



AEROSOL SOLVENTS USED IN AUTOBODY SHOPS

Ventura County Air Pollution Control District (APCD) Rule 74.18, Motor Vehicle and Mobile Equipment Coating Operations, applies to the use of coatings for motor vehicles, mobile equipment, and their parts and components. Rule 74.18 limits the amount of reactive organic compounds – ROCs (also called volatile organic compounds – VOCs) in coatings and solvents used in autobody coating operations.

District staff has observed that some autobody shop operators are using aerosol solvents for surface cleaning. Any solvent used for surface preparation and/or cleaning must have less than 200 grams of ROCs per liter of material. Information available to the APCD indicates that the aerosol surface preparation solvents currently in use contain more than 200 grams of ROCs per liter of material, and therefore do not comply with Rule 74.18.

To date, the District has taken limited enforcement action against those shops found using non-compliant aerosol cleaning materials. **Effective September 1, 2003, the District will begin issuing Notices of Violation for the use of aerosol surface preparation or cleaning solvents that have more than 200 grams of ROCs per liter of material.**

If you have any questions whether the aerosol solvents you use contain more than 200 grams of ROCs per liter of material, examine the Material Safety Data Sheet, or contact your solvent supplier or the solvent manufacturer.

Questions?

For more information or to obtain a copy of Rule 74.18, contact Dan Searcy in the District's Compliance Section at 805/645-1494.

The APCD's rules can be found on the Internet at www.arb.ca.gov/drdb/ven/cur.htm.