**ENVIRONMENT RISK ASSESSMENT**

**Site details**

**Site name: G E Heard & Sons Ltd**

**Site address: Marshlands Road, Farlington, Portsmouth, Hampshire, PO6 1SS**

Assessed By: David Heard

Date: 03/04/25

## 1. Overview

This environmental risk assessment identifies and evaluates risks associated with the operation of a drum reconditioning facility adjacent to a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). The assessment includes identification of hazards, receptors (including human, environmental, and ecological), exposure pathways, and risk mitigation controls. It supports regulatory compliance and best practice environmental protection.

### Hazard: Noise from Equipment and Vehicles

Source: Heavy plant, drum washing, transport movements

Pathways: Airborne sound

Receptors: Site workers, nearby residents, wildlife (especially within the adjacent SSSI)

Consequences: Disturbance to wildlife breeding patterns; community nuisance

Controls:

* - All noisy activities conducted during normal working hours
* - Regular servicing of equipment
* - Strategic location of noisy operations away from the southern SSSI boundary

Residual Risk: Low

### Hazard: Wash Water and Surface Runoff

Source: Washing processes, rainfall contact with work areas

Pathways: Drainage to interceptor → foul sewer (non-polluting only), potential overflow or bund breach

Receptors: Surface water, soil, groundwater, SSSI wetlands

Consequences: Pollution of water bodies, ecological impact on nearby habitats

Controls:

* - Wash water stored in IBCs in bunded area; max 6 months
* - Collected by licensed contractors
* - Interceptor regularly inspected and maintained
* - Consent in place for foul sewer discharge

Residual Risk: Low

### Hazard: Spills and Leaks of Chemicals

Source: Handling/storing drums with residual chemicals or processing agents

Pathways: Soil contact, runoff, groundwater infiltration

Receptors: Soil, groundwater, nearby water courses, SSSI, workers

Consequences: Environmental pollution, health hazards, SSSI degradation

Controls:

* - Strategically placed spill kits and emergency containment
* - Staff training and response drills
* - Bunds inspected and maintained regularly
* - All drums fitted with closures before stacking

Residual Risk: Low

### Hazard: Airborne Emissions (Dust and Vapours)

Source: Drum processing, dry contaminants, cleaning fumes

Pathways: Airborne dispersion

Receptors: Site workers, nearby residents, local air quality, SSSI flora/fauna

Consequences: Respiratory irritation, deposition on nearby habitats

Controls:

* - Dust suppression techniques where applicable
* - Use of enclosed systems during high-vapour operations
* - Regular maintenance to reduce fugitive emissions

Residual Risk: Low

### Hazard: Odour

Source: Unpleasant smells from chemical residues and washing processes

Pathways: Airborne diffusion of odorous compounds

Receptors: Nearby residents, workers, and wildlife in the SSSI

Consequences: Nuisance to residents

Controls:

* - Croffles installed within drum washing equipment
* - Pre-treat drums with Oduor neutralizing agent

Residual Risk: Low – Control measures significantly reduce odour emissions

### Hazard: Firewater and Emergency Events

Source: Fire or accidental release involving chemicals

Pathways: Firewater runoff to drainage/soil/groundwater

Receptors: Local surface water, foul sewer, SSSI environment

Consequences: Toxic runoff, potential spread to protected ecosystems

Controls:

* - Firewater containment via bunds
* - Emergency plan and spill retention procedures in place
* - Regular fire drills and equipment maintenance
* - Staff trained in incident response

Residual Risk: Low

## Assessment Conclusion

The updated environmental risk assessment includes consideration of key hazards related to noise, spills, wash water, dust, vapours, and emergency events. Receptors including the adjacent SSSI and sensitive local habitats are now explicitly identified and addressed. With appropriate pollution prevention infrastructure and management procedures, overall environmental risk is considered LOW. Ongoing monitoring, training, and compliance with regulatory obligations are critical to maintaining this status.