

U.S. Castings

PUB-RR-792

May, 2008

U.S. Castings

600 Gates Avenue
Ladysmith, WI
Rusk County

2.5 acres

Location: City of Ladysmith Industrial Park

A former aluminum die castings facility and foundry has been cleaned up and redeveloped into a recycling and resale company for consumer electronics.

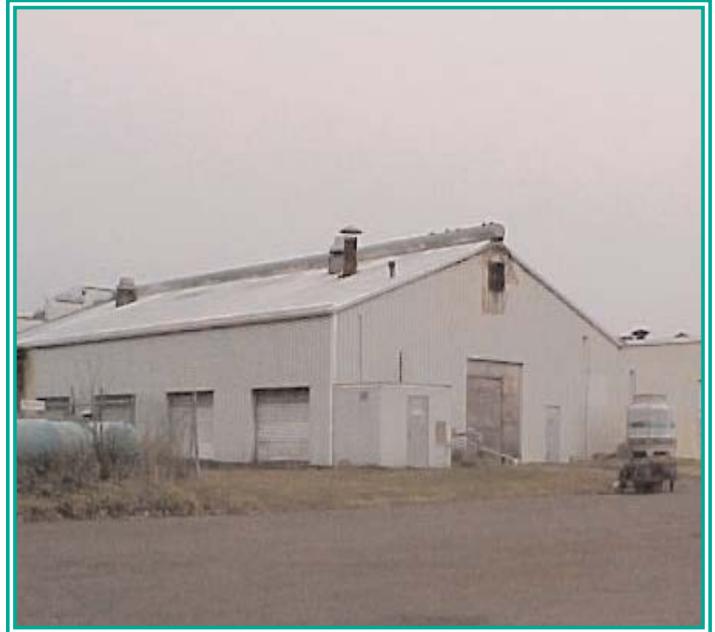
History

The U.S. Castings property was historically used as an aluminum die castings facility and foundry. The Safe Lite Die Casting Company operated the plant from 1970 through the 1980's. The site was in operation by U. S. Castings until early 2000 when a fire forced its shutdown. The property lay vacant and abandoned until 2001, when Rusk County officials took the property through a tax deed.

Investigation and Cleanup

In March of 2001, Rusk County conducted Phase I and II Environmental Site Assessments, which revealed low levels of contamination in the soil due to past oil spills.

More than 180 yards of soil was excavated and



The former U.S. Castings property (photo courtesy city of Ladysmith).

disposed of at a licensed landfill. Five abandoned containers were also removed.

Redevelopment

The main factory building received a \$1 million dollar makeover, and the newly renovated commercial space has now been leased by 5R Processors, Ltd., a local electronics recycler.

Financial, Liability, Technical Assistance

In 2002, Rusk County received a \$16,500 DNR Brownfields Site Assessment Grant from the Remediation and Redevelopment (RR) Program. The grant paid for additional site assessment work, removal of abandoned containers and the excavation and disposal of contaminated soil. County officials also received a \$1 million Economic Development Administration (EDA) grant for redevelopment at the site. Rusk



Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Remediation and Redevelopment Program

PO Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707
<http://dnr.wi.gov/org/aw/rr>



County gave Ladysmith 50 percent ownership of the property since the community provided the cash match.

Contacts

Bill Schultz

Project Manager

WI DNR Remediation and Redevelopment Program

(715) 365-8965

Andrew Albarado

Economic Development Coordinator

Rusk County

(715) 532-2257



The newly remodeled commercial building on the former US Castings property, now leased to 5R Processors (photo by Bill Schultz, DNR).

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Remediation and Redevelopment Program

PO Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707
<http://dnr.wi.gov/org/aw/rr>