

Environmental Permit

Environment & Protection Act (CAP. 549)

Permit number

EP 0030/20

The Environment and Resources Authority (hereinafter the Authority; the Competent Authority or ERA) in exercise of its powers under the Environment Protection Act (CAP. 549), hereby authorises:

Mr. Ian Attard o.b.o. Poultons Ltd. (hereinafter “the Permit Holder”),
Of / Whose Registered Office (or principal place of business) is at:


**Poultons Ltd.,
BLB 19B,
Bulebel Industrial Estate,
Zejtun, ZTN 3000**

(Company registration number: C 41388)

to operate an installation at:

**Poultons Ltd.,
BLB 19B,
Bulebel Industrial Estate,
Zejtun, ZTN 3000**

This permit is valid for **four (4) years** from the granted date below. An application for renewal of this permit is to be submitted at least **six (6) months** prior to expiry of this permit.

Signed	Date
 Prof. Victor Axiak Chairman	Permit Granted: 20 / 01/ 2021

Authorised to sign on behalf of the Competent Authority

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Conditions

1 General

The Permitted Installation shall, subject to the conditions of this Permit, be managed, controlled and operated as described in the EP Application, or as otherwise previously agreed in writing by the Authority.

Status Log

Detail	Date
<i>Application EP</i>	24 th August 2020
<i>Permit determined by ERA Board</i>	15 th January 2021

1.1 Permitted Activities

1.1.1 The Permit Holder is authorised to carry out the activities and the associated activities specified in Table 1.1.1.

Table 1.1.1		
Activity	Description of specified activity	Limits of specified activity
Activity of printing (Digital Printing, Screen Printing & Pad Printing)	Printing on plastic and paper products as requested and/or supplied by the customer.	From receipt of raw materials (and associated chemicals) to dispatch of finished product (including assembly, packing and quality inspection).
Associated activity of storage, treatment and disposal/recycling of waste materials	Handling, storage of waste generated from installation prior to dispatch offsite.	From generation of waste to dispatch offsite for disposal or recovery (including recycling) by a registered waste carrier to an authorised facility either locally or abroad.
Associated activity of maintenance of equipment	Maintenance and repairs of own equipment carried out as required.	From maintenance / repair activity on equipment to appropriate recovery/disposal offsite of any waste generated on site an authorised facility either locally or abroad.

1.2 Site

- 1.2.1 The activities authorised under condition 1.1.1 shall not extend beyond the Site, as shown on the Site Map in Schedule 2A to this Permit.

1.3 General Conditions

- 1.3.1 The conditions and obligations of this permit are without prejudice to any other regulation, code of practice, conditions or requirements requested by other Authorities or entities, including but not limited to the Planning Authority, the Occupational Health and Safety Authority, Transport Malta and the Regulator for Energy and Water Services (REWS).
- 1.3.2 This permit is granted saving third party rights. The Permit Holder is not excused from obtaining any other permission required by law.
- 1.3.3 In these conditions and their interpretation, all terms shall have the same meaning as that assigned to them in CAP 549 the Environment Protection Act and its subsidiary legislation.
- 1.3.4 The Permit Holder has the sole responsibility to ascertain compliance with legal obligations, permit conditions and to undertake activities on and off site in line with good environmental practices at all times.
- 1.3.5 A copy of this permit shall be available at all times on site at the permitted facility, including any Variation Notices or amendments to it.
- 1.3.6 All persons have a duty of care to protect the environment. The Permit Holder shall become familiar with his legal obligations and good environmental practice.
- 1.3.7 The site shall be maintained in a tidy condition, free from litter and waste (whether arising from own activities or external sources).
- 1.3.8 The Permit Holder shall maintain a register of third-party complaints. The register shall record the details of complainant(s) if available, the date, source and nature of the complaint and the corrective action undertaken, where such action proves necessary.
- 1.3.9 All plant, equipment and technical means used in operating the Permitted Installation shall be maintained in a good operating condition and without causing polluting emissions, potentially polluting leaks and spillages. The Permit Holder shall keep maintenance records as per Section 4.3.2 of this Permit.
- 1.3.10 The Permitted Installation shall be managed, controlled, supervised and operated by staff who are aware of the importance of environmental protection and suitably trained on the requirements of this Permit. All staff shall be provided with adequate training and written operating instructions to enable them to effectively carry out their duties. Such training shall be recorded and maintained in line with Condition 4.4.3. Subcontractors who enter the site shall also be made aware of any obligations arising from the permit which might affect their duties.

