HOW TO FIND VOC INFORMATION FOR COATING OPERATIONS
WHAT INFORMATION DO I NEED TO FIND?

To complete a permit application for a coating operation, you must first find Volatile Organic Compound (VOC) information for all components in each coating you plan to use.

Each component has the following information:

VOC Actual – sometimes labeled ‘Material VOC’, ‘Total VOC’, or ‘Emitted VOC’

VOC Regulatory – sometimes labeled ‘VOC content less water and exempt compounds’, ‘VOC as applied’, or ‘VOC EPA Method 24’

Percent Water and Exempt Compounds

A complete application will have at least two of the above three pieces of information for EACH component used in the coating operation.
WHERE CAN I FIND VOC INFORMATION?

The manufacturer of your coatings will usually have a variety of sources to find VOC information:

Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) or Safety Data Sheets (SDS)

Product Data Sheets (PDS)

Environmental Data Sheets (EDS)

Product Label

Manufacturer’s Website

Manufacturer’s Technical Support Department
‘MSDS’ and ‘SDS’ refer to the same document. It contains a material’s ingredient information, as well as ways to safely handle and store the material.

A MSDS or SDS typically also contains the VOC information you need. Start with this document. If a MSDS doesn’t already come with the product when you purchase it, contact the manufacturer.
MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEETS (MSDS) OR SAFETY DATA SHEETS (SDS)

The ‘Physical and Chemical Properties’ section of a MSDS or SDS will typically have VOC information. This is usually Section 9.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SECTION 9 — PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PRODUCT WEIGHT: 7.89 lb/gal 945 g/l</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPECIFIC GRAVITY: 0.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOILING POINT: 300 - 395 °F 148 - 201 °C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MELTING POINT: Not Available</td>
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<tr>
<td>VOLATILE VOLUME: 54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EVAPORATION RATE: Slower than ether</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VAPOR DENSITY: Heavier than air</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOLUBILITY IN WATER: Not Available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VOLATILE ORGANIC COMPOUNDS (VOC Theoretical - As Packaged)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.49 lb/gal 418 g/l Less Water and Federally Exempt Solvents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.49 lb/gal 418 g/l Emitted VOC</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SECTION 10 — STABILITY AND REACTIVITY

STABILITY — Stable
CONDITIONS TO AVOID

VOC information can also be found in MSDS or SDS sections like:

‘Regulatory Information’ - usually Section 15 or 16
‘Composition/Ingredient Information’ - typically found at the beginning of a MSDS or SDS
‘Other Information’ - typically found at the end of a MSDS or SDS
PRODUCT DATA SHEETS (PDS)

A PDS is a document that gives an in-depth description of coating characteristics and its potential uses.

VOC information can typically be found in sections like ‘Product Characteristics’.

If your coating has more than one component, the PDS is typically a great resource of VOC information for the mixture.
An EDS is a document that gives information in regards to environmental considerations such as air quality, water quality, and toxic waste disposal. If a manufacture supplies an EDS, there is a good chance it will have the VOC information you need.
WHAT IF THESE DOCUMENTS DON’T HAVE THE VOC INFORMATION I NEED?

If the documents supplied by the manufacturer do not contain the VOC information necessary to complete your application, you must contact the manufacturer. Use:

- The product label
- The contact information at the top of a supplied document
- The manufacturer’s website

Representatives for the manufacturer that can help supply VOC information include:

- Chemists
- Product/Customer Service Engineers
- Environmental Health Personnel