

U.S. Department of Labor
Occupational Safety and Health Administration
2183 Northlake Parkway
Building 7, Suite 110
Tucker, GA 30084
Phone: (770)493-6644 FAX: (770)493-7725



Citation and Notification of Penalty

To:
Thomson Plastics, Inc.
and its successors
P.O. Box 1258
Thomson, GA 30824

Inspection Number: 315741835
Inspection Date(s): 02/07/2012-02/09/2012
Issuance Date: 07/16/2012

Inspection Site:
130 Quality Drive N.W.
Thomson, GA 30824

The violation(s) described in this Citation and Notification of Penalty is (are) alleged to have occurred on or about the day(s) the inspection was made unless otherwise indicated within the description given below.

This Citation and Notification of Penalty (this Citation) describes violations of the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970. The penalty(ies) listed herein is (are) based on these violations. Please refer to the enclosed booklet (OSHA 3000) which outlines your rights and responsibilities and which should be read in conjunction with this form.

Posting - The law requires that a copy of this Citation and Notification of Penalty be posted immediately in a prominent place at or near the location of the violation(s) cited herein, or , if it is not practicable because of the nature of the employer's operations, where it will be readily observable by all affected employees. This Citation must remain posted until the violation(s) cited herein has (have) been abated, or for 3 working days (excluding weekends and Federal holidays), whichever is longer. The penalty dollar amounts need not be posted and may be marked out or covered up prior to posting.

Penalty Payment - Penalties are due within 15 working days of receipt of this notification unless contested. (See the enclosed booklet and the additional information provided related to the Debt Collection Act of 1982). Make your check or money order payable to "DOL-OSHA". Please indicate the Inspection Number on the remittance.

OSHA does not agree to any restrictions or conditions or endorsements put on any check or money order for less than the full amount due, and will cash the check or money order as if these restrictions, conditions, or endorsements do not exist.

Informal Conference - An informal conference is not required. However, if you wish to have such a conference you may request one with the Area Director during the 15 working day contest period. During such an informal conference you may present any evidence or views which you believe would support an adjustment to the citation(s) and/or penalty(ies).

If you are considering a request for an informal conference to discuss any issues related to this Citation and Notification of Penalty, you must take care to schedule it early enough to allow time to contest after the informal conference, should you decide to do so. Please keep in mind that a written letter of intent to contest must be submitted to the Area Director within 15 working days of your receipt of this Citation. The running of this contest period is not interrupted by an informal conference.

If you decide to request an informal conference, please complete, remove and post the page 4 Notice to Employees next to this Citation and Notification of Penalty as soon as the time, date, and place of the informal conference have been determined. Be sure to bring to the conference any and all supporting documentation of existing conditions as well as any abatement steps taken thus far. If conditions warrant, we can enter into an informal settlement agreement which amicably resolves this matter without litigation or contest.

Right to Contest - You have the right to contest this Citation and Notification of Penalty. You may contest all citation items or only individual items. You may also contest proposed penalties and/or abatement dates without contesting the underlying violations. Unless you inform the Area Director in writing that you intend to contest the citation(s) and/or proposed penalty(ies) within 15 working days after receipt, the citation(s) and the proposed penalty(ies) will become a final order of the Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission and may not be reviewed by any court or agency.

Notification of Corrective Action - For each violation which you do not contest, you are required by 29 CFR 1903.19 to submit an Abatement Certification to the Area Director of the OSHA office issuing the citation and identified above. The certification must be sent by you within 10 calendar days of the abatement date indicated on the citation. For **Willful and Repeat** violations, documents (examples: photos, copies of receipts, training records, etc.) demonstrating that abatement is complete must accompany the certification.

Where the citation is classified as **Serious** and the citations state that the abatement documentation is required, documents such as those described above are required to be submitted along with the abatement certificate. If the citation indicates that the violation was corrected during the inspection, no abatement certification is required for that item.

All Abatement verification documents must contain the following information: 1) Your name and address; 2) the inspection number (found on front page); 3) the citation and the citation item number(s) to which the submission relates; 4) a statement that the information is accurate; 5) the signature of the employer or employer's authorized representative; 6) the date the hazard was corrected; 7) a brief statement of how the hazard was corrected; and 8) a statement that affected employees and their representatives have been informed of the abatement.

The Law also requires a copy of all abatement verification documents, required by 29 CFR 1903.19 to be sent to OSHA, also be posted at the location where the violation appeared and the corrective action took place.

You should be aware that OSHA publishes information on its inspection and citation activity on the Internet under the provisions of the Electronic Freedom of Information Act. The information related to your inspection will be available 30 calendar days after the Citation Issuance Date. You are encouraged to review the information concerning your establishment at **WWW.OSHA.GOV**. If you have any dispute with the accuracy of the information displayed, please contact this office.

Employer Discrimination Unlawful - The law prohibits discrimination by an employer against an employee for filing a complaint or for exercising any rights under this Act. An employee who believes that he/she has been discriminated against may file a complaint no later than 30 days after the discrimination occurred with the U.S. Department of Labor Area Office at the address shown above.