- 1.3.11 Upon the joint application of a Permit Holder and a proposed transferee, the Permit Holder may request to transfer an environment permit. The permit shall not be transferred from the Permit Holder without prior approval from the Authority. Upon the Authority's decision to transfer the permit to the transferee, all rights, obligations, liabilities shall subsist onto the transferee.
- 1.3.12 The Authority may request monitoring and/or review of operational practices and/or commission audits/reports as deemed necessary to address any circumstances that may affect the quality of the surrounding environment.
- 1.3.13 Without prejudice to condition 1.3.12, the Authority may take any action deemed necessary including but not limited to the suspension of any activity/operation until investigations are concluded.
- 1.3.14 The permit is valid for a period of four years from the date of the granting. The Permit Holder is able to renew the permit upon application with the Authority expressing his/her intention at least six (6) months prior to the expiry of this permit. The permit will be considered renewed once the official renewed permit is issued by the Authority.
- 1.3.15 The Authority may add, amend, delete or substitute any of the conditions of this permit after notifying the Permit Holder of its intention and after describing the changes to the Permit Holder. This is without prejudice to any prevailing circumstances that would preclude the Authority from following such a procedure.
- 1.3.16 The Authority may carry out pre-set or unannounced compliance or monitoring compliance checks that vary in frequency according to the site's compliance with the permit conditions and safeguarding of natural assets. Any checks or audits carried out by the Authority may be made at the Permit Holder's financial expense at a rate and arrangement communicated by ERA's Compliance and Enforcement Directorate.
- 1.3.17 The Authority's representatives may inspect and photograph any part of the site and ask for any closed or locked areas to be opened and may demand to be provided with any proof, documentation, plans, receipts or any other records.
- 1.3.18 The Authority may suspend or revoke this environmental permit in line with the provisions of CAP549.
- 1.3.19 The Permit Holder shall undertake all necessary measures and precautions to prevent spillage of raw materials, intermediates, products, waste and any other materials.

1.4 Operational Changes

- 1.4.1 The Permit Holder may apply for a variation in permit and shall seek the Authority's written agreement prior to any operational changes, by sending to the Authority:
- a. Written notice of the details of the proposed change, including an assessment of its possible effects (including changes in emissions and waste production) on risks to the environment from the Permitted installation
 - b. Any relevant supporting information (e.g. chemical/fuel consumption, technical details, changes in the type/use of substances/mixtures, etc.);

- c. Any relevant supporting assessments and drawings, and;
- d. The proposed implementation date.

Any such change, shall only be implemented following the issue of a variation of the permit by the Authority.

- 1.4.2 The Permit Holder shall notify the following matters to the Authority in writing at least 10 working days prior to their occurrence:
- a. Any change in the Permit Holder’s trading name, registered name or registered office address;
 - b. Any change to particulars of the Permit Holder’s corporate identity.

1.5 Improvement Programme Items

- 1.5.1 The Permit holder shall complete the improvements specified in Table 1.5.1 by the date specified in that table, and shall send written notification of the date of completion of each requirement to the Authority within 10 working days on ced.facilities@era.org.mt of the completion of each such requirement

Table 1.5.1: Improvement programme		
Reference	Requirement	Date
1	Registration as a packaging waste producer in line with the requirements of Subsidiary Legislation 549.43, Waste Management (Packaging and Packaging Waste) Regulations	Within 3 months of granting of the permit

2. Site Infrastructure and Operations

2.1 Site Infrastructure

- 2.1.1 The site must be well secured at all times. During non-operating hours the site shall be firmly closed and totally inaccessible to third parties, both by vehicle and on foot.

