



2007 Clean Air Award Recipient

Huntwood Industries

Huntwood Industries is the recipient of the 2007 Clean Air Award. The award is presented annually by SCAPCA to an organization that has consistently demonstrated a commitment to reduce air emissions.

Huntwood Industries is a large cabinet manufacturing facility in Liberty Lake. Their recent and significant investment in air pollution control equipment has resulted in an annual air emissions reduction of 250 tons.

In 2006, Huntwood Industries moved their operations from the Spokane Industrial Park--where they had operated for 18 years--to a new 560,000 square foot facility in Liberty Lake. The facility is the largest cabinet manufacturing plant in the western US and among the 20 largest in the country.

Huntwood's several hundred employees cut, finish, and assemble 1,000 cabinets each day. As part of the cabinet making process, a coat of stain or glaze, a topcoat, and a sealant is spray-applied to each cabinet, in enclosed booths. Herein lies the air quality concern. Stains, coatings and sealants contain volatile organic compounds (VOCs) evaporate readily to the air. VOCs contribute to the formation of ground-level ozone

pollution. Ozone pollution is a concern in the Spokane-area, with summer peak levels approaching current clean air standards.

When designing and constructing their new facility, Huntwood made a large investment in the purchase and installation of two Regenerative Thermal Oxidizers. These oxidizers control VOCs and toxic air pollutants from 17 paint booths and associated ovens at the facility.

Each thermal oxidizer contains two porous beds, filled with high temperature ceramic heat transfer media. The exhaust air from the paint booths and ovens is preheated in the first bed and then passes through a central combustion chamber where the VOCs and toxic air pollutants are heated to ~1500 F and oxidized to carbon dioxide and water vapor. The air then exits through the second bed where heat is transferred from the hot air back into the bed. The gas flow direction is changed automatically every 4 minutes to maintain an even temperature between the two beds in the thermal oxidizer.

The natural gas Thermal Oxidizers destroy over 99% of the emissions produced by the coating process.

This translates to a reduction of over 250 tons of pollutants from being emitted into our airshed.



Tim & Resa Hunt, of Huntwood Industries, recipient of the 2007 Clean Air Award, presented by SCAPCA at a ceremony in January.

SCAPCA recognizes Huntwood Industries for their commitment to reduce emissions, which benefits the entire community. As the 2007 Clean Air Award recipient, your hard work and dedication to improve air quality is commended. ■