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# **Environmental Permit**

Issued under the Environmental Protection Act, Cap.20:05, Laws of Guyana, the Environmental Protection (Amendment) Act, 2005, and the Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations, 2000

Reference No.:	20240229-HPMPB		
Fees:	Medium (C2) i.e., US\$ 800 per year		
Total Fees:	US \$ 4,000 for Five years (August 2024 – July 2029)		
Address:	Harris Paints Guyana Limited Lot 30, Beterverwagting East Coast Demerara, Guyana		
Activities:	<b>Operation of a Paint Manufacturing and Storage Facility</b>		

Harris Paints Guyana Limited, hereinafter referred to as the "Permit Holder," is hereby authorised in accordance with the Environmental Protection Act, Cap.20:05, Laws of Guyana, the Environmental Protection (Amendment) Act, 2005, and the Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations, 2000, to operate a Paint Manufacturing and Storage Facility at Lot 30, Beterverwagting, East Coast Demerara, hereinafter referred to as the "Project," in a manner indicated in the Application for Environmental Authorisation submitted on February 29, 2024, and subject to the terms and conditions set forth herein and in any forthcoming regulations, made under the said Environmental Protection Act and/or any other applicable laws, best practices, guidelines and standards relevant to this project.

The Permit Holder, His Servants, Agents, and/or Sub- Contractors shall comply with the following Terms and Conditions for Operation:

## 1.0. OPERATION

- 1.1. An application shall be made to the Agency to vary this Permit in instances where it becomes necessary to:
  - i. Change the construction, operation, structure, or layout of the facility and all associated buildings;
  - ii. Change equipment, machine, apparatus, mechanism, system, or technology serving the facility;
  - iii. Change the position and design of any outlet at the point or points of discharge of effluents; or
  - iv. Effect any other change outlined in Regulation 20(3) of the Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations.

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- 1.2. All employees and third parties under the Project's direction shall be made aware of the conditions of the Environmental Authorisation.
- 1.3. All employees, including sub-contractors, shall be equipped with the relevant Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) such as protective eye and headwear, respirators, safety vests, chemically resistant gloves, protective boots, coveralls, etc.
- 1.4. The Project shall provide training on good environmental practices. Annual training records shall be maintained on-site and made available for inspection by the EPA upon request.
- 1.5. A well-equipped first aid kit shall be available at the work site. Communication and transportation systems shall be in place to respond to emergencies.
- 1.6. Emergency spill clean-up kits shall be maintained at the Project for response to spills. Kits must contain absorbent materials, drain seals, and other appropriate tools for clean-up. Kits must be readily available and clearly identified at the Project.
- 1.7. An Emergency Response Plan (ERP) shall be submitted to the Agency within three (3) months of receipt of the Environmental Permit.
- 1.8. Guyana Fire Service Approval shall be maintained annually and submitted to the Agency as a component of the **Annual Report.**
- 1.9. Fire prevention and control equipment shall be maintained in accordance with this **Guyana Fire Service Approval.**
- 1.10. Adhere to the requirements of the Occupational Safety and Health Act, Cap. 99:01, Laws of Guyana.

# 2.0 STORAGE OF PAINT MANUFACTURING CHEMICALS

- A register of the quantities of paint and solvent stored on-site shall be maintained. Registered information shall be maintained on-site and made available for inspection by the EPA upon request.
- 2.2 Paint and paint mixing solvent shall be stored in accordance with the manufacturer's directions or Safety Data Sheets.
  - i. Safety Data Sheets for the paint and paint mixing solvent shall be readily available and easily accessible during the Project.
  - ii. Copies of the MSDS/SDS shall be posted in areas accessible to all staff onsite and sensitization be done on these locations.
- 2.3 Chemicals shall be stored away from ignition sources. 'No Smoking' signs shall be posted where these materials are handled and stored.