3. Operating Conditions

3.1 Emissions to Air

- 3.1.1 Emissions to air shall only arise from the emission points specified in Table 3.1.1, as per description in the submitted EP Application

Table 3.1.1 : Emission points to air	
Emission point references ¹	Source
Indirect	Volatile Organic Compounds from ink solvents.

¹ According to Section 7 of the Environmental Permit application.

3.1.2 In the event of abnormal emissions leading to adverse environmental effect the Permit Holder must:

- a. Investigate immediately and undertake corrective action, and
- b. Adjust the process or activity to minimise those emissions, and
- c. Record the events and actions taken.

3.1.3 Further to condition 3.1.2, the Permit Holder must provide ERA with details of the specific cause of the malfunction and the remedial steps taken or to be taken to address the malfunction.

3.2 Effluent Discharges

3.2.1 No discharges to surface water or groundwater shall take place from the permitted installation.

3.2.2 Foul sewer drains must be strictly segregated from storm water drains.

3.2.3 Rainwater shall be segregated from all process areas that are potentially contaminated with raw materials, intermediates and/or products. If this is not possible, rainwater from areas where contamination by oil or chemicals is likely (such as loading/unloading and bunded areas) shall pass through an adequately sized interceptor.

3.2.4 Process effluents shall not be diluted prior to discharge to sewer or off-site transfer.

3.2.5 No discharges other than domestic sewage shall be discharged in the foul sewer.

3.3 Emissions to Land

3.3.1 No emission from the Permitted Installation shall be made to land.

3.3.2 In the event of spillages or incidents which could have led to contamination of land, the Permit Holder shall notify the Authority within 24 hours, forward a decontamination plan for the Authority's approval and execute it within an agreed time frame.

3.4 Waste

Waste storage and handling

3.4.1 All operations concerning the management of waste are subject to the Waste Regulations S.L. 549.63 and the Waste Management (Activity Registration) Regulations S.L. 549.45.

3.4.2 All wastes shall be stored within a designated and controlled storage area(s) prior to ultimate disposal. Wastes to be recycled shall be stored in a designated container or area and shall not be mixed with other wastes.

- 3.4.3 Liquid and hazardous wastes shall be stored in a labelled, closed container(s) within a designated and controlled storage area(s) prior to ultimate disposal. Wastes of different natures and having different European Waste Catalogue codes as established by Commission Decision 2000/532/EC shall not be mixed in the same container.
- 3.4.4 Packaging material and containers containing residual quantities of chemicals shall be regarded as hazardous waste and shall be disposed of in an appropriate manner.
- 3.4.5 No storage of waste, equipment or materials is permitted on property outside the site premises.
- 3.4.6 No storage of waste destined for disposal is permitted for a period exceeding 12 months. No storage of waste destined for recovery is permitted for a period exceeding 3 years.

Waste recovery or disposal

- 3.4.7 The Permit Holder shall be committed to reduce waste generation where possible.
- 3.4.8 The Permit Holder shall ensure to keep records for every consignment of wastes removed from the Site indicating the EWC Code, description, quantities, date of removal, contractor name (including for transport), consignment note number (where applicable) and manner and place of final disposal/recovery.
- 3.4.9 Waste produced at the permitted installation shall be recycled, reused or recovered unless technically and/or economically impossible.
- 3.4.10 The Permit Holder is to prevent litter or other wastes escaping from the site boundaries, particularly during loading/unloading. Any such escape of waste shall be collected immediately upon detection.
- 3.4.11 Off-site disposal or recovery of wastes may only take place at a facility licensed for that purpose.
- 3.4.12 On-site disposal of wastes by any means including burning, disposal to surface water, discharge to sea or burying or deposition on land, is prohibited.
- 3.4.13 Movement of hazardous waste to authorised facilities shall be covered by a valid consignment permit obtainable from the Competent Authority. Each movement shall also be covered by a consignment note obtainable from the Authority.
- 3.4.14 Disposal certificates shall be kept on record and made available for inspection for a period of at least 4 years from date of their issue.
- 3.4.15 Transboundary movement of waste shall be carried out in accordance with the following regulations, as amended from time to time:
 - a. Regulation (EC) N° 1013/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 14 June 2006 on shipments of waste as implemented through S.L. 549.65;

- b. Commission Regulation (EC) N° 1418/2007 of 29 November 2007 concerning the export for recovery of certain waste listed in Annex III or IIIA to Regulation (EC) N° 1013/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council to certain countries to which the OECD Decision on the control of transboundary movements of waste does not apply, and
- c. Any other applicable legislation.

