



Case Study of New York Blower Company

Keys to Success

-  **Project Description**
-  **Economic Value**
-  **Challenges & Advice**
-  **Benefits**
-  **Stewardship Meaning**



New York Blower Company’s (NYB) Leitchfield, Ky. facility is part of a company dating back to 1889, when two brothers, August and J. W. Mathis, opened a sheet metal shop in Chicago. By 1894, the Mathis Brothers Co. bought New York Blower Company, a fan manufacturer headquartered in New York City, and whose factory moved to LaPorte, Ind., in 1919, when NYB became one of 12 founding members of the National Association of Fan Manufacturers.

NYB manufactures fans and blowers for industrial and original equipment manufacturer (OEM) marketplaces. The company, now based in Willowbrook, Ill., has several subsidiaries, Mechanovent, which makes air handling equipment and MAS Air Systems, which provides customized fans to the OEM and industrial markets, specializing in engineered and high-temperature applications.

company’s expanding customer base in the southern part of the country. The 82,000-plus-square-foot manufacturing space has been outfitted to produce small and mid-sized products. There are 50 employees, although that number may increase. Before establishing the facility, the company contacted state officials for guidance about regulatory requirements.

“We took the philosophy that we have nothing to hide and knowledge to gain,” says Jay Amberg.

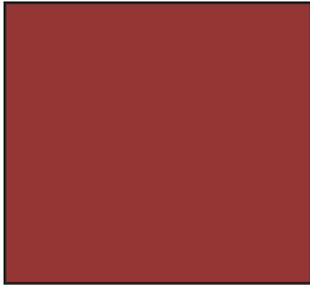
“We met a senior project manager from the Kentucky Cabinet for Economic Development, who then steered us to an environmental compliance specialist from the Division of Compliance Assistance (DCA),” explains Jay

Amberg, Regulatory Compliance/Safety Trainer for NYB. “Since the company’s Indiana location holds a Federally Enforcable State Operating Permit (FESOP), we knew an air permit would be needed for the Leitchfield site. We needed assistance when it came to developing and submitting an air application, and the DCA staff walked us through each step with patience. We took the philosophy that we have

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In 2012, NYB purchased and opened the Leitchfield facility to better serve the



nothing to hide and knowledge to gain.”

NYB provided documentation on the facility’s processes and operations, including Safety Data Sheets, machine specifications, equipment parameters and potential throughput to DCA staff for assistance in drafting an air permit application. In addition to assisting with a draft air application for submittal to the Division for Air Quality (DAQ), the DCA staff member compiled spreadsheets for required recordkeeping, which are still being used today.

Amberg explains, “We used DCA’s training resources by attending a webinar explaining how to complete the reporting requirements for our air permit, attended a training session in Frankfort and had a one-on-one consultation with DCA staff.”



The laser area where sheet metal is cut

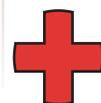


In Kentucky, the facility qualified as a small business and not a major source of air pollutants, and therefore was eligible for DCA’s detailed permit assistance. With information from NYB, a DCA staff member spent many hours compiling a draft permit application, at no charge to NYB.



“We didn’t submit the DAQ application or obtain a permit as result of an inspection or fine. We obtained a permit because it was the right thing to do,” explains Amberg. “We were told we would have an annual inspection of our facility by DAQ, and we did. We followed the advice we were given, submitted the proper reports, and all went well. We continue to comply with our air permit.”

Amberg suggests “being aware of regulatory requirements, maintaining records, submitting required forms and reports on time and everything will fall into place. This may be time-consuming, but in the long run, it’s easier for all of those involved. The staff at DCA are experts in their field and very knowledgeable.”



NYB saved time and money by contacting DCA staff for



A fan produced at New York Blower

guidance and not having to hire a consultant. The process moved smoothly since the company was made aware of the potential requirements for a new industrial facility entering the Kentucky marketplace.



By understanding the regulatory requirements, the company sought the appropriate DEP approvals prior to operation, as required by regulation, and utilizes proper pollution prevention controls to minimize air emissions to the environment.

HELPFUL HINT: Contact our Environmental Compliance Assistance staff when you have questions about your environmental obligations. 800-926-8111