Employer Rights and Responsibilities - The enclosed booklet (OSHA 3000) outlines additional employer rights and responsibilities and should be read in conjunction with this notification.

Notice to Employees - The law gives an employee or his/her representative the opportunity to object to any abatement date set for a violation if he/she believes the date to be unreasonable. The contest must be mailed to the U.S. Department of Labor Area Office at the address shown above and postmarked within 15 working days (excluding weekends and Federal holidays) of the receipt by the employer of this Citation and Notification of Penalty.



IN THE EVENT THAT YOU REQUEST AN INFORMAL CONFERENCE
PLEASE FILL OUT AND POST THIS NOTICE

NOTICE TO EMPLOYEES OF INFORMAL CONFERENCE

An informal conference has been scheduled with OSHA to discuss the citation(s) issued on 07/16/2012. The conference will be held at the OSHA office located at 2183 Northlake Parkway, Building 7, Suite 110, Tucker, GA, 30084 on _____ at _____. Employees and/or representatives of employees have a right to attend an informal conference.

CERTIFICATION OF CORRECTIVE ACTION WORKSHEET

Company Name: Thomson Plastics, Inc.
Inspection Site: 130 Quality Drive N.W., Thomson, GA 30824
Inspection Number: 315741835
Issuance Date: 07/16/2012

List the specific method of correction for each item on this citation in the package that does not read "Corrected During Inspection" and return this page with the signed Informal Settlement Agreement to: **U.S. Department of Labor - Occupational Safety and Health Administration, 2183 Northlake Parkway, Building 7, Suite 110, Tucker, GA 30084**

Name of the Company Official **Date**

Title

Note: 29 USC 666.(g): Whoever knowingly makes any false statements, representation, or certification in any application, record, plan or other documents filed or required to be maintained pursuant to the Act, shall, upon conviction, be punished by a fine of not more than \$10,000, or by imprisonment for not more than six months or both.

Posting: A copy of the completed Corrective Action Worksheet should be posted for employee review.



Citation and Notification of Penalty

Company Name: Thomson Plastics, Inc.
Inspection Site: 130 Quality Drive N.W., Thomson, GA 30824

The alleged violations below have been grouped because they involve similar or related hazards that may increase the potential for illness.

Citation 1 Item 1a Type of Violation: **Serious**

29 CFR 1910.95(g)(5)(i): Baseline audiograms were not established within 6 months of an employee's first exposure for each employee whose exposure to noise equaled or exceeded an 8 hour time weighted average of 85 DBA:

Thomson Plastics, Inc., Thomson, GA - An employee feeding a large grinder was exposed to noise at a TWA level of 87 dBA, exceeding the action level of 85 dBA. The exposure was derived from a personal sample taken over 373 minutes period. Zero exposure was considered for the unsampled period of 107 minutes. A baseline audiogram had not been established within six months, on or about 2/8/12.

In accordance with 29 CFR 1903.19(d), abatement certification is required for this violation (using the CERTIFICATION OF CORRECTIVE ACTION WORKSHEET), and in addition, documentation demonstrating that abatement is complete must be included with your certification. This documentation may include, but is not limited to, evidence of the purchase or repair of the equipment, photographic or video evidence of abatement or other written records.

Date By Which Violation Must be Abated:	08/30/2012
Proposed Penalty:	\$ 5500.00

See pages 1 through 5 of this citation and notification of penalty for information on employer and employee rights and responsibilities.



Citation and Notification of Penalty

Company Name: Thomson Plastics, Inc.
Inspection Site: 130 Quality Drive N.W., Thomson, GA 30824

Citation 1 Item 1b Type of Violation: **Serious**

29 CFR 1910.95(k)(2): An updated training program was not conducted annually for each employee included in the hearing conservation program:

Thomson Plastics, Inc., Thomson, GA - An employee feeding a large grinder was exposed to noise at a TWA level of 89.4 dBA, exceeding the action level of 85 dBA. The exposure was derived from a personal sample taken over a 480 minutes period. Noise training was not performed in the year 2011, on or about 2/8/12.

In accordance with 29 CFR 1903.19(d), abatement certification is required for this violation (using the CERTIFICATION OF CORRECTIVE ACTION WORKSHEET), and in addition, documentation demonstrating that abatement is complete must be included with your certification. This documentation may include, but is not limited to, evidence of the purchase or repair of the equipment, photographic or video evidence of abatement, or other written records.

Date By Which Violation Must be Abated: 08/09/2012



Citation and Notification of Penalty

Company Name: Thomson Plastics, Inc.
Inspection Site: 130 Quality Drive N.W., Thomson, GA 30824

Citation 2 Item 1 Type of Violation: **Repeat**

Section 17(a) of the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 and 29 CFR 1910.95(k)(1): A training program was not instituted for all employees who were exposed to noise at or above an 8 hour time-weighted average of 85 dBA:

- a) Thomson Plastics, Inc., Thomson, GA - An employee feeding a large grinder was exposed to noise at a TWA level of 87 dBA, exceeding the action level of 85 dBA. Noise training was not provided, on or about 2/8/12.
- b) Thomson Plastics, Inc., Thomson, GA - An employee operating floor grinders was exposed to noise at a TWA level of 88.8 dBA, exceeding the action level of 85 dBA. Noise training was not provided, on or about 2/8/12.

