a-430-3(e) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies provides that once the permit is issued, the applicant will be under a duty to comply with its terms and conditions. The terms and conditions of the permit must incorporate all applicable regulatory provisions either expressly or by reference. § 22a-430-3(b)(1)(C). Further, § 22a-430-4(e)(1) provides that in arriving at a determination on an application, the commissioner must find that the following applicable regulatory requirements will be met.

- i) *The effluent limitations and conditions listed in subsection (l) ... including any case-by-case determination made under subsection (m).... § 22a-430-4(e)(1)(A).*

The effluent limitations referenced in this provision have been established on a case-by-case basis pursuant to subsections (l) and (m) of § 22a-430-4. The record shows that the applicant's pretreatment system includes monitoring, sampling, and the recording of the effluent quality of its process wastewaters before they are discharged. The draft permit requires continuous and periodic monitoring to ensure compliance with the effluent limitations in the permit. The applicant is required to comply with these terms and its records are subject to DEP inspection at any time. It is reasonable to conclude that the applicant will comply with the terms and conditions of the permit and maintain a system that will meet the requirements of this provision.

ii) *The prohibitions listed in subsection (t) of [§ 22a-430-4]. § 22a-430-4(e)(1)(C).*

Subsection (t) enumerates the prohibitions for discharges to POTWs. Specifically, no discharge can interfere with the operation of the POTW; interfere with or have an adverse effect on sludge handling, cause the POTW to exceed its influent design parameters or violate its permit, or pass through any substance into the receiving waters that causes or threatens pollution. Discharges cannot contain any substance that causes or threatens a fire or explosion hazard or corrosive structural damage, causes or threatens obstruction to flow in the sewers or cause the influent to the POTW to exceed 104° F.

The applicant analyzed the impacts of its discharges on the POTW. The permit terms and conditions support the premises of that analysis and representatives of the town have not objected to the applicant's conclusion that its discharges will not violate the provisions of this section. The testimony of Staff's Olimpea Rea supports this conclusion.

iii) *The sludge disposal requirements listed in subsection (g) of section 22a-430-3.... § 22a-430-4(e)(1)(D).*

Under subsection (g) the applicant will be required to “dispose of screenings, sludges, chemicals and oil and any solid or liquid wastes resulting the from the wastewater treatment processes at locations approved of by the commissioner ... or by means of a [licensed] waste hauler ...”. The evidence in the record supports a conclusion that the applicant will dispose of solid wastes resulting from wastewater treatment process at authorized locations.

iv) *The bypass provisions of subsection (k) of section 22a-430-3 .... § 22a-430-4(e)(1)(E).*

Subsection (k) prohibits any bypass of the collection or pretreatment system unless the bypass is approved by the Commissioner, or is unavoidable and there are not feasible alternatives to bypassing the system. A request to have a bypass is not included in this permit application.

v) *The resource conservation requirements of subsection (o) of section 22a-430-3 .... § 22a-430-4(e)(1)(F).*

The resource conservation provisions require the applicant to implement and maintain practices and facilities that will produce the minimum amount of wastewater to the maximum extent practicable and prohibit the addition of water to dilute effluent concentrations in the discharge. § 22a-430-3(o). The record shows that the applicant has submitted a description of its resource conservation strategies. Water conservation efforts include certain design features of the facility and its wastewater treatment process. It is therefore reasonable to conclude that the requirements of this provision will be met.

vi) *The spill prevention and control requirements of subsection (p) of section 22a-430-3 .... § 22a-430-4(e)(1)(G).*

The applicant has prepared a spill prevention and control plan that is designed to prevent and control spills, leaks or other unplanned releases of toxic or hazardous substances. It is reasonable to conclude that the applicant's spill prevention and control program is adequate to comply with this section.

vii) *The instrumentation and related requirements of subsection (q) of section 22a-430-3 .... § 22a-430-4(e)(1)(H).*

The record reflects the details of the applicant's preliminary plan for controlling, monitoring and report functions of the system and characteristics of the discharge. The applicant has submitted detailed specifications on the equipment and procedures to be used to record and



control the system. It is reasonable to conclude that the applicant's instrumentation, compliance with permit terms and conditions and periodic inspection will ensure that the applicant will install and maintain the appropriate control and record-keeping equipment.

