

RULE 215 - ARCHITECTURAL COATINGS

(Revised: 9/08/94; 9/27/94, 6/20/2017, 08/ 25/2020)

215.1 APPLICABILITY:

- A. Except as provided in Section 215.3, this rule is applicable to any person who supplies, manufactures, blends, repackages, sells, offers for sale, applies, or solicits the application of any architectural coating for use in the District.

215.2 SEVERABILITY:

- A. Each provision of this rule shall be deemed severable. In the event that any provision of this rule is determined to be invalid, the remainder of this rule shall continue in full force and effect.

215.3 EXEMPTIONS:

- A. The requirements of this rule shall not apply to:
 - 1. Any architectural coating that is supplied, sold, offered for sale, or manufactured for use outside of the District or for shipment to other manufacturers for reformulation or repackaging.
 - 2. Architectural coatings supplied in containers having capacities of one liter (1.057 quart) or less provided the following requirements are met:
 - a. The container is not bundled together with other containers of the same specific coating category (listed in the Table of Standards) to be sold as a unit that exceeds one liter (1.057 quarts), excluding containers packed together for shipping to a retail outlet.
 - b. The label or any other product literature does not suggest combining multiple containers of the same specific category (listed in the Table of Standards) so that the combination exceeds one liter (1.057 quarts).
 - 3. Architectural coatings sold in non-refillable aerosol containers having capacities of one liter or less, or as defined as “Aerosol Coating Product” in Section 215.9.

215.4 REQUIREMENTS:

- A. Except as provided in Sections 215.4B and 215.4C, no person shall, within the District, supply, sell, offer for sale, apply, or solicit the application of or manufacture, blend, repackage for use within the District, any architectural coating which, at the time of sale or manufacture, contains more than the corresponding limit specified in the **Table of Standards**. Limits are expressed as “VOC Regulatory”, thinned to the manufacturer’s maximum thinning recommendation, excluding any colorant added to tint bases.

**TABLE OF STANDARDS
VOC CONTENT LIMITS FOR ARCHITECTURAL COATINGS**

VOC COATINGS CATEGORY Grams VOC/L less water and exempt organic compounds	Limit (g/L)
Flat Coatings	50
Nonflat Coatings	100

VOC COATINGS CATEGORY Grams VOC/L less water and exempt organic compounds	Limit (g/L)
Nonflat - High Gloss Coatings	150
Specialty Coatings	
Aluminum Roof Coatings	400
Basement Specialty Coatings	400
Bituminous Roof Coatings	50
Bituminous Roof Primers	350
Bond Breakers	350
Concrete Curing Compounds	350
Concrete/Masonry Sealers	100
Driveway Sealers	50
Dry Fog Coatings	150
Faux Finishing Coatings	350
Fire Resistive Coatings	350
Floor Coatings	100
Form Release Compounds	250
Graphic Arts Coatings (Sign Paints)	500
High Temperature Coatings	420
Industrial Maintenance Coatings	250
Low-Solids Coatings*	120
Magnesite Cement Coatings	450
Mastic Texture Coatings	100
Metallic Pigmented Coatings	500
Multi-Color Coatings	250
Pre-Treatment Wash Primers	420
Primers, Sealers, and Undercoaters	100
Reactive Penetrating Sealers	350
Recycled Coatings	250
Roof Coatings	50
Rust Preventative Coatings	250
Shellacs: Clear	730
Shellacs: Opaque	550
Specialty Primers, Sealers, and Undercoaters	100
Stains	250
Stone Consolidants	450
Swimming Pool Coatings	340
Traffic Marking Coatings	100
Tub and Tile Refinish Coatings	420
Waterproofing Membranes	250
Wood Coatings	275
Wood Preservatives	350
Zinc-Rich Primers	340

*For Low-Solids Coatings the limit is expressed as VOC Actual.

B. **MOST RESTRICTIVE VOC LIMIT:** If a coating meets the definition in Section 215.9 for one or more specialty coating categories listed in the Table of Standards, then that coating is required to meet the VOC limit for the applicable specialty coating listed in the Table of Standards rather than the VOC limits for Flat, Nonflat, or Nonflat – High Gloss coatings.

With the exception of the specialty coating categories specified in subsections 215.4B.1 through 215.4B.12, if a coating is recommended for use in more than one of the coating categories listed in the Table of Standards, the most restrictive (or lowest) VOC content limit shall apply. This requirement applies to: usage recommendations that appear anywhere on the coating container, anywhere on any label or sticker affixed to the container, or in any sales, advertising, or technical literature supplied by a manufacturer or anyone acting on their behalf.

1. Metallic pigmented coatings.
2. Shellacs.
3. Pretreatment wash primers.
4. Industrial maintenance coatings.
5. Low-solids coatings.
6. Wood preservatives.
7. High temperature coatings.
8. Bituminous roof primers.
9. Specialty primers, sealers, and undercoaters.
10. Aluminum roof coatings.
11. Zinc-rich primers.
12. Wood Coatings.