- 3.4.16 The Permit Holder shall make use of the services of a registered waste carrier for the transport of waste from the site in accordance with activity 38 of schedule 1 of Subsidiary Legislation 549.45, the Waste Management (Activity Registration) Regulations. Where the company removes wastes using its own transport the vehicle(s) must also be registered as a waste carrier in accordance with S.L. 549.45 or any statutory provisions or regulations amending or replacing them.
- 3.4.17 Should the Permit Holder require the services of a waste broker, it shall be ensured that any such broker is a duly registered waste broker in accordance with S.L. 549.45.
- 3.4.18 In the case of waste that is sent for treatment or recovery to another facility locally or abroad, the audit trail shall cover all waste from the point of generation or collection to the end recovery or disposal facility.
- 3.4.19 The Permit Holder shall ensure to attain a receipt/certificate for every consignment of wastes removed from Site indicating the date and time of the consignment and the weight of the waste.
- 3.4.20 Disposal and/or recovery certificates and any documentation related to transfer of waste to and from the site and/or related to its end disposal and/or recovery shall be kept on record and made available for inspection for a period of at least 5 years from date of their issue. Copies of such certificates shall be submitted on an annual basis as part of the AER.

3.5 Storage

- 3.5.1 All bulk oil storage tanks and bulk storage of any fuels and lubricating oils, shall be provided with an adequately designed bund system with an impermeable base and walls. The capacity of the bund shall be a minimum of 110% of the largest tank within the bund or 25% of the total capacity of all the tanks within the bund. Filling and off-take points shall be located within the bund.
- 3.5.2 Containers of solvents, oils or any other chemicals shall be stored in designated and secure storage areas. Storage areas shall be designed so that surface and ground waters cannot be contaminated by spillages.
- 3.5.3 Drums and containers of oils shall be stored in designated and secure storage areas. Storage areas shall be designed so that surface and ground waters cannot be contaminated by spillages.
- 3.5.4 Chemicals of different properties shall be stored as specified in respective MSDS sheets. Such sheets shall be made available and accessible to personnel responsible for the management of the storage areas and for inspection by the Competent Authority. Incompatible chemicals shall not be stored within the same bund.

- 3.5.5 The storage of flammable, toxic and hazardous substances shall be in line with the measures specified in the safety data sheets (SDS) for that substance and the maintenance of safety critical equipment shall correspond to manufacturer specifications.

4 Site Management

4.1 Staff obligations and Responsibilities

- 4.1.1 One member of the staff shall be nominated as the Technically Competent Person (TCP) of the site, whereby this person is to physically represent the Permit Holder during the times when the Permit Holder will not be available.
- 4.1.2 In the event of any short or long periods of leave of absence taken by the TCP for a period exceeding 10 days or change in the TCP, the Permit Holder is obliged to find a replacement for that member of staff without delay and the Authority informed accordingly.
- 4.1.3 The TCP is responsible for the implementation of all the obligations stipulated in this permit, must supervise the rest of the staff on site and is completely responsible to ascertain that all permit conditions are being adhered to.
- 4.1.4 All the staff on site shall be fully aware of the procedures to be taken in the event of an accidental spill of any liquids other than water and how to contain the environmental hazard.

4.2 Accident Prevention and Control

- 4.2.1 An Emergency Response Plan shall be followed and maintained containing details of the location, nature and quantity of chemicals, oils and fuels stored, any special hazards, a drawing showing location of drains and the emergency phone numbers of the Permit Holder and relevant authorities. It shall also include actions to be taken in the case of incidents which could affect the environment, such as fires and chemical/fuel spills. The emergency plan shall indicate that accidental releases of chemicals and fires caused by chemicals are to be managed as specified in the respective SDS.
- 4.2.2 In the case of an accident (including chemical spills, etc.), the Permit Holder shall follow the Emergency Response Plan referred to in Condition 4.2.1 and shall notify the Authority within 24 hours.
- 4.2.3 Spillages of chemicals or other hazardous material shall receive immediate attention to prevent escape to drain, surface water or land. Spilled material shall be disposed of in an appropriate manner. Kits for the collection of liquid and powder spills shall be available on site at strategic locations.
- 4.2.4 Small leaks or spills shall be cleared up immediately by the application of absorbent materials. All used absorbent materials shall be disposed of hazardous waste at

facilities permitted to accept such waste. Transfer of this waste shall be carried out as per conditions in Section 3.4 of this permit.