*viii) The equalization requirements of subsection (r) of Section 22a-430-3 ....  
§ 22a-430-4(e)(1)(I).*

The record reflects the details of the Applicant's treatment facilities, which includes an equalization tank component. It is reasonable to conclude that the applicant's treatment facilities are designed to prevent upsets, malfunctions or instance of noncompliance resulting from variations in wastewater strength or flow rate.

5. Cintas has submitted, and Staff has approved, the following:
  - i) a floor plan with detailed information pertaining to the location of process water and wastewater treatment equipment; all trenches, collection sumps and their respective discharge location; spill containment measures and chemical storage areas.
  - ii) a site plan showing all buildings, site boundaries, adjacent water bodies and catch basins/storm drains.
  - iii) plans and specifications on the wastewater collection and treatment system, flow and pH monitoring equipment and the sanitary sewer tie-in location.
  - iv) an Operation and Maintenance Plan for the wastewater collection and treatment system in accordance with Attachment I of the discharge permit application.

v) a Spill Prevention and Control Plan completed in accordance with Attachment K of the discharge permit application.

vi) a detailed inventory of all chemicals stored on-site.

6. The publication and notice requirements of Conn. Gen. Stat. § 22a-430(c) and R.C.S.A. § 22a-430-4(g) for both the Commissioner's notice of tentative determination to renew Cintas' permit, and the notice of the public hearing held in this matter have been satisfied. Specifically, on February 1, 2005, the Commissioner published in the *New Haven Register* notice of her tentative determination to grant Cintas' renewal application. That notice contained: (a) the name of the applicant; (b) the location, volume, frequency and nature of the discharge; (c) the Commissioner's tentative decision to grant the renewal application; and (d) additional information deemed necessary by the Commissioner to comply with the federal Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. §§ 1251 *et seq.* In addition, the Commissioner gave notice of the public hearing held in this matter by publishing in the *New Haven Register* on June 25, 2005 notice of the public hearing on July 27, 2005, and by timely posting the Notice of Continued Public Hearing physically at the location of the public hearing and on the Department's web site.

7. The applicant's proposed collection and treatment system will adequately treat or screen its wastewater discharges in a manner that will protect the waters of the state from pollution resulting from the project's operations. Further, the applicant is under a duty to comply with the terms and conditions of the permit. The permit terms and conditions are consistent with the state regulatory requirements and the applicable provisions of the federal Clean Water Act.

### **C. CONCLUSION**

Based on the application, the supplemental materials submitted by Cintas, the terms of the proposed permit, the exhibits submitted into evidence, and the recommendation of Staff, I

have determined that the continuance of the existing system, which includes the modifications already made by Cintas and the operation of the facility by Cintas in accordance with the terms of the proposed draft renewal permit, will protect the waters of the State from pollution.

Cintas' renewal permit, as set forth in DEP-41, attached hereto, should be issued.

APPLICANT  
CINTAS CORPORATION

STAFF, DEPARTMENT OF  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

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(Attachment I)

PRETREATMENT PERMIT

issued to

Location Address:

Cintas Corporation  
11 Commercial Street  
Branford, CT 06405

Cintas Corporation  
11 Commercial Street  
Branford, CT 06405

Facility ID: 014-032

Permit ID: SP0000093

Permit Expires:

**SECTION 1: GENERAL PROVISIONS**

- (A) This permit is reissued in accordance with section 22a-430 of Chapter 446k, Connecticut General Statutes ("CGS"), and Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies ("RCSA") adopted thereunder, as amended, and a modified Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) dated June 3, 1981, by the Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency which authorizes the State of Connecticut to administer a Pretreatment Program pursuant to 40 CFR Part 403.
- (B) Cintas Corporation, ("**Permittee**"), shall comply with all conditions of this permit including the following sections of the RCSA which have been adopted pursuant to section 22a-430 of the CGS and are hereby incorporated into this permit. **Your attention is especially drawn to the notification requirements of subsection (i)(2), (i)(3), (j)(1), (j)(6), (j)(8), (j)(9)(C), (j)(11)(C), (D), (E), and (F), (k)(3) and (4) and (l)(2) of section 22a-430-3.**