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- 2.4 Storage areas for paint manufacturing chemicals shall be clearly labeled, secured, and well-illuminated when not in use. The following warning signs shall be clearly posted:
  - i. Danger- Chemical Storage Area "Authorised Personnel Only"
  - ii. Read and follow all label directions
  - iii. No Smoking
  - iv. No Eating or Drinking
- 2.5 Cabinets or rooms used for storage of flammable chemicals shall be well illuminated and clearly labelled accordingly:
  - i. Flammable and combustible liquid storage cabinets must be labelled "FLAMMABLE-KEEP FIRE AWAY" in conspicuous red lettering.
  - ii. Cabinets used to store other chemicals must be labelled "HAZARDOUS-KEEP FIRE AWAY" in conspicuous red lettering
- 2.6 Liquid chemicals shall be stored within secondary containment (bunded areas) to minimise the spread/release of spillage from the storage area. Secondary containment shall possess the following characteristics:
  - Capacity of the secondary containment facility shall be equal to 110% of the greatest volume of liquid stored within the largest storage container;
  - ii. Walls of the secondary containment facility shall be constructed of impervious materials to prevent leakage;
  - iii. Liners/flooring of the secondary containment facility shall be constructed of impervious material such as asphalt or concrete and designed to withstand foreseeable loading conditions.
- 2.7 Containers of paint manufacturing chemicals shall be clearly labelled in accordance with the Globally Harmonised System of Classification and Labelling. The following must be evident:
  - i. Signal Word
  - ii. GHS Symbols (Hazard Pictograms)
  - iii. Manufacturer Information
  - iv. Precautionary Statements/First Aid
  - v. Hazard Statements
  - vi. Product Name or Identifiers
- 2.8 Paint products shall not be stored in the central receiving area or corridors for more than twenty-four (24) hours post-delivery.
- 2.9 Chemicals shall be stored away from non-hazardous materials.
- 2.10 The lead (Pb) allowable limit for paint (*U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission Standard*) stored at this site shall not exceed 0.009% (90 ppm per dry weight).



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### 3.0 PAINT BLENDING

- 3.1 Raw materials used in the paint manufacturing process shall not be manufactured on-site.
- 3.2 All paint blending activities shall be conducted within the confines of the secondary containment.
- 3.3 Paint blending equipment shall at all times be operated, serviced, and maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications. Maintenance records shall be maintained and made available to the EPA upon request.
- Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for the safe use of equipment shall be established and maintained on-site. These SOPs shall be made available for inspection by the EP $\Lambda$  upon request.
- 3.5 All employees involved in the management of paint blending chemicals shall be trained on Hazardous Material Communication and Emergency Preparedness Response. Training reports shall be maintained and made available for inspection by the EPA upon request.
- 3.6 A trained operator or carrier shall at all times supervise, monitor, and control the blending of paint to prevent overfill and spill during the entire period of blending.

# 4.0 NOISE QUALITY

4.1 Noise emissions shall be monitored at the boundaries of the property to determine compliance with **Guyana National Bureau of Standards (GNBS)** Guidelines for Noise Emissions into the Environment, not exceeding the **Industrial Limits** listed below:

Industrial Limits: 100 dB (Day-time (06:00 h -18:00 h)) 80 dB (Night-time (18:00 h - 06:00 h))

Noise Quality monitoring shall be conducted **annually** in accordance with the parameters listed above by trained personnel utilizing calibrated equipment. Records of each monitoring exercise shall be maintained, and results will be submitted to the Agency as a component of the Project's **Annual Report.** 

- 4.2 Paint manufacturing equipment and machinery shall be operated indoors to reduce the impacts of noise and vibrations on the surrounding environments.
- 4.3 All equipment and machinery shall be placed upon foundations adequately designed to ensure effective damping of vibrations.
- 4.4 All significant noise-producing equipment, such as generators, shall be equipped with appropriate silencers or mufflers and/or are enclosed in suitable acoustic

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enclosures where necessary to reduce noise levels impacting the surrounding environment to achieve compliance with Guyana National Bureau of Standards (GNBS) requirement.

# 5.0 AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT

- Adhere to the provisions of the Environmental Protection (Air Quality) Regulations, 2000.
- 5.2 Air quality monitoring shall be conducted at the boundary of the property during normal operations to assess the levels of the following air pollutants in accordance with the WHO Air Quality Guidelines 2021:

Air Pollutant	Averaging Time	Maximum Permissible Level	Frequency
$PM_{2.5}$	24h	15 μg	Bi-annual
$PM_{10}$	24h	45 μg	Bi-annual

Monitoring of the parameters above shall be conducted at the boundary of the property, and the results analysed at a certified laboratory or by trained personnel using calibrated equipment. The analysis shall be submitted to the Agency as part of the **Annual Report**.

