

# FACT SHEET

December 2003

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## First Phase of Environmental Cleanup Begins at Buell Automatics Site

Buell Automatics, Inc. (Buell) will complete an Interim Remedial Measure (IRM) to remove chemically contaminated soil beneath a portion of the building located at 381 Buell Road in the Town of Gates (see map). The IRM is being conducted through New York State's Brownfield Cleanup Program.

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), in conjunction with the New York State Department of Health and the Monroe County Health Department, is providing this fact sheet to update you on the latest activities at the site and explain how to get more information.

### About the Buell Automatics Site:

Buell is located in a heavily developed commercial and industrial area of the Town of Gates, Monroe County. Since the mid-1960s, Buell has manufactured automatic screw machine parts at the site. Originally, Buell operated on a 0.67 acre parcel of land, but then expanded their operations to about 2 acres.

In 1999, Buell performed a limited environmental investigation as a requirement for financing a building expansion that was completed in 2000. Chlorinated volatile organic compounds, particularly trichloroethene (TCE) and associated compounds, were detected in the groundwater outside of the south side of the building. TCE is commonly used in industry to remove oil and grease from parts. Petroleum-related compounds were also detected at concentrations above NYS soil cleanup objectives in one boring located near

oil storage and petroleum-based solvent tanks. Buell uses oils to lubricate metal parts during machining (cutting). Petroleum-based solvents are also used to clean parts.

In March 2002, Buell entered New York State's Voluntary Cleanup Program. Under this program, Buell agreed to investigate and clean up chemical contaminants associated with its operations. In December 2003, Buell entered New York State's Brownfield Cleanup Program. The Brownfield Cleanup Program was created by recent legislation and replaces the Voluntary Cleanup Program.

Public water and sewers are used in the area. There are no known private drinking water wells or septic tanks in the vicinity of the site.

### About the Investigation:

Since 2002, Buell has completed a variety of environmental investigation activities. A summary of what is known and unknown about the nature and extent of the contamination is provided below:

- Elevated levels of chlorinated volatile organic compounds in the subsurface soils are primarily located in the following areas: 1) underneath the southwest section of the Buell building near a TCE degreasing machine and extending south to an adjacent property; and 2) west of the Buell building in the vicinity of a former outdoor drum storage area.

- Elevated levels of non-chlorinated volatile organic compounds (presumably associated with the use of petroleum-based solvents and cutting oils) in the subsurface soils are located underneath much of the western half of the original Buell building.
- Groundwater at Buell has been impacted by both chlorinated and non-chlorinated volatile organic compounds.
- Chlorinated volatile organic compounds appear to be migrating in groundwater from Buell towards adjacent properties to the south and west.
- The map shows the known extent of contamination that appears to be related to operations at Buell.
- The full extent of the groundwater contamination, especially to the south and west, is not known at this time.
- The full extent of soil contamination underneath the building is not known at this time.
- The full extent of the contamination associated with the former drum storage area is not known at this time.

### **About the Upcoming Interim Remedial Measure (IRM):**

The purpose of the upcoming IRM is to physically remove some of the contaminated soils located underneath the southwestern section of the Buell building (see map). This will be accomplished by excavating (digging) an area that is approximately 25-ft long, 17-ft wide, and 6.5-ft deep. The contaminated soils will be properly disposed of off-site. The IRM is scheduled to be completed between December 20, 2003 and January 4, 2004.

### **What Happens Next:**

The IRM is expected to provide environmental benefit, but it is not a final remedy for the site. As shown on the map, the IRM will only treat a portion of the area currently identified as impacted. The NYSDEC has notified Buell that additional testing is needed to determine the extent of the contamination. A comprehensive cleanup plan will be developed once the full extent of the contamination is defined.

### **For More Information:**

NYSDEC will keep you informed of progress at the site through fact sheets like this one. Documents related to this site are available for you to review at the locations listed below. Available documents include the “Interim Remedial Measures Work Plan and Construction Documents, November 2003.”