section 22a-430-3 General Conditions

- (a) Definitions
- (b) General
- (c) Inspection and Entry
- (d) Effect of a Permit
- (e) Duty
- (f) Proper Operation and Maintenance
- (g) Sludge Disposal
- (h) Duty to Mitigate
- (i) Facility Modifications; Notification
- (j) Monitoring, Records and Reporting Requirements
- (k) Bypass
- (l) Conditions Applicable to POTWs
- (m) Effluent Limitation Violations (Upsets)
- (n) Enforcement
- (o) Resource Conservation
- (p) Spill Prevention and Control
- (q) Instrumentation, Alarms, Flow Recorders
- (r) Equalization

section 22a-430-4 Procedures and Criteria

- (a) Duty to Apply
- (b) Duty to Reapply
- (c) Application Requirements
- (d) Preliminary Review
- (e) Tentative Determination
- (f) Draft Permits, Fact Sheets
- (g) Public Notice, Notice of Hearing
- (h) Public Comments
- (i) Final Determination
- (j) Public Hearings
- (k) Submission of Plans and Specifications. Approval.

- (l) Establishing Effluent Limitations and Conditions
  - (m) Case by Case Determinations
  - (n) Permit issuance or renewal
  - (o) Permit Transfer
  - (p) Permit revocation, denial or modification
  - (q) Variances
  - (r) Secondary Treatment Requirements
  - (s) Treatment Requirements for Metals and Cyanide
  - (t) Discharges to POTWs - Prohibitions
- (C) Violations of any of the terms, conditions, or limitations contained in this permit may subject the permittee to enforcement action, including but not limited to, seeking penalties, injunctions and/or forfeitures pursuant to applicable sections of the CGS and RCSA.
- (D) Any false statement in any information submitted pursuant to this permit may be punishable as a criminal offense under section 22a-438 or 22a-131a of the CGS or in accordance with section 22a-6, under section 53a-157b of the CGS.
- (E) The authorization to discharge under this permit may not be transferred without prior written approval of the Commissioner. To request such approval, the permittee and proposed transferee shall register such proposed transfer with the Commissioner at least 30 days prior to the transferee becoming legally responsible for creating or maintaining any discharge which is the subject of the permit transfer. Failure by the transferee to obtain the Commissioner's approval prior to commencing such discharge(s) may subject the transferee to enforcement action for discharging without a permit pursuant to applicable sections of the CGS and RCSA.
- (F) Nothing in this permit shall relieve the permittee of other obligations under applicable federal, state and local law.
- (G) An annual fee shall be paid for each year this permit is in effect as set forth in section 22a-430-7 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies.
- (H) This permitted discharge is consistent with the applicable goals and policies of the Connecticut Coastal Management Act (section 22a-92 of the Connecticut General Statutes).

## SECTION 2: DEFINITIONS

- (A) The definitions of the terms used in this permit shall be the same as the definitions contained in section 22a-423 of the CGS and section 22a-430-3(a) and 22a-430-6 of the RCSA.
- (B) In addition to the above the following definitions shall apply to this permit:
- “---“ in the limits column on the monitoring table means a limit is not specified but a value must be reported on the DMR.
- "Average Monthly Limit" means the maximum allowable "Average Monthly Concentration" as defined in section 22a-430-3(a) of the RCSA when expressed as a concentration (e.g. mg/l); otherwise, it means "Average Monthly Discharge Limitation" as defined in section 22a-430-3(a) of the RCSA.
- “Daily Concentration” means the concentration of a substance as measured in a daily composite sample, or the arithmetic average of all grab sample results defining a grab sample average.
- “Daily Quantity“ means the quantity of waste generated during an operating day.
- “Instantaneous Limit” means the highest allowable concentration of a substance as measured by a grab sample, or the highest allowable measurement of a parameter as obtained through instantaneous monitoring.
- "Maximum Daily Limit" means the maximum allowable "Daily Concentration" (defined above) when expressed as a concentration (e.g. mg/l); otherwise, it means the maximum allowable "Daily Quantity" as defined above unless it is expressed as a flow quantity. If expressed as a flow quantity it means “Maximum Daily Flow” as defined in section 22a-430-3(a) of the RCSA.
- “NA” as a Monitoring Table abbreviation means “not applicable”.

“NR” as a Monitoring Table abbreviation means “not required”.