5.3 Volatile Organic Compounds monitoring shall be tested and compared with results from within the facility against the results to the outside at the extractor fan and at the boundary to determine dispersal concentration and distance, in accordance with the Australian EPA Air Quality Policy 2016:

Ingredients	Averaging Time	Maximum Concentration Level (ppm)	Frequency
Ethylene Glycol	3min	2.2 mg/m3	Annual
Xylene	3min	2.7 ppm	Annual
Toluene	3min	3.2 ppm	Annual
Acetone	3min	16.7 ppm	Annual
Methyl Ethyl Ketone	3min	4.9 ppm	Annual
Propylene Glycol	3min	3.3 ppm	Annual
Formaldehyde	3min	0.033 ppm	Annual
Styrene	3min	1.64 ppm	Annual

Monitoring of the parameters above shall be conducted and the results analysed at a certified laboratory or by trained personnel using calibrated equipment. The analysis shall be submitted to the Agency as part of the **Annual Report**.



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- Extractor fans consisting of charcoal filters shall be maintained in the Paint and 5.4 Solvent storage areas and the Paint-Blending area.
- Paint storage and blending areas shall maintain ventilation in accordance with one 5.5 of the following to minimize the accumulation of noxious fumes:

Gravity ventilation to the outside with a capacity of one cubic foot per i.

minute per square foot or floor space; or

Mechanical ventilation with on/ off switches at points of ingress that ii. are capable of exhausting to the outside.

#### **WATER QUALITY** 6.0

- All operations shall adhere to the provisions of the Environmental Protection 6.1 (Water Quality) Regulations, 2000.
- Point source discharges are strictly prohibited in receiving waterways. 6.2
- Wastewater generated from the paint manufacturing process shall be reused in 6.3 subsequent paint manufacturing.
- Any spills occurring during handling and loading of chemicals and paint blending 6.4 shall be immediately cleaned and disposed of as guided by the respective Safety Data Sheet at an EPA-authorised disposal facility.
- Flooring and drains shall be maintained with protective coatings to prevent 6.5 seepage, damage, or deterioration resulting from contact with spilled chemicals.
- Drainage systems shall be maintained and capable of handling the probable 6.6 maximum precipitation during a storm event.

#### HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT 7.0

- Adhere to the provisions of the Environmental Protection (Hazardous 7.1 Waste Management) Regulations, 2000.
- Paint and solvent containers shall not be filled with washout water or any other 7.2 liquid.
- Paint and solvent containers shall not contain in excess of 1% of total contents 7.3 before disposing of the container.
- Hazardous waste areas shall be bunded/ curbed to contain any spilled hazardous 7.4 wastes. This area shall satisfy the following requirements:
  - Low traffic i.
  - No floor drains ii.
  - The bunded area shall provide 110% containment of the largest iii.

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### volume stored therein.

- 7.5 The Hazardous Waste Storage areas shall be clearly labelled with the following warning signs:
  - i. "Hazardous Waste Storage Area"
  - ii. Danger- "Authorized Personnel Only"
  - iii. No Smoking
- 7.6 Hazardous waste shall be stored away from ignition sources and in accordance with their hazard characteristics compatibility.
- 7.7 Hazardous waste containers shall be labelled with the following:
  - i. The words "Hazardous Waste"
  - ii. The type of waste
  - iii. Beginning accumulation date- The date when the container was first placed in the Hazardous Waste Storage Area. Should the hazardous waste container be reused, the date hazardous waste was first placed in the container shall be recorded on the container.
- 7.8 Hazardous waste storage containers shall remain closed during storage, except when it is necessary to add or remove waste.
- 7.9 Hazardous waste storage containers shall be inspected weekly for signs of leakage, deterioration, or corrosion and damaged containers **must be** replaced **immediately.** A summarised inspection report shall be compiled and made available for inspection by the EPA upon request.
- 7.10 All hazardous waste shall be collected, treated, and disposed of by an EPA-authorised waste disposal facility.
- 7.11 The Project shall retain a signed copy of the **Waste Manifest Form** submitted by the Hazardous Waste Transporter for a period of three years. The copies shall be maintained on-site, and an annual summary of these records shall be submitted to the EPA as a component of the **Annual Report.**

### 8.0 WASTE MANAGEMENT

- 8.1 In accordance with the **Environmental Protection (Litter Enforcement) Regulations**, **2013**, promote good sanitation and solid waste disposal practices on site. Covered garbage receptacles shall be placed upon impervious bases at strategic locations, both within and outside the facility.
- 8.2 Burning of solid waste **is strictly prohibited**. All solid waste shall be disposed of by an EPA-Authorised Waste Disposal Company.
- 8.3 The disposal of solid waste into the environment is **strictly prohibited.** All solid waste shall be disposed of by an EPA-authorised Waste Management Company.

