



RCRA Corrective Action Cleanup + Productive Use

Economic Profile

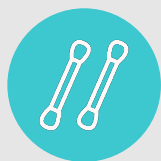
UTC Fire and Security

Pittsfield, Maine

BEFORE

Security and signal device manufacturer

AFTER



Medical Product
Manufacturer

CLEANUP OVERSEEN BY
Maine Department of Environmental Protection

The UTC Fire and Security facility manufactured fire and medical electronic alert devices beginning in the 1950s. It closed in 2015.

With oversight by the state's RCRA program, UTC finished removing contaminated soils in 2016. Groundwater monitoring is ongoing and the property is restricted to commercial and industrial uses.

The Maine Department of Environmental Protection worked with EPA in 2017 to create a strategy for promoting redevelopment within RCRA requirements. In 2020, a private developer purchased the site for Puritan Medical Products to manufacture foam nasal swabs for COVID-19 testing. In addition to helping battle the pandemic, the Puritan plant employs 400 people, providing its workers with an estimated \$19 million in income per year.



EMPLOYEES

400



ANNUAL
WAGES

\$19 million

For more information about RCRA and the economic benefits of site reuse, visit www.epa.gov/hw/learn-about-corrective-action





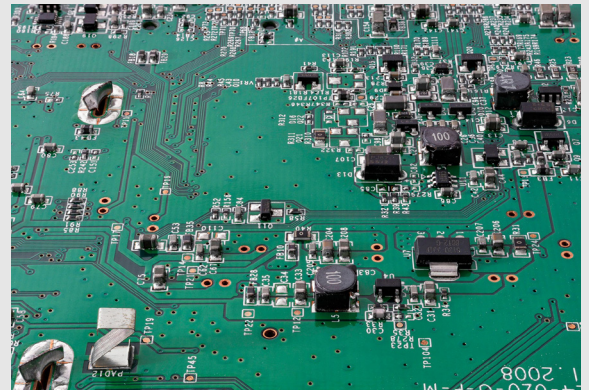
THE REDEVELOPMENT TEAM WORKED WITH MAINE DEP RCRA PROGRAM STAFF, LOCAL CONSULTANTS, AND CONTRACTORS TO REDEVELOP THE SITE INTO AN EFFICIENT, ENVIRONMENTALLY RESPONSIBLE, AND MODERN MANUFACTURING FACILITY.

Lauren Walsh, Environmental Manager, Cianbro Corporation (Site Developer)

To encourage redevelopment, the Maine Department of Environmental Protection consulted with EPA and UTC to create a framework of enforceable obligations, financial resources and liability mitigation. UTC allocated \$2 million to cover potential cleanup costs and the existing Administrative Order on Consent captured stewardship obligations. Additionally, UTC pledged to enter an indemnification agreement if requested by the purchaser. These measures ensured both comfort and commitment on the part of the future buyer in keeping with EPA's policy of encouraging site reuse while safeguarding human health and the environment.

Following the site's purchase and renovation in spring 2020 – which created nearly 750 construction jobs – Puritan Medical Products began manufacturing nasal testing swabs in early May 2020, galvanized by the Defense Production Act. The move came at a crucial point in the United States' effort to expand testing infrastructure in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The company began producing 40 million swabs per month at the Pittsfield facility and expanded production to 90 million by mid-November. Puritan's manufacturing facility has created more than 400 jobs for the local community.

As a result of the site's transformation, Puritan is opening a second swab manufacturing factory in Pittsfield, funded by COVID-19 relief money from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act. The second facility is expected to employ an additional 200 workers and produce 50 million swabs per month.



From the 1950s until it closed in 2015, the UTC Fire and Security facility manufactured products including printed circuit boards, fire and smoke alarms and medical alert devices.



The site's cleanup and redevelopment paved the way for Puritan Medical Products to expand its role as one of the world's major COVID-19 testing swab manufacturers.