“Range During Sampling” or “RDS”, as a sample type, means the maximum and minimum of all values recorded as a result of analyzing each grab sample of; 1) a Composite Sample, or 2) a Grab Sample Average. For those permittees with continuous monitoring and recording pH meters, Range During Sampling shall mean the maximum and minimum readings recorded with the continuous monitoring device during the Composite or Grab Sample Average sample collection.

“Range During Month” or “RDM” , as a sample type, means the lowest and the highest values of all of the monitoring data for the reporting month.

“Twice per Month” when used as a sample frequency shall mean two samples per calendar month collected no less than 12 days apart.

"ug/l" means micrograms per liter.

### **SECTION 3: COMMISSIONER'S DECISION**

- (A) The Commissioner of Environmental Protection ("the Commissioner") has made a final determination and found that modification of the existing system will protect the waters of the state from pollution. The Commissioner's decision is based on **application # 199801912** for permit reissuance received on March 26, 1998 and the administrative record established in the processing of that application.
- (B) The Commissioner hereby authorizes the Permittee to discharge in accordance with the provisions of this permit, the above referenced application, and all approvals issued by the Commissioner or his authorized agent for the discharges and/or activities authorized by, or associated with, this permit.
- (C) The Commissioner reserves the right to make appropriate revisions to the permit in order to establish any appropriate effluent limitations, schedules of compliance, or other provisions that may be authorized under the Federal Clean Water Act or the Connecticut General Statutes or regulations adopted thereunder, as amended. The permit as modified or renewed under this paragraph may also contain any other requirements of the Federal Clean Water Act or Connecticut General Statutes or regulations adopted thereunder which are then applicable.

### **SECTION 4: EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS**

- (A) The discharges shall not exceed and shall otherwise conform to specific terms and conditions listed below. The discharges is restricted by, and shall be monitored in accordance with, the tables below.

**Table A**

**Discharge Serial Number:** 001-1      **Monitoring Location:** 1  
**Wastewater Description:** Laundry Processing Wastewater  
**Monitoring Location Description:** 500 gallon heat recovery tank effluent  
**Discharge is to:** The Town of Branford Water Pollution Control Facility

<b>PARAMETER</b>	<b>UNITS</b>	<b>FLOW/TIME BASED MONITORING</b>				<b>INSTANTANEOUS MONITORING</b>		
		Average Monthly Limit	Maximum Daily Limit	Sample/Reporting Frequency <sup>2</sup>	Sample Type or Measurement to be reported	Instantaneous limit or required range	Sample// Reporting Frequency <sup>2</sup>	Sample Type or measurement to be reported
Flow, Average and Maximum Daily <sup>1</sup>	gpd	55,000	75,000	Continuous/Monthly	Daily Flow	NA	NR	NA
Flow, Day of Sampling	gpd	NA	75,000	Weekly	Daily Flow	NA	NR	NA
pH, Day of Sampling	S.U.	NA	NA	NR	NA	6.0 – 10.5	weekly	RDS
pH, Continuous	S.U.	NA	NA	NR	NA	6.0 – 10.5	continuous/monthly	RDM
Cadmium-Total	mg/l	0.1	0.5	Monthly	Daily Composite	0.75	NR	NA
Chromium-Total	mg/l	1.0	2.0	Monthly	Daily Composite	3.0	NR	NA
Copper-Total	mg/l	1.0	2.0	Monthly	Daily Composite	3.0	NR	NA
Lead-Total	mg/l	1.0	1.5	Monthly	Daily Composite	2.25	NR	NA
Zinc-Total	mg/l	1.0	2.0	Monthly	Daily Composite	3.0	NR	NA
Oil & Grease-Total	mg/l	20	40	Monthly	Grab Sample Average	60	NR	NA
Biochemical Oxygen Demand (5-Day)	mg/l	500	700	Monthly	Daily Composite	1050	NR	NA
Chlorinated Compounds - 1,1,1 Trichloroethane, 1,1,2 Trichloroethylene, 1,1,2,2 Tetrachloroethylene, Methylene Chloride	ug/l	NA	NA	NR	NA	400	Quarterly	Grab
Total Volatile Organics - EPA Methods 624 + Acetone, Methyl-Ethyl Ketone, Methyl Isobutyl Ketone and Xylene	mg/l	NA	NA	NR	NA	2.13	Twice Per Month	Grab