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- 8.4 All byproducts (sludge) generated as a result of the waste treatment system shall be collected and disposed of by an EPA-authorised Waste Disposal Company.
- 8.5 Good housekeeping, sanitary, and hygienic practices shall be maintained at all times. The facility's drains and surroundings shall be kept free of vegetation and litter.
- 8.6 Promote waste minimization and the reuse and/or recycling of waste and other materials where practical.
- 8.7 Waste collection areas shall be kept clean. Dry methods shall be used when cleaning around waste handling and disposal areas (e.g., sweeping, use of absorbents.
- 8.8 The Permit Holder shall maintain a septic tank system on site in accordance with the Guyana National Bureau of Standards (GNBS) Code of Practice for the Design and Construction of Septic Tanks and Associated Secondary Treatment and Disposal Systems:

i) The septic tank shall not be located within 1.5 meters of a building or property boundary;

- ii) septic tanks shall be installed with a sand and charcoal filter bed or other appropriate design for further treatment; and
- iii) shall be accessible for cleaning and de-sludging.
- 8.9 Any modification to the Septic tank shall be in accordance with the Guyana National Bureau of Standards (GNBS) Code of Practice for the Design and Construction of Septic Tanks and Associated Secondary Treatment and Disposal Systems.

# 9.0 COMPLIANCE MONITORING AND REPORTING

- 9.1 Notify the Environmental Protection Agency within **one (1) hour** of the discovery of the occurrence of environmental emergencies (e.g., oil spills, hazardous materials/wastes, and chemicals sudden onset disaster, natural technological or human-induced factors that cause or threaten to cause severe environmental damage as well as harm to human health or livelihood). Notification as prescribed by Section 19(3)(a) of the Environmental Protection Act, shall be submitted to the EPA within **twenty-four (24) hours** of discovery of the incident occurring.
- 9.2 Monitor the implementation of the conditions of this Permit insofar as they involve adherence by your employees.
- 9.3 Notify the Agency in writing of any change of name or ownership of the Permit Holder's facility within thirty (30) days after the change occurs.
- 9.4 Notify the Agency within twenty-one (21) days in the event of death, bankruptcy, liquidation, or receivership of the Permit Holder or if the Company becomes a party to an amalgamation.

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into the environment, of any contaminant in any amount, concentration or level excess of that prescribed by the regulations or stipulated by this Environmental Permit, pursuant to s. 19 of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.

- 10.5 The Permit Holder shall be liable to compensate any person who suffers any loss or damage as a result of contravening conditions 10.3 and 10.4 of this Environmental Permit, pursuant to s. 19 of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.
- 10.6 The Permit Holder shall not be indemnified by the Agency for any activity that causes or is likely to cause pollution to the environment, resulting from adverse effects through the discharge, any contaminant in any amount, concentration, ultra-hazardous substances, chemicals or otherwise, and shall be rendered liable to prosecution and to penalties prescribed under the Environmental Protection Act and Regulations.
- 10.7 The Permit Holder shall be liable of any gross negligence or willful misconduct caused by the Permit Holder, his Servants and/or Agents, to the environment, biodiversity, protected species and natural habitat with respect to any release, discharge, or spill, of contaminant fluids, oil or lubricants.
- 10.8 Should the Permit Holder contravene or be likely to contravene any condition of this Permit, the Agency (EPA) may serve on him an Enforcement Notice in accordance with Section 26 of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.
- 10.9 Where it appears to the Agency that the Permit Holder is engaged in any activity that may pose a serious threat to natural resources or the environment, or a risk of serious pollution of the environment or any damage to public health, the EPA may issue to the Permit Holder a Prohibition Notice, which may order him to immediately cease the offending activity, in accordance with Section 27 of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.
- 10.10 The EPA reserves the right to conduct regular inspections of the Permit Holder's construction activities as part of its monitoring and enforcement requirements under the Environmental Protection Act, Cap 20:05, and the Environmental Protection (Amendment) Act, 2005, and Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations, 2000.
- 10.11 The Permit Holder, His Servants and/or Agents shall at all times, allow entry to the permitted facility to any Officer designated by the EPA for the purposes of conducting inspections or any other legitimate business of the Agency. Pursuant to Section 38 of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana, it is an offence to assault, obstruct or hinder an authorised person in the execution of his/her duty under the said Act or its Regulations and the Permit Holder shall be

