

## Region 3 GPRA Baseline RCRA Corrective Action Facility

# Accellent (Formerly Uniform Tubes, Inc. (UTI))

200 West Seventh Avenue  
Trappe, PA 19426  
Congressional District 13  
EPA ID #: PAD002344463  
Last Updated: 07/14/2008

## Current Progress at the Site

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On June 30, 1988, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and UTI entered into an Administrative Order on Consent (Order), requiring UTI to conduct a facility-wide investigation of on-site and off-site contamination, as well as to evaluate potential clean-up alternatives.

The results of this facility investigation concluded that elevated concentrations of trichloroethylene (TCE), 1,1,1 trichloroethane (TCA), and chromium were present in soil and groundwater beneath the facility. The primary source of the TCE and TCA in the groundwater was three 550 gallon underground storage tanks which were located under the main building at the facility. These tanks were emptied and taken out of service in 1977. A secondary source of TCE, TCA and chromium in the groundwater was the intermittent historic discharge of contaminated water from a sump located under the main building to a drainage swale located in the northern portion of the property.

On August 6, 1991, EPA issued for public comment a Statement of Basis which described the various clean-up alternatives evaluated by UTI, as well as EPA's preliminary selection of a clean-up remedy for the facility. On March 31, 1992, EPA and UTI entered into a second Consent Order which outlined the requirements for implementing the final remedy at the facility. UTI continues to collect and treat groundwater at the facility, and both off-site and on-site wells are sampled and analyzed to monitor the constituents of concern as part of an interim measure to insure the continued protection of human health and the environment.

In May 2001, EPA approved the revised cleanup remedy for the facility which consists of installation and operation of a soil vapor extraction system and expansion of the groundwater extraction and remediation. This newly designed final remedy will result in a significant reduction in the amount of water to be removed from underground. The soil vapor extraction system was brought on-line on June 14, 2002. Start up of the newly designed groundwater extraction and remediation occurred on August 12, 2002.

On August 11, 1995, EPA determined that both the Human Exposures and Groundwater Environmental Indicators have been met.

Recently in 2007, the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP) has been conducting an air monitoring program in the Collegetown-Trappe area. In the data collected so far, PADEP found higher than average annual concentrations of TCE which has a significant bearing on excess lifetime cancer risks. PADEP is pursuing voluntary emission reductions from TCE-emitting facilities in the area while continuing to monitor the air. For more information, please contact Francine Carlini, Air Program Manager for the PADEP Southeast

Office at (484) 250-5920 or Lynda Rebarchak, Community Relations Coordinator for the PADEP Southeast Office at (484) 250-5820. An official PADEP news release on the study's findings can be found by following this link:  
<http://www.depweb.state.pa.us/news/cwp/view.asp?a=1278&q=517023>

## **Site Description**

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The Uniform Tubes Inc. (UTI) facility consists of approximately 40 acres located at 200 West 7th Avenue in the Borough of Trappe, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania. Operations at this facility began in 1964, and continue today. UTI manufactures high-precision, small diameter metal tubing and tubular parts.

## **Site Responsibility**

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RCRA Corrective Action activities at this facility are being conducted under the direction of EPA Region 3 with assistance from the State.

## **Contaminants**

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The contaminants of concern at the facility are TCE, TCA, and chromium in the groundwater.

## **Community Interaction**

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On August 6, 1991, EPA issued for public comment a Statement of Basis which described the various clean-up alternatives evaluated by UTI, as well as EPA's preliminary selection of a clean-up remedy for the facility. The Statement of Basis, and the administrative record file for the facility were made available to the public for a forty-five (45) day comment period. A public meeting was held on September 5, 1991 and the public comment period ended on September 20, 1991. On September 30, 1991, EPA issued a Final Decision and Response to Comments which identified the remedy it selected for implementation at the facility, and provided responses to all of the comments received at the public meeting and all written comments received during the public comment period.

There are a number of private drinking wells located within a quarter-mile radius of the facility, some of which contain TCE/TCA that migrated from the facility. All impacted residences were either connected to the municipal water supply system or were provided bottled water by UTI. None of the private drinking water wells now in use are known to have levels of TCE/TCA in excess of acceptable Maximum Contaminant Levels.

## **Institutional Controls**

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Institutional Controls Established - Drinking water well installations controlled by the Montgomery County Health Department's permitting process.

## **Government Contact**

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EPA Project Manager  
Ms. Tran Tran - 3LC30  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - Region III  
1650 Arch Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19103-2029  
Phone: (215) 814-2079  
Email: tran.tran@epa.gov

## **Facility Contact**

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Mr. Jeffrey M. Farina  
Uniform Tubes, Inc.  
Phone: (800) 321-6285

For more information about EPA's corrective action webpage, including Environmental Indicators, please visit our site at: [www.epa.gov/reg3wcmd/correctiveaction.htm](http://www.epa.gov/reg3wcmd/correctiveaction.htm)