

**From:** "Shearer, Dwight" <dwshearer@state.pa.us>  
**To:** "Marie Miller" <MTM1@nrc.gov>, "Kathy Modes" <KAD@nrc.gov>, "Rittiger, Christopher" <crittiger@state.pa.us>, "Shearer, Dwight" <dwshearer@state.pa.us>, "Yusko, James (DEP)" <jyusko@state.pa.us>  
**Date:** 03/26/2007 10:42:10 AM  
**Subject:** RE: Possible source find - update

Just an update - waiting on Marie's information. With a quick google search Smith Mechanical Contractors is still in business

1509 Riverport Rd.  
Kingsport, TN 37660  
Phone: 423-246-3611  
Fax: 423-246-5632  
<http://www.smithmechanical.com/>

I called them on Friday - they where not aware of the RAPCO company.

Without a good solid lead from the scrap dealer we might be at a dead end. The day the source was being secure. The dealer indicated that he had over 70 peddlers coming in and was not sure where the gauge came from.

Jim, Do you want me to continue or wait for Marie

Dwight

-----Original Message-----

From: Marie Miller [mailto:MTM1@nrc.gov]  
Sent: Monday, March 19, 2007 11:37 AM  
To: Kathy Modes; Christopher Rittiger; Dwight Shearer; James (DEP) Yusko  
Cc: Duncan White; Louis Urciuolo; Stephen Williams; Terry Derstine  
Subject: RE: Possible source find - update

Here is some initial info based on the Model and Tag # provided by  
Dwight:

TN Technologies (Mike Fontenote, RSO) provided the following info:

The gauge was sold to Rapco, located in Kingsport, TN. The company purchased the gauge through Smith Mechanical Contractors (address unknown). He said that it is common practice that a contractor will order the equipment for its client, but the address that the gauge was sent to was Rapco, Route 14, Moreland Drive, Kingsport, TN 37664. The gauge was sold on September 1, 1977.

I am trying to locate the company and have already talked to Kingsport city personnel to see if they have any information about this company. It has been almost 30 years and the company may have changed hands or gone out of business.

NRC RI plans to call Kantner Iron & Steel Inc. to have them call the source into the NRC HQ Operations Center.

>>> "Shearer, Dwight" <dwshearer@state.pa.us> 03/19/2007 8:01 AM >>>  
Good Morning All

The gauge is a Texas Nuclear Model 5191 S/N B927 Series SGH with a Tag # 1760 Cs 137 200 mCi mfg date June 1977.

The source is secure at Kantner Iron & Steel Inc.

Applied Health Physics (AHP) responded on behalf of the owner of Kantner Iron & Steel.

Since, this particular model did not have a shutter, AHP used some scrap blocks of lead to limit the open beam.

Some readings

800 mR/hr in the beam (contact)

approx @ 90 degrees to the beam at contact 25 mR/hr  
approx @ 90 degrees to the beam at 30 cm 2 mR/hr  
approx @ 90 degrees to the beam at 3 m 0.2 mR/hr

We'll do some owner checking on it today.  
Any information would be appreciated.

Take care

Dwight A. Shearer, P.E.  
Section Chief, Radioactive Materials  
Pa Dept. of Environmental Protection  
Southwest Field Operations  
Phone: (412) 442-5823  
Fax: (412) 442-5246  
E-Mail: dwshearer@state.pa.us

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Yusko, James (DEP)  
> Sent: Friday, March 16, 2007 9:23 AM  
> To: Duncan White (E-mail); Kathy Modes - NRC (E-mail)  
> Cc: Shearer, Dwight; Derstine, Terry; Williams, Stephen; Urciuolo, Louis  
> Subject: Possible source find - update  
>  
> Good morning, gentlepersons,  
>  
> Just received a phone call from Dwight of my staff, who had checked in from the scrap yard in Hooversville.

>  
> The scrap yard had contracted with a local health physics outfit, who was expected to be on-site later this morning to help the operators sort through the load that the steel mill rejected Wednesday, causing all this.  
>  
> The roll-off box is secure, and PRELIMINARY indications from the scrap yard owner is that the load may have been peddled to him from a now-closed coal gasification company in the Johnstown area of Pennsylvania. The scrap metals were mixed - steel, stainless, aluminum, copper, etc. - hence the "peddling" (from scavenging operations).  
>  
> Dwight will check back with the yard later today, weather conditions permitting, to get photographs of the device, and possibly manufacturer information, such as model and serial numbers, to assist efforts in determining who lost control over this device.  
>  
> Further details as they become available.  
>  
> Jim  
>  
> James G. Yusko, CHP, DABR  
> Regional Manager, Radiation Protection  
> PA Department of Environmental Protection  
> 400 Waterfront Drive  
> Pittsburgh, PA 15222-4745  
> phone: (001) 412.442.4000  
> fax: (001) 412.442.5246  
>  
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>  
>  
>

**CC:** "Duncan White" <ADW@nrc.gov>, "Urciuolo, Louis" <lurciuolo@state.pa.us>, "Williams, Stephen" <stewilliam@state.pa.us>, "Derstine, Terry" <tderstine@state.pa.us>

**Mail Envelope Properties** (4607DBA6.CC4 : 17 : 48324)

**Subject:** RE: Possible source find - update  
**Creation Date** 03/26/2007 10:41:16 AM  
**From:** "Shearer, Dwight" <dwshearer@state.pa.us>

**Created By:** dwshearer@state.pa.us

**Recipients**

nrc.gov

kp1\_po.KP\_DO

MTM1 (Marie Miller)

KAD (Kathy Modes)

ADW CC (Duncan White)

state.pa.us

tderstine CC (Terry Derstine)

stewilliam CC (Stephen Williams)

lurciuolo CC (Louis Urciuolo)

jyusko (James (DEP) Yusko)

crittiger (Christopher Rittiger)

**Post Office**

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| MESSAGE      | 4692        | 03/26/2007 10:41:16 AM |
| Mime.822     | 6545        |                        |

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**ReplyRequested:** No  
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**Concealed Subject:** No  
**Security:** Standard

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