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- 9.5 Maintain and submit to the Agency records of the type, composition, and quantity of contaminant released (i.e., any solid, liquid, gas, odour, sound, vibration, radiation, heat or combination of any of them).
- 9.6 Submit an **Annual Report** to the EPA on your compliance with this Environmental Permit on or before **March 31**, each year.
- 9.7 Report to the Agency any non-compliance(s) with the Environmental Permit:
  - i. Within **twenty-four (24) hours** of the time the Holder of the Environmental Permit becomes aware of the non-compliance outlining the anticipated manner in which human health or the environment may be impacted.
  - ii. Within **seventy-two (72) hours** of the time the Holder of the Environmental Permit becomes aware of the non-compliance, submit to the Agency a written report containing a description of the non-compliance, its cause, the period of non-compliance, including exact dates and time and the anticipated time it is expected to continue if the non-compliance(s) has not been corrected.
- 9.8 Comply with any lawful directions given by the EPA from time to time in furtherance of the implementation of any international or other obligation for the environmental protection of Guyana.
- 9.9 It is the responsibility of the Permit Holder to ensure the permitted activity and premises are secured and that all practicable steps necessary to prevent fires, explosions, leaks, or suspected leaks and spills at the permitted premises are taken.

# 10.0 INSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY/LIABILITIES

- 10.1 The Permit Holder shall be liable for any material environmental harm caused by polluting the environment, pursuant to s. 39 of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.
- 10.2 The Permit Holder shall be liable for any serious environmental harm caused by polluting the environment, pursuant to s. 39 of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.
- 10.3 The Permit Holder shall be liable for any activity that causes or is likely to cause pollution of the environment unless all reasonable and practicable measures are taken to prevent or minimize any resulting adverse effect, pursuant to s. 19 of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana.
- 10.4 The Permit Holder shall be liable for discharging, causing or permitting the entry



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liable to penalties prescribed under paragraph (c) of the Fifth Schedule for doing so.

- 10.12 The EPA has the right to modify, cancel or suspend this Permit for breach of any of the terms and conditions contained herein.
- 10.13 This Environmental Permit is not the final consent; all relevant Permissions should be obtained from other regulatory bodies for continued operation.
- 10.14 This Environmental Permit is effective for the period stipulated herein; August 2024 to July 2029.
- 10.15 This Environmental Permit shall remain valid until **July 31, 2029**, unless otherwise suspended, cancelled, modified, or varied, in accordance with the provisions of this Permit or the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana, the Environmental Protection (Amendment) Act, 2005, and the Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations, 2000.
- 10.16 This Permit must be renewed by submitting a completed Application Form for Renewal of Environmental Authorisation to the Agency at least six months before this Permit expires, that is, no later than **January 31**, **2029**.
- 10.17 Any late submission of renewal application (s) after the specified date as stated above, may require the Permit Holder to pay, in addition to renewal fee, a late penalty fee (accruing at the time such obligation was first owed for renewal) at a rate of two thousand dollars (GY\$2000.00) per day for every business day late, until such renewal application is submitted to the Agency, without prejudice to any other rights of the Permit Holder in connection therewith.
- 10.18 Failure to comply with the requirements of this Permit or with applicable laws and regulations, whether existing or forthcoming, shall render the Permit Holder liable to prosecution and to penalties, inclusive of civil penalties, injunctive relief and imprisonment, as prescribed under the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana, the Environmental Protection Regulations and other applicable laws of Guyana.

Signed by Shamfah Ka Kemraj Parsram Executive Director

yaclon behalf of the Environmental Protection Agency.

Executive Directo

Date

2024.08-23

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I hereby accept the above terms and conditions upon which this Environmental Permit is granted and agree to abide by the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, the Environmental Protection (Amendment) Act, 2005, and the Environmental Protection (Authorisations) Regulations, 2000, in any forthcoming regulations, guidelines, best practices, and standards made under this Act.

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