**Footnotes:**  
<sup>1</sup> For this parameter the permittee shall maintain at the facility a record of the total daily flow for each day of discharge and shall report the Average Daily Flow and the Maximum Daily Flow for each sampling month.  
<sup>2</sup> The first entry in this column is the ‘Sample Frequency’. If this entry is not followed by a ‘Reporting Frequency’ and the ‘Sample Frequency’ is more frequent than monthly then the ‘Reporting Frequency’ is monthly. If the ‘Sample frequency’ is specified as monthly, or less frequent, then the ‘Reporting Frequency’ is the same as the ‘Sample Frequency’.  
**Remarks:**  
<sup>3</sup> At no time shall two successive readings on an explosion hazard meter at the point of discharge into the sewage collection system (or at any point in the system) be more than five percent (5%) of the lower explosive limit (LEL) of the meter.  
<sup>4</sup> Permittee must receive prior written approval from the Commissioner for any expansion or significant alteration of any wastewater collection or treatment system or its method of operation in accordance with Section 22a-430-3(i)(3) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies.  
<sup>5</sup> Permittee shall not process shop towels without the prior written approval of the Commissioner.  
<sup>6</sup> Permittee shall not use any laundering chemicals containing Alkylphenol Ethoxylates.

- (B) All samples shall be comprised of only those wastewaters described in this schedule, therefore, samples shall be taken prior to combination with wastewaters of any other type and after all approved treatment units, if applicable. All samples taken shall be representative of the discharge during standard operating conditions.
- (C) In cases where limits and sample type are specified but sampling is not required, the limits specified shall apply to all samples which may be collected and analyzed by, the Department of Environmental Protection personnel, the permittee, or other parties.
- (D) The limits imposed on the discharges listed in this permit take effect on the issuance date of this permit, hence any sample taken after this date which, upon analysis, shows an exceedance of permit limits will be considered non-compliance.

The monitoring requirements of this permit begin on the date of issuance of this permit if the issuance date is on or before the 12th day of a month. For permits issued on or after the 13th day of a month, monitoring requirements begin the 1st day of the following month.

**SECTION 5: SAMPLE COLLECTION, HANDLING and ANALYTICAL TECHNIQUES AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**

- (A) Chemical analyses to determine compliance with effluent limits and conditions established in this permit shall employ methods approved by the Environmental Protection Agency pursuant to 40 CFR 136 unless an alternative method has been approved in writing in accordance with 40CFR 136.4.
- (B) All metals analyses identified in this permit shall refer to analyses for Total Recoverable Metal as defined in 40CFR136 unless otherwise specified.
- (C) The results of chemical analysis required above shall be entered on the Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR), provided by this office, and reported to the Bureau of Water Management at the following address. The report shall also include a detailed explanation of any violations of the limitations specified. The DMR shall be received at this address by the last day of the month following the month in which samples are taken.

Bureau of Water Management (Attn: DMR Processing)  
 Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection  
 79 Elm Street  
 Hartford, CT 06106-5127

- (D) If this permit requires monitoring of a discharge on a calendar basis (e.g. Monthly, quarterly, etc.) but a discharge has not occurred within the frequency of sampling specified in the permit, the Permittee must submit the DMR as scheduled, indicating "NO DISCHARGE". For those permittees whose required monitoring is discharge dependent (e.g. per batch), the minimum reporting frequency is monthly. Therefore, if there is no discharge during a calendar month for a batch discharge, a DMR must be submitted indicating such by the end of the following month.
- (E) Copies of all DMRs shall be submitted concurrently to the local Water Pollution Control Authority ("WPCA") involved in the treatment and collection of the permitted discharge.

**SECTION 6: RECORDING AND REPORTING OF VIOLATIONS, ADDITIONAL TESTING REQUIREMENTS**

- (A) If any sample analysis indicates that an effluent limitation specified in Section 4 of this permit has been exceeded, a second sample of the effluent shall be collected and analyzed for the parameter(s) in question and the results reported to the Bureau of Water Management (Attn: DMR Processing) within 30 days of the exceedance.
- (B) The Permittee shall immediately notify the Bureau of Water Management (Attn: Permits, Enforcement and Remediation Division) and the local WPCA of all discharges that could cause problems to the Publicly Owned Treatment Works ("POTW"), including but not limited to slug loadings of pollutants which may cause a violation of the POTW's NPDES permit, or which may inhibit or disrupt the POTW, its treatment processes or operations, or its sludge processes, use or disposal.
- (C) In addition to the notification requirements specified in Section 1B of this permit, if any sampling and analysis of the discharge performed by the permittee indicates a violation of limits specified in Section 4 of this permit, the permittee shall notify the Bureau of Water Management (Attn: Permitting and Enforcement Division) within 24 hours of becoming aware of the violation.