Gates Public Library  
1605 Buffalo Road  
Gates, NY 14624  
(585) 247-6446  
Hours: M-F 10-9, Sat. 10-5

NYS Department of Environmental Conservation  
Region 8 Office  
6274 E. Avon-Lima Rd.  
Avon, NY 14414-9519  
Hours: Monday- Friday 8:30 - 4:45  
Contact: Lisa LoMaestro Silvestri for an appointment  
(585) 226-5326

We encourage you to contact the representatives listed below with questions, comments or concerns. If you know someone who would like to be added to the mailing list, have them send in the attached mailer or contact one of the people listed below. You do **not** have to return the mailer if you received this fact sheet in the mail; your name will automatically remain on the mailing list. Because our mailing list includes property owners, we encourage you and building owners to share this Fact Sheet with neighbors and tenants, and/or post this Fact Sheet in a prominent area of your building for tenants, employees and visitors to view.

**% For Question About the Investigation or IRM, Contact:**

Frank Sowers, Project Manager (585) 226-5357 or  
Lisa A. LoMaestro Silvestri, Citizen Participation Specialist (585) 226-5326  
NYS Department of Environmental Conservation  
6274 East Avon-Lima Road  
Avon, NY 14414-9519

**% For Site-Related Health Questions, Contact:**

Joseph Crua  
NYS Department of Health  
Flanigan Square  
547 River Street  
Troy, NY 12180  
(800) 458-1158 ext. 27860 or  
(518) 402-7860

Joseph Albert  
Monroe County Health Department  
111 Westfall Road - PO Box 92832  
Rochester NY 14692  
(585) 274-6904

# NYSDEC Mailer

Please feel free to use this mailer for any of the following purposes:

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. You would like to be placed on our Buell mailing list.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. You would like to include the name and address of someone you know who maybe interested in receiving future fact sheets.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. You would like to be taken off our Buell mailing list.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. You would like to provide us with a change of name or address. If you are moving, future fact sheets are NOT automatically forwarded unless we are notified by you.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. You would like to provide us with a comment or concern.

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Please complete the form as indicated below, fold and mail directly to the DEC.

Add the following name(s):

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Delete the following name(s):

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Make the following changes:

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(New) \_\_\_\_\_

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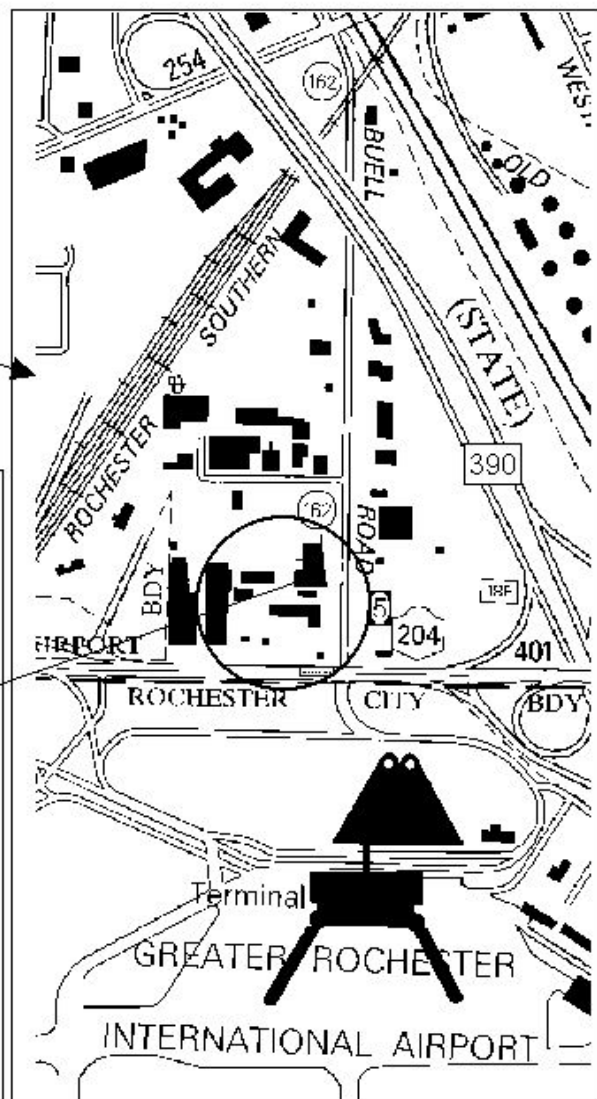
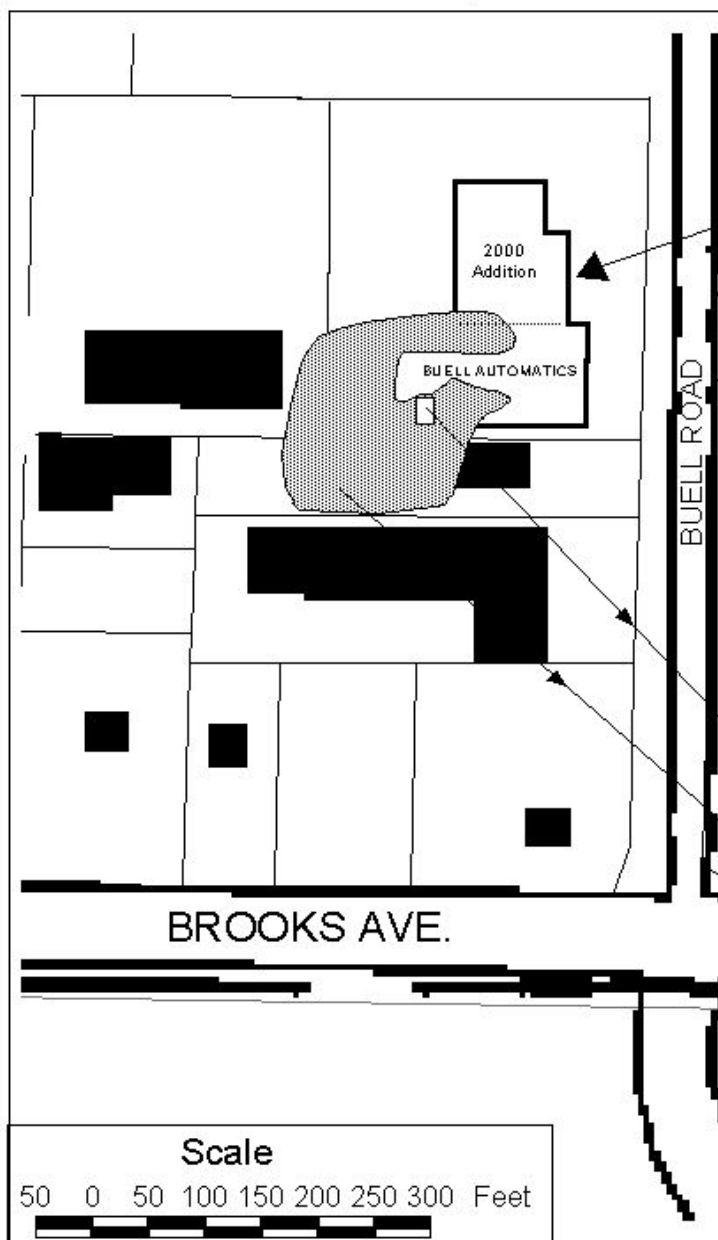
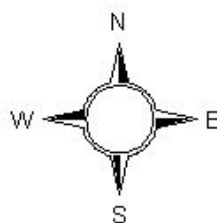
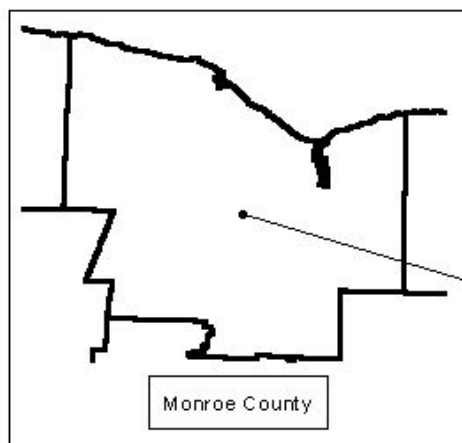
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

Comments or Concerns:

Frank Sowers, P.E.  
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation  
6274 East Avon-Lima Rd  
Avon, NY 14414-9519





## KEY

-  -- Area to be excavated as part of the IRM.
-  -- Area of known soil and/or groundwater contamination. More tests are needed to determine if actual area of contamination is larger than the area shown.