

January 9, 2015

Director
Office of Federal and State Materials and Environmental Management Programs
U.S. Nuclear Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

RE: Annual Record and Report of Transfer for 2014

Attn: Document Control Desk/Exempt Distribution

To whom it may concern, This annual report is being filed for the following Licensee:

Champion Aerospace, LLC 1230 Old Norris Road Liberty, SC 29657

NRC Materials License No. 39-23825-01E SC DHEC Radioactive Material License No. 505

Champion Aerospace manufactures ignition exciters, some of which contain a small amount of radioactive Tritium gas in the high voltage switching component referred to in this document as a "Spark Gap". Spark gaps have been used in turbine engine ignition systems on aircraft since the 1940s. They are a simple and reliable high voltage switch. They do require a small dose of radioactive gas in their construction. The fundamental issue is that a radioactive isotope is required to maintain a consistent spark gap ionization voltage over the unit's operating life. Without the small amount of tritium gas in the spark gap, the ionization voltage of the gap can vary significantly over time and result in a potential decrease in the delivered energy of the exciter. There is no alternative material that Champion can propose for use in our spark gaps that is more benign that Tritium. Currently Champion produces six different spark gaps and transfer these in either top level exciters or as spare parts. The part numbers are as follows:

307083, 307083-1, 307083-2, 307226, 307532 and 307535

Champion currently purchases the Tritium gas from a commercial supplier of the material. That manufacturer is AECL - Chalk River Laboratories in Chalk River, Ontario Canada. Their contact information is listed below for future reference:

Canadian Nuclear Laboratories (Formerly AECL) 286 Plant Road Chalk River, Ontario K0J 1J0 Phone: (613) 584-3311

All of the spark gaps listed in this report were transferred for use under 10 CFR 30.15 (8i) and are listed by year, part number, quantity transferred, and total micro-curies transferred. See attachments.

1230 Old Norris Road P.O. Box 686, Liberty, SC 29657-0686 Tel. (864) 843-1162 • Fax (864) 843-5414



## CHAMPION AEROSPACE, LLC

If there are any questions concerning this report please contact me at 864-843-7801.

Sincerely,

Alan D. Woods

Radiation Safety Officer

Manager, Facilities, Piston and Airframe Operation

Champion Aerospace, Inc.

cc: Scott Wilson

Health Physicist

Division of Nuclear Materials Safety

Division I

scott.wilson@nrc.gov

**Enclosures** 

## Champion Aerospace LLC 1230 Old Norris Road Liberty, SC 29657

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## **2014 Total Tritium Transferred**

		Tritium Dose/Gap	Total Tritium Transferred
Spark Gap Part Number	# Transferred	μ Curie	μ Curie
307083	575	28	16100
307083-1	498	28	13944
307083-2	1839	28	51492
307226	729	5.9	4301.1
307532	1981	4.6	9112.6
307535	87	28	2436
Totals	5709		97385.7

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Director

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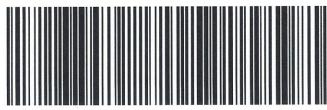
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