- 4.2.5 The Permit Holder shall have in storage an adequate supply of suitable absorbent material to absorb any spillage.

4.3 Site Records & Archive

- 4.3.1 A site daily operations log shall be made in a legible manner and kept on site and be made available for inspection by the Authority at any reasonable time. The following information shall be recorded on a daily basis and retained for 5 years:
- a. Total amount of waste in tonnes accepted on site
 - b. Total amount of waste in tonnes removed from site for disposal or further treatment;
 - c. Any incidents that took place on site such as mechanical faults in the machinery or equipment used on site, any spills, fires, etc. and the remedial action taken; and
 - d. Any other incidents that the Permit Holder deems important to record in the Site daily operations log.

Each record shall be compiled within 24 hours of the relevant event. The records kept in the site daily operations log shall be made available for inspection at any time when the Authority representative request to inspect them.

- 4.3.2 A log book with all the inputs/outputs of all plastic by-products leaving the facility shall be present on site and available upon request by the Authority. This logbook shall at least contain details on:
- a. Date of receipt;
 - b. A brief description of the by-product;
 - c. Its origin;
 - d. Its quantity and weight and
 - e. Date of dispatch from the site to the originating facility.
- 4.3.3 All consignments of plastic by-products accepted by the Permit Holder at the facility for processing shall be covered by a note from the originating facility which shall include:
- a. Dispatch date;
 - b. A brief description of the by-product
 - c. Its quantity and weight; and
 - d. The facility to which it is being dispatched.

Such covering notes shall be kept on site by the permit holder and made available upon request by the Authority.

- 4.3.4 The Permit Holder may wish to establish an Environmental Management System (EMS) to facilitate compliance with permit conditions and to assist in formalising procedures required by this permit. An EMS can take the form of a standardised system (e.g. EN ISO 14001:1996 or EMAS) or a non-standardised (“customised”)

system, provided that is properly designed and implemented. Guidance for a non-standardised (“customised”) system is included in schedule 3 of this permit.

4.4 Site closure and Decommissioning

- 4.4.1 The Permit Holder shall notify the Authority prior to ceasing operations permanently in part or in full, whereby an application for cessation of operations shall be made to the Authority and shall include a decommissioning plan.
- 4.4.2 In the event of cessation of operations on the site, the Permit Holder shall remain responsible for all wastes and hazardous materials on site, which shall be removed from the site in accordance to good environmental practice and in such a manner that minimises environmental risks.
- 4.4.3 The Decommissioning Plan shall be implemented once approved by the Authority and within 12 months of final cessation of operations or as agreed with the Authority in writing.
- 4.4.4 The obligations arising from this permit shall subsist until the Authority confirms in writing that the decommissioning plan has been implemented to its satisfaction.
- 4.4.5 When deemed necessary, the Authority may require the Permit Holder to take such additional measures as it considers necessary with respect to after care obligations in relation, but not limited to the remedial action, rehabilitation, and monitoring of the waste management or waste production site.

4.5 Reporting

- 4.5.1 The Permit Holder shall submit to the Authority an Annual Environmental Report (AER) of the previous year by not later than end of March of each year, providing the information listed in Schedule 1 of this Permit and in the format specified therein. It shall also be ensured that all certification and documentation as per Schedule 3 are submitted.
- 4.5.2 In the event where operations cease temporarily (for 2 weeks or more), the TCP or Permit Holder are obliged to notify the Authority within two (2) days and are also to inform the Authority with regards to when the works are intended to resume.