**SECTION 7: COMPLIANCE CONDITIONS**

The Commissioner may provide public notification, in a newspaper of general circulation in the area of the respective POTW, of permittees that at any time in the previous twelve months were in significant noncompliance with the provisions of this permit. For the purposes of this provision, a permittee is in significant noncompliance if its violation(s) meet(s) one or more of the following criteria:

- **Chronic violations:** Those in which sixty-six percent or more of all measurements taken during a six-month period exceed the Average Monthly or Maximum Daily Limit(s) for the same pollutant parameter.
- **Technical Review Criteria violations:** Those in which 33% or more of all of the measurements for each pollutant parameter taken during a six-month period equal or exceed the average or maximum daily limits multiplied by (1.4 for BOD, TSS, oil and grease) or (1.2 for all other pollutants except pH).
- **Compliance Schedule:** Failure to meet within 90 days after the schedule date, a compliance schedule milestone contained in or linked to a respective permit.
- **Noncompliance Reporting:** Failure to accurately report noncompliance in accordance with provisions identified in Section 6 of this permit.
- **Discretionary:** Any other violation of an effluent limit that the Department determines has caused, alone or in combination with other discharges, a violation of the POTW's NPDES permit, inhibition or disruption of the POTW, its treatment processes or operations, or its sludge processes, use or disposal.
- **Imminent Endangerment:** Any discharge of pollutant(s) that has caused imminent endangerment to human health, welfare or to the environment.

This permit is hereby issued on the

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Gina McCarthy  
Commissioner

GM/OR

cc: The Town of Branford Water Pollution Control Facility

# DATA TRACKING AND TECHNICAL FACT SHEET

Permittee: Cintas Corporation PAMS Company ID: 49531

## PERMIT, ADDRESS, AND FACILITY DATA

PERMIT #: SP0000093

APPLICATION #: 199801912

FACILITY ID: 014-032

<p><u>Mailing Address:</u></p> <p>Street: <u>11 Commercial Street</u></p> <p>City: <u>Branford</u> ST: <u>CT</u> Zip: <u>06405</u></p> <hr/> <p>Contact Name: <u>Ian Sweeney</u></p> <p>Phone No.: <u>(203) 481-2321</u></p>	<p><u>Location Address:</u></p> <p>Street: <u>same</u></p> <p>City: _____ ST: <u>CT</u> Zip: _____</p> <hr/> <p><u>DMR</u> <u>Contact</u></p> <p>Phone No.: _____</p>
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### PERMIT INFORMATION

**DURATION**    5 YEAR X                      10 YEAR                          30 YEAR

**TYPE**            New                Reissuance X            Modification

**CATEGORIZATION**    POINT (X)    NON-POINT ( )            GIS # 5397

NPDES ( )    PRETREAT (X)    GROUND WATER(UIC) ( )    GROUND WATER (OTHER) ( )

NPDES MAJOR(MA)  
NPDES SIGNIFICANT MINOR or PRETREAT SIU (SI) X  
NPDES or PRETREATMENT MINOR (MI)

PRETREAT SIGNIFICANT INDUS USER(SIU) X  
PRETREAT CATEGORICAL (CIU)

**Note: If it's a CIU then check off SIU**

POLLUTION PREVENTION MANDATE                ENVIRONMENTAL EQUITY ISSUE    

**COMPLIANCE SCHEDULE**    YES                          NO X

POLLUTION PREVENTION        TREATMENT REQUIREMENT        WATER CONSERVATION

WATER QUALITY REQUIREMENT        REMEDIATION        OTHER

### OWNERSHIP CODE

Private X    Federal        State        Municipal (town only)        Other public