Thomson Plastics, Inc. was previously cited for a violation of this OSHA standard or its equivalent standard 29 CFR 1910.95(k)(1) which was contained in OSHA inspection #312531908, citation 1, item 2a, issued on 4/6/2010 and became final on 5/11/2010.

In accordance with 29 CFR 1903.19(d), abatement certification is required for this violation (using the CERTIFICATION OF CORRECTIVE ACTION WORKSHEET), and in addition, documentation demonstrating that abatement is complete must be included with your certification. This documentation may include, but is not limited to, evidence of the purchase or repair of the equipment, photographic or video evidence of abatement, or other written records.

Date By Which Violation Must be Abated:	08/09/2012
Proposed Penalties:	\$ 27500.00

See pages 1 through 5 of this citation and Notification of Penalty for information on employer and employee rights and responsibilities.



Citation and Notification of Penalty

Company Name: Thomson Plastics, Inc.
Inspection Site: 130 Quality Drive N.W., Thomson, GA 30824


Citation 3 Item 1 Type of Violation: **Other**

29 CFR 1910.146(c)(2): The employer did not inform exposed employees, by posting danger signs or by any other equally effective means, of the existence and location of and the danger posed by the permit spaces:

- a) Thomson Plastics, Inc., Thomson, GA - The Cincinnati Milacron dryer Model DD-1000, S/N 3933-A02-99-57, located on the north side by Press #134, met the definition of a permit required confined space (PRCS). A sign was not posted indicating the danger of the PRCS, on or about 2/8/12.
- b) Thomson Plastics, Inc., Thomson, GA - The three hoppers containing virgin and reground plastic on Press #134 met the definition of a permit required confined space (PRCS). A sign was not posted indicating the danger of the PRCS, on or about 2/8/12.

In accordance with 29 CFR 1903.19(d), abatement certification is required for this violation (using the CERTIFICATION OF CORRECTIVE ACTION WORKSHEET), and in addition, documentation demonstrating that the abatement is complete must be included with your certification. This documentation may include, but is not limited to, evidence of the purchase or repair of the equipment, photographic or video evidence of abatement, or other written records.

Date By Which Violation Must be Abated:	08/09/2012
Proposed Penalty:	\$ 0.00



William C. Fulcher
Area Director

U.S. Department of Labor
Occupational Safety and Health Administration
2183 Northlake Parkway
Building 7, Suite 110
Tucker, GA 30084
Phone: (770)493-6644 FAX: 770-493-7725



INVOICE/ DEBT COLLECTION NOTICE

Company Name: Thomson Plastics, Inc.
Inspection Site: 130 Quality Drive N.W., Thomson, GA 30824
Issuance Date: 07/16/2012

Summary of Penalties for Inspection Number 315741835

Citation 1, Serious	= \$	5500.00
Citation 2, Repeat	= \$	27500.00
Citation 3, Other	= \$	0.00
TOTAL PROPOSED PENALTIES	= \$	33000.00

To avoid additional charges, please remit payment promptly to this Area Office for the total amount of the uncontested penalties summarized above. Make your check or money order payable to: "DOL-OSHA". Please indicate OSHA's Inspection Number (indicated above) on the remittance.

OSHA does not agree to any restrictions or conditions or endorsements put on any check or money order for less than full amount due, and will cash the check or money order as if these restrictions, conditions, or endorsements do not exist.

Pursuant to the Debt Collection Act of 1982 (Public Law 97-365) and regulations of the U.S. Department of Labor (29 CFR Part 20), the Occupational Safety and Health Administration is required to assess interest, delinquent charges, and administrative costs for the collection of delinquent penalty debts for violations of the Occupational Safety and Health Act.

Interest. Interest charges will be assessed at an annual rate determined by the Secretary of the Treasury on all penalty debt amounts not paid within one month (30 calendar days) of the date on which the debt amount becomes due and payable (penalty due date). The current interest rate is 4%. Interest will accrue from the date on which the penalty amounts (as proposed or adjusted) become a final order of the Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission (that is, 15 working days from your receipt of the Citation and Notification of Penalty), unless you file a notice of contest. Interest charges will be waived if the full amount owed is paid within 30 calendar days of the final order.

Delinquent Charges. A debt is considered delinquent if it has not been paid within one month (30 calendar days) of the penalty due date or if a satisfactory payment arrangement has not been made. If the debt remains delinquent for more than 90 calendar days, a delinquent charge of six percent (6%) per annum will be assessed accruing from the date that the debt became delinquent.

Administrative Costs. Agencies of the Department of Labor are required to assess additional charges for the recovery of delinquent debts. These additional charges are administrative costs incurred by the Agency in its attempt to collect an unpaid debt. Administrative costs will be assessed for demand letters sent in an attempt to collect the unpaid debt.



William C. Fulcher
Area Director

07/16/2012
Date