



VOC

UPDATE

NEW VOC LAWS EFFECTIVE IN ILLINOIS JULY 1, 2009!

The New Regulations

New AIM/VOC (Volatile Organic Compounds) regulations for paints go into effect on 7/1/09 in Illinois. These regulations are similar to those that have been implemented in Connecticut, Maine, New Hampshire, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Washington DC, northern Virginia and most recently in Ohio.

Under the new regulations, lower VOC limits will be in effect for approximately 54 coatings categories, such as flats, non-flats, primers, stains, varnishes and industrial maintenance coatings. All coatings sold or used within Illinois must comply with the new VOC limits.

Many existing oil-based primers and finishes are not compliant with the regulations and are being replaced by low VOC versions.

Although the new VOC regulations are effective beginning 7/1/09 in Illinois, there are certain exceptions which are important to users. These exceptions are:

- 1 Container sizes of one quart or smaller
- 2 Aerosol Coatings
- 3 Coatings that are shop-applied to items of production
- 4 Coatings manufactured prior to 7/1/09 can be sold.



New regulations for architectural, industrial maintenance, and traffic coatings impact Illinois.

How The New VOC Regulations Affect You

- Painting contractors must use only compliant coatings in their field work in Illinois beginning 7/1/09. Acceptable coatings will either be manufactured prior to 7/1/09 or will meet the new VOC limitations.
- Painting contractors are responsible for ensuring that their employees comply with the regulations.
- It is unlawful for coatings suppliers to distribute any non-compliant coatings in regulated areas.

What Should A Painting Contractor Do **BEFORE** The VOC Regulations Go Into Effect?

- 1 Contact Sherwin-Williams to review the steps we have taken to comply with the regulations, including any reformulations of the paints that you commonly specify.
- 2 Discuss with your Sherwin-Williams Representative what VOC-compliant alternatives we have available to replace the non-compliant products you may currently use. *An attractive option is Sherwin-Williams advanced waterborne and high-solids alkyd coatings in place of non-compliant oil-based paints and primers.*
- 3 Make sure any bids or submittals for July 2009 and beyond that are for jobs in regulated areas include only VOC-compliant coatings.
- 4 Discuss with your Sherwin-Williams Representative training materials and resources we have available to help you educate your employees and customers.

What Should A Painting Contractor Do **AFTER** The VOC Regulations Go Into Effect?

- 1 If you are working in a regulated area, work with your Sherwin-Williams Representative to ensure we are *providing* you with only VOC-compliant coatings, or coatings that meet one of the listed exceptions*.
- 2 If you are working in a regulated area, make sure that you are *applying* only VOC-compliant coatings, or coatings that meet one of the listed exceptions*.
- 3 Due to the “grandfather clause” exemption, a contractor can complete on-going jobs with non-compliant coatings that were manufactured prior to 7/1/09 for projects in Illinois.



**SHERWIN
WILLIAMS.**

We Are Your Source for VOC-Compliant Coatings

Sherwin-Williams is the recognized industry leader in low-VOC coatings. Through the years, we have undertaken extensive research and development to commercialize user-friendly, high performance, low-VOC coatings that meet the stringent requirements of all national and state regulations. The result is a complete line of VOC-compliant products with no sacrifice in performance or application characteristics. See your Sherwin-Williams representative for our complete listing of VOC-compliant products.

For additional information on the new VOC regulations, contact your Sherwin-Williams sales representative or local store manager. To find a store near you go to www.sherwin-williams.com or call 1-800-4SHERWIN.

**see front page for listed exceptions*