**DEP STAFF ENGINEER**           Olimpia Rea

**PERMIT FEES**

<i>Discharge Code</i>	<i>DSN Number</i>	<i>Annual Fee</i>
<u>515007b</u>	<u>001-1</u>	<u>\$5,450.00</u>

**FOR SEWER DISCHARGES**

*Discharge to The Town of Branford Water Pollution Control Facility. The facility ID. of the POTW is 014-001.*

**NATURE OF BUSINESS GENERATING DISCHARGE**

*Process wastewaters are generated from the laundry operations of uniforms, jackets, and hand/bath towels, mats, and glass towels, etc. In the Remarks Section of Table A, the company has been directed not to process shop towels without the express, prior written approval of the Commissioner. Due to the volatiles load brought on by the processing of shop towels, Cintas would first need to demonstrate that the treatment system could handle the added burden of these compounds. According to their Resource Conservation Strategies the company out-sources all ink towels due to the nature of the waste on the towels.*

**PROCESS AND TREATMENT DESCRIPTION (by DSN)**

*DSN 001-1- laundry processing wastewaters are treated through equalization/oil/water separation, ultrafiltration, ozone acid injection – (through an ozone contact system so to aid in the destruction of volatile organic compounds) and final pH adjustment.*

**RESOURCES USED TO DRAFT PERMIT**

- Federal Effluent Limitation Guideline* 40CFR *name of category*
  - Performance Standards*
  - Federal Development Document*  
*name of category*
  - Treatability Manual*
  - Department File Information*
  - Connecticut Water Quality Standards*
  - Anti-degradation Policy*
  - Coastal Management Consistency Review Form*  
***Permittee is not located within the Coastal boundary and therefore, does not need to fill out the CCR form; per John Gaucher, Coastal Planning, Office of Long Island Sound.***
  - Other - Explain*  
*Water Toxics Program – Reference: Suter, G.W., and C.L. Tsao. 1996. Toxicological Benchmarks for Screening Potential Contaminants of Concern for Effects on Aquatic Biota: 1996 Revision. Oak Ridge National Laboratories. ES/ER/TM-96/R2. Per Traci Iott.*
- Category II – Miscellaneous discharges – Industrial laundries > 50,000 gpd  
Therefore, sampling frequency under this category was monthly.***

**BASIS FOR LIMITATIONS, STANDARDS OR CONDITIONS**

- X Best Professional Judgement (See Other Comments)
- X Case by Case Determination (See Other Comments)  
**Lead-total, Total Volatile Organics**
- X Section 22a-430-4(s) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies  
**Cadmium-total, Chromium-total, Copper-total and Zinc-total**

**GENERAL COMMENTS**

Under the recent permit, the company had specific limits established for each organic constituent, the sum of the compounds totaling 6.1 ppm. However, the re-issued permit was modified to have a single Total Volatile Organic limit using EPA Method 624, rather than have the company test for each separate parameter.

Based on the DMR sampling results for the past 5 years, a 99 percentile was conducted on a per monthly basis to determine the maximum number that the 10 list of volatiles would fall under. However, given that the company was previously only required to test for 10 organic compounds, the DMR data for the past several years would not have provided an accurate history of the full level of compounds that could be found under the 624 scan --as testing for the additional compounds detected under 624 was previously not required under the existing permit.

Therefore, the company conducted additional testing for a Total Volatile Organic Scan under EPA Method 624 on five separate occasions in order to make a more accurate assessment of the level of volatile organics found in the treated wastewater. Based on the sampling analysis provided, the company is able to meet a Total Volatile Organic limit of 2.13 mg/l. When I contacted EML, (The laboratory that conducted the tests), I was informed by one of the chemists that the standard 624 method does not ordinarily include Acetone, Methyl-Ethyl Ketone (MEK), Methyl Isobutyl Ketone (MIBK), Toluene and Xylene. In order to have these particular compounds tested under Method 624, these parameters were specified in the permit.

