



## Fire Emergency Incident Report

June 20, 2019 Fire

Liberty Tire Recycling, LLC

9675 Range Line Road, Port St. Lucie, FL 34987

At approximately 7:55 a.m. on June 20, 2019, a suspected equipment failure of a water chiller attached to Artisan Mill resulted in a fire inside building 6 (known as the 6.2 building). Liberty staff immediately implemented the Emergency Response Plan which included response with fire extinguishers, fire cart, and calling 911 to dispatch the fire department at approximately 8:00 am.

The St. Lucie County Fire Dept. (SLCFD) arrived onsite at approximately 8:20 am and began applying water and F-500 foam, provided by Liberty Tire, to the fire at approximately 8:25 am. The fire department directed all Liberty staff offsite for safety reasons. The fire department remained onsite until approximately 3:30 p.m. on June 22nd.

Building 6 is divided into three sections separated by steel walls. The fire impacted sections 1 and 2 but did not spread to section 3. The fire did spread outside the building and damaged equipment including a baghouse, cyclones, compactors and other equipment along the exterior walls of building 6.

At approximately 8:30 a.m. the fire spread north across the onsite paved access roadway to the bagged finished product staging area, which is where 2,000 lb. supersacks of bagged crumb rubber await shipment to customers. The supersacks, their contents and the wooden pallets they sat upon were damaged by the fire. During firefighting activities and efforts to prevent additional materials from burning, the piles of crumb rubber, damaged supersacks and damaged wooden pallets were mixed and turned. Liberty is currently evaluating disposal and reuse options for this material.

By 12:00 p.m. on June 20, 2019 all flames were extinguished. SLCFD remained on-site until 3:30 p.m. June 22, 2019 applying water as necessary to cool the building structures and bagged product storage area.

Liberty engaged an emergency response contractor, Cliff Berry, Inc. ("CBI"), to provide support during this incident. CBI arrived onsite at approximately 4:00 p.m. on June 20, 2019 however firefighting activities were ongoing and were not granted access. CBI returned the morning of June 21st and began to collect firefighting water into a tank truck from around the bagged



finished product staging area. Approximately 5,000 gallons of water were removed and sent offsite for treatment/disposal from June 21-23, 2019.

Firefighting water was contained onsite by the berm along the property boundaries. Water was also contained onsite via the drainage swale which leads to the storm water retention ponds. CBI returned on June 28<sup>th</sup> to remove solid rubber product from neighboring property by use of a vac truck. Small amount of debris was blown on neighboring property due to firefighting activities.

Prior to fire incident, Liberty was in process of working with City of Port St. Lucie and St. Lucie County through contracted engineering firm EDC Inc. with plans to understand what requirements would need to be met to get a main water line ran into the plant for emergency water purposes. Liberty management Rick Douglas (General Manager) and Keith Bloomer (Project Manager) met with EDC Inc. on June 24<sup>th</sup> to discuss expediting the process with engineering drawings to meet with City of Port St. Lucie in timely manner to resolve adequate water availability. In the meantime, Liberty has leased a Jet-Pump to pull emergency water from sediment ponds in the event emergency water is required.

Disposal of fire-damaged finished rubber products is projected to be completed by July 30, 2019. Liberty is formulating its strategy to replace the damaged equipment and repair or replace building structure which is projected for late 2019.

If you should have further questions, please feel free to contact me at (614) 604-2038.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Richard L. Douglas", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Richard L. Douglas – General Manager