- C. **SELL-THROUGH OF COATINGS:** A coating manufactured prior to January 1, 2018 and that complied with the standards in effect at the time the coating was manufactured, may be sold, supplied, or offered for sale for up to three years after January 1, 2018. Such coatings may be applied at any time, both before and after January 1, 2018. This section does not apply to any coating that does not display the date or date-code required by Section 215.5A.
- D. **PAINTING PRACTICES:** All architectural coating containers shall be closed when not in use. Containers of any VOC-containing materials used for thinning and cleanup shall also be closed when not in use.
- E. **THINNING:** No person who applies or solicits the application of any architectural coating shall apply a coating that is thinned to exceed the applicable VOC limit specified in the Table of Standards.
- F. **COATINGS NOT LISTED IN THE TABLE OF STANDARDS:** The VOC content limit for coatings that do not meet the definition for any of the coating categories listed in the Table of Standards shall be determined by classifying the coating as a Flat, Nonflat, or Nonflat – High Gloss coating, based on its gloss, as defined in Sections 215.9R, 215.9KK, and 215.9LL. The corresponding Flat, Nonflat, or Nonflat – High Gloss VOC limits in the Table of Standards shall apply.

215.5 CONTAINER LABELING REQUIREMENTS:

Each manufacturer of any architectural coating subject to this rule shall display the information listed in Sections 215.5A through 215.5K on the coating container (or label) in which the coating is sold or distributed.

- A. **DATE CODE:** The date the coating was manufactured, or a date code representing the date, shall be indicated on the label, lid, or bottom of the container. If the manufacturer uses a date code for any coating, the manufacturer shall file an explanation of each code with the Executive Officer of the California Air Resources Board (CARB).
- B. **THINNING RECOMMENDATIONS:** The manufacturer's thinning recommendations shall be indicated on the label or lid of the container. This requirement does not apply to the thinning of architectural coatings with water. If thinning of the coating prior to use is not necessary, the recommendation must specify that the coating is to be applied without thinning.

- C. **VOC CONTENT:** One of the following values in grams of VOC per liter of coating shall be indicated on the container:
1. Maximum VOC Content as determined from all potential product formulations;
 2. VOC Content as determined from actual formulation data; or
 3. VOC Content as determined using the test methods in Section 215.7B.
- If thinning is not recommended, the container must display the VOC Content, as supplied. If thinning is recommended, the container must display the VOC Content, including the maximum amount of thinning solvent recommended by the manufacturer. If the coating is a multi-component product, the container must display the VOC content as mixed or catalyzed. If the coating contains silanes, siloxanes, or other ingredients that generate ethanol or other VOCs during the curing process, the VOC content must include the VOCs emitted during curing. VOC Content shall be determined as defined in Sections 215.9TTT, 215.9UUU, and 215.9VVV.
- D. **FAUX FINISHING COATINGS:** Effective January 1, 2018, the labels of all clear topcoat Faux Finishing coatings shall prominently display the statement “This product can only be sold or used as part of a Faux Finishing coating system.”
- E. **INDUSTRIAL MAINTENANCE COATINGS:** Effective January 1, 2018, the labels of all Industrial Maintenance coatings shall prominently display the statement “For industrial use only” or “For professional use only” or “Not for residential use” or “Not intended for residential use.”
- F. **RUST PREVENTATIVE COATINGS:** The labels of all rust preventative coatings shall prominently display the statement “For Metal Substrates Only.”
- G. **REACTIVE PENETRATING SEALERS:** Effective January 1, 2018, the labels of all Reactive Penetrating Sealers shall prominently display the statement “Reactive Penetrating Sealer.”
- H. **STONE CONSOLIDANTS:** Effective January 1, 2018, the labels of all Stone Consolidants shall prominently display the statement “Stone Consolidant - For Professional Use Only.”
- I. **NONFLAT - HIGH GLOSS COATINGS:** Effective January 1, 2018, the labels of all Nonflat – High Gloss coatings shall prominently display the words “High Gloss.”
- J. **WOOD COATINGS:** Effective January 1, 2018, the labels of all Wood Coatings shall prominently display the statement “For Wood Substrates Only.”
- K. **ZINC RICH PRIMERS:** Effective January 1, 2018, the labels of all Zinc Rich Primers shall prominently display the statement “For industrial use only” or “For professional use only” or “Not for residential use” or “Not intended for residential use.”

215.6 REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:

- A. **SALES DATA:** A responsible official from each manufacturer shall upon request of the Executive Officer of the CARB or the District Air Pollution Control Officer (APCO), or his or her delegate, provide data concerning the distribution and sales of architectural coatings for emissions inventory purposes. The responsible official shall, within 180 days of written notice, provide information, including but not limited to:
1. The manufacturer name, location of manufacture and mailing address;
 2. The contact person name, address, and telephone number;
 3. Coating product name as it appears on the label and the applicable coating category;
 4. Whether the product is marketed for interior or exterior use or both;
 5. The number of gallons sold in California in containers greater than one liter (1.057 quart) and equal to or less than one liter (1.057 quart);
 6. The VOC Actual content and VOC Regulatory content in grams per liter. If thinning is recommended, list the VOC Actual content and VOC Regulatory content after maximum recommended thinning. If containers less than one liter have a different VOC content than containers greater than one liter, list separately. If the coating is a multi-component product, provide the VOC content as mixed or catalyzed;
 7. The VOC constituents names and CAS numbers;

8. The names and CAS numbers of any compounds in the product specifically exempted from the VOC definition, as listed in Rule 101, Section 101.2 Definitions "Exempt Compounds;"
 9. Whether the product is marketed as solventborne, waterborne, or 100 percent solids;
 10. Description of resin or binder in the product;
 11. Whether the coating is a single-component or multi-component product;
 12. The density of the product in pounds per gallon; and
 13. The percent by weight of: solids, all volatile materials, water, and any compounds in the product specifically exempted from the VOC definition, as listed in Section