Therefore, since the Volatile Scan conducted by the facility did not include Acetone, MEK, MIBK, Toluene and Xylene, I reviewed the DMR for that particular month and added in the individual volatile results of these compounds to the total results reported under the Volatile Scan. Per sampling analysis received on 2/4/2004 – only three are listed below. This is demonstrated below as follows:

Sample Dates		Add individual volatile results for respective month to total VOC Result							
Additional Sampling (Feb. 24, 2004 submittal)	DMR Sampling Month 2003	Total VOC Result	Add	DMR Result Acetone	DMR Result MEK	DMR Result MIBK	DMR Result Toluene	DMR Result Xylene	ug/l
(8-19 - 8-20)-03	August	111	+	408	58.7	1	1	1	580.7
(9-24 - 9-25)-03	September	140.1	+	639	139	1	1	1	921.1
11-18-03	November	133.5	+	861	175	10.8	1	1	1,182.3



Furthermore, a cumulative volatile result was calculated using a 99 percentile. This was done to determine whether or not the calculated value would fall below the 2.13 mg/l limit and by observing monitoring results of each individual volatile organic compound reported in the DMRs for the months of January through June 2004. The 99 percentile yielded the following results; January - 1.23 mg/l, February - 1.01 mg/l, March - .813 mg/l, April - 0.897 mg/l, May - 0.850 mg/l and June - 0.956 mg/l, all of which fell under the 2.13 mg/l.

**MEK**

Additionally, there was concern regarding Methyl Ethyl Ketone, also known as 2-butanone. In accordance with the Water Toxics Program, the Department does not have a water quality criteria for MEK in the water quality standards. However, water quality benchmarks for this substance have been derived for the protection of aquatic life. They are as follows:

Acute 240,000 ug/l  
Chronic 14,000 ug/l

The average concentration of exceeded levels for MEK in the past 3 years is 181 ug/l. Therefore, it was determined that the level of MEK would be unlikely to adversely affect the aquatic community, that it was unnecessary to place an individual limit on MEK and that the 2.13 mg/l number would be protective. By and large, the data demonstrated that the volatile results can meet the limit of 2.13 mg/l. EPA Metal Finishing Categorical Limits (used as a guideline) has determined that this number should be safe for the POTW, (40 CFR Part 433) used as a standard in order to set a volatile organic limit of 2.13 mg/l.

#### **Metals, O&G**

Metals levels were below the permitted levels in past 3 years. DMR data revealed that Oil and grease levels were below permitted limits at the POTW, so permitted level remained at 20 and 40 mg/l respectively. Lead was incorporated in the permit due to its presence in the wastewater per DMRs from the laundering of linens and uniforms. Levels of 1.0 mg/l and 1.5 mg/l were maintained as the same levels of the previous permit.

#### **5% number of the lower explosive limit (LEL)**

Due to the fact that the wastestream can potentially contain solvents, a mandate for a lower explosive limit was derived. The 5% number of the lower explosive limit (LEL) on Table A, Footnote 5, regarding successive readings on an explosion hazard meter (at the point of discharge into the sewage collection system), is a protective number consistent with the local sewer ordinance. The appropriate location to monitor would be where the wastewaters leave the property and enter the public sewer. The permittee is responsible for purchasing an explosive gas meter and doing appropriate monitoring. Monthly monitoring recommended.

#### **The New 2.13 mg/l VOC Limit**

Even though individual limits for volatile compounds have been replaced with a total combined limit of 2.13 mg/l, each volatile compound was evaluated to potentially discharge at the new 'raised' limit and was still found to be protective of the waters of the state. Cintas' prior permit had more restricted numbers because previous design of the Branford Water Pollution Control Facility was more sensitive to volatile loading. The old Branford WPCF had a closed high purity oxygen system (covered aeration tanks) and has since been replaced with conventional open tank activated sludge process thereby eliminating any explosive hazard at the aeration tanks.

Based on the 2004 Daily Operation Logs submitted by the company, Cintas has demonstrated water recycling efforts at its facility, reusing as much as 60% to 77% of its water.

Chlorinated Compounds Limit - In addition, there was concerns raised that chlorinated compounds be regulated more tightly. Therefore, an additional limit of 400 ug/l was placed for 1,1,1 Trichloroethane, 1,1,2 Trichloroethylene, 1,1,2,2 Tetrachloroethylene and Methylene Chloride.

A.P.E.'s – Cintas has agreed to cease using laundry chemicals containing APE's and switch to non-APE laundering chemicals.

*P A R T Y L I S T*

Proposed Final Decision in the Matter of Cintas Corporation  
Application No. 199801912

PARTY

REPRESENTED BY

The Applicant

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Branford, CT 06405

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Department of Environmental Protection

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