5 Ozone Depleting Substances

- 5.1 No new equipment or components (including refrigeration and firefighting equipment or insulation foam) containing substances falling within the scope of EC Regulation No. 1005/2009 on substances that deplete the Ozone Layer & S.L. 549.58, Substances depleting the ozone layer regulations shall be installed within the site.

Schedule 1
Annual Environmental Report

Important note

By this submission, you confirm that you give your explicit consent for the entire contents of this Annual Environment Report to be made available on the Authority's public website.

S1.1 Introduction

Environmental Permit Number	
Reporting Year (Calendar Year: 1 January to 31 December)	
Name and locality of Site	
Brief description of activities at the site	

S1.2 Waste Records**S1.2.1 Off-site transfers of hazardous waste**

Date of transfer	EWC Code ¹	Quantity of waste (in kg)	Consignment note number and/or TFS (Trans frontier Shipment of waste) reference number	Ultimate destination

¹ European Waste Catalogue Code (Reference: *Commission decision 2000/532/EC establishing a list of wastes*)

S1.2.2 Off-site transfers of non-hazardous waste

Date of transfer	EWC Code ¹	Quantity of waste (in kg)	Ultimate destination	Name(s) of registered waste carrier used during reporting year

S 1.2.3 Section to be compiled for plastic by products accepted on site²

Date	Source of material	Amounts in kilograms

Applicant's declaration

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge, all the above information is correct and substantiated.

.....

Name
(in block letters)

.....

ID Card Number

.....

on behalf of / in my own name
(in block letters)

.....

Signature

.....

Date

¹ European Waste Catalogue Code (Reference: Commission decision 2000/532/EC establishing a list of wastes)

² To be compiled until notified that reporting template referred to in S 1.2.2 has been amended.

Schedule 2A

Site Map

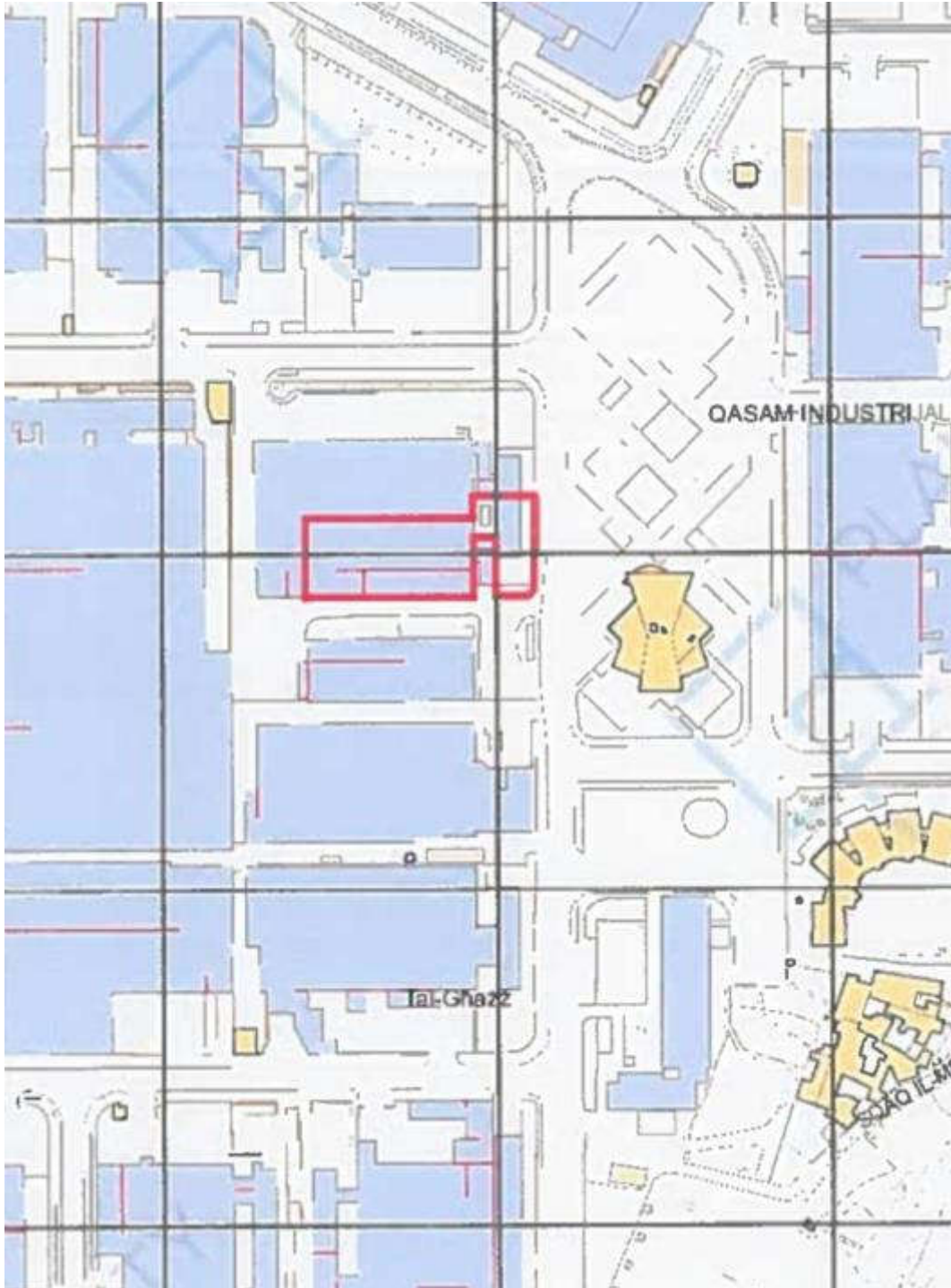


Fig. S2.1: Site of permitted installation, showing the extent of the area (in red) for the carrying out of the activities specified in condition 1.1.1. The extent of the site boundary is indicative and shall not be used for interpretation purposes

Schedule 2B
Site Layout Plan of Factory Floor

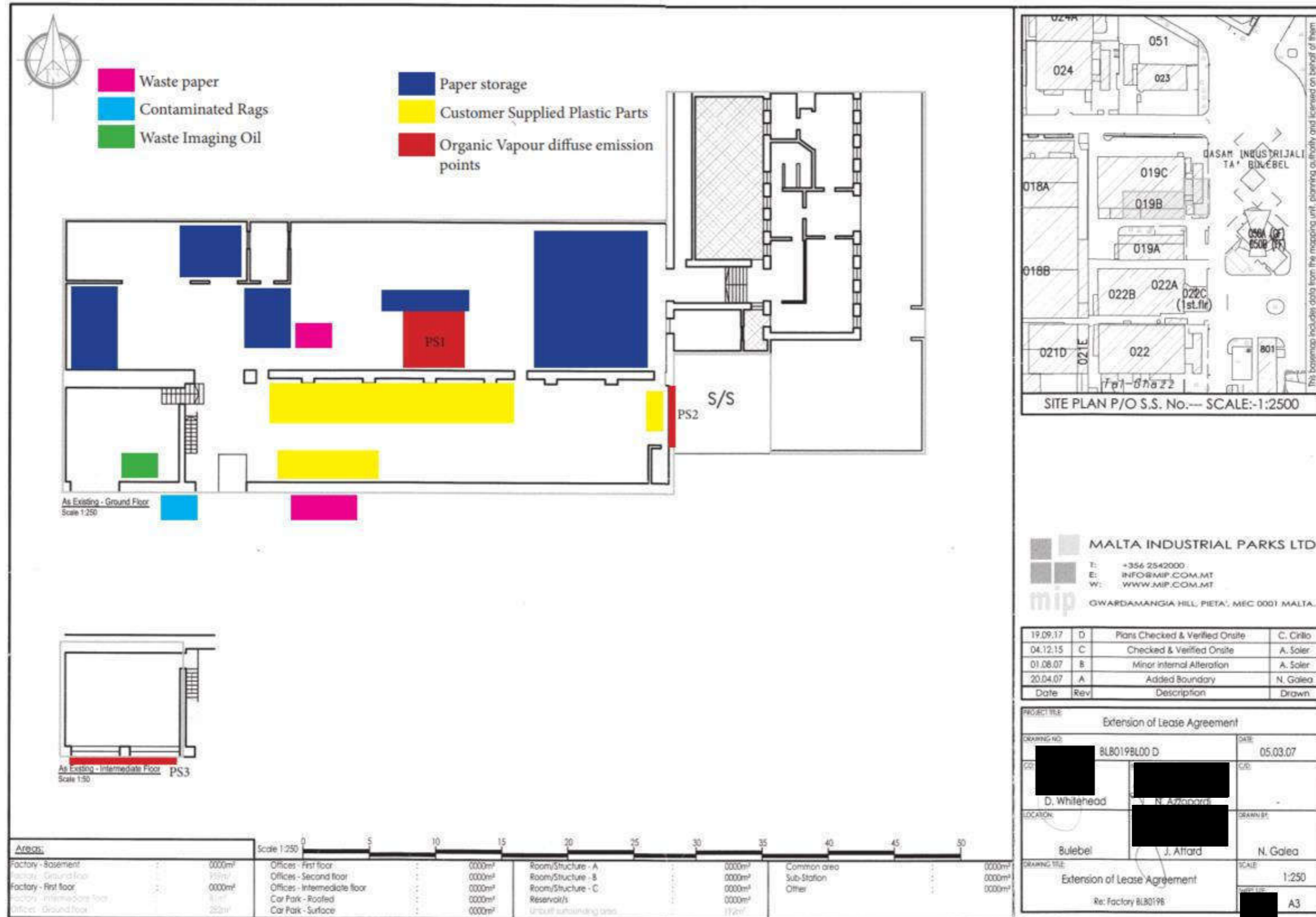


Fig. 2.2: Site layout plan for the carrying out of the activities specified in condition 1.1.1. The extent of the site boundary is indicative and shall not be used for interpretation purposes.

Schedule 3

Minimum requirements for an Environment Management System (EMS)

An EMS may include, as a minimum, the following elements:

1. Management and Reporting Structure

This should in particular include the name of the person who will be responsible for managing environmental aspects of the installation. Relevant qualifications and experience should be listed, together with contact details (including a mobile number for emergency purposes).

2. Environmental Objectives and Targets

The section should include a review of all operations and processes, a commitment by the Permit Holder to continuous improvement, and identification of priority areas where improvement to the operations is necessary and practicable, such as:

- a. Recycling of materials;
- b. Minimisation of waste;
- c. Efficient use of resources (especially water and energy);
- d. Use of biodegradable chemicals;
- e. Minimising use of solvents;
- f. Procedures to minimise noise disturbance to neighbours;

Targets should be set for priority areas identified (e.g. minimising waste generation by __% annually).

3. Environmental Management Programme (EMP)

This should include a time schedule for achieving the Environmental Objectives and Targets prepared under point 2 above. The time schedule should cover a period of 5 years. The EMP should include:

- a. Designation of responsibility for targets;
- b. The means by which they may be achieved;
- c. The time within which they may be achieved.

Targets and performance should be reviewed annually as part of the EMS.

4. Documentation

A system of documentation should be established to ensure that records are kept of the priority areas chosen according to point 2. In addition, the Permit Holder should issue a copy of the environmental permit to all relevant personnel whose duties relate to any condition of the permit.

5. Corrective Action

The Permit Holder should establish procedures to ensure that corrective action is taken should the specified requirements of the environmental permit not be fulfilled. The

responsibility and authority for initiating further investigation and corrective action in the event of a nonconformity with the environmental permit should be defined.

6. Awareness and Training

The Permit Holder should establish and maintain procedures for identifying training needs, and for providing appropriate training, for all personnel whose work can have an effect on the environment. Appropriate records of training should be maintained.

7. Maintenance Programme

The Permit Holder should establish and maintain a programme for maintenance of all plant and equipment based on the instructions issued by the manufacturer/supplier or installer of the equipment. Appropriate record keeping and diagnostic testing should support this maintenance programme.

The licensee should clearly allocate responsibility for the planning, management and execution of all aspects of this programme to appropriate personnel.

Schedule 4

Submissions of certifications and documentation

Condition Number	Documentation
4.5.1	Annual Environmental Report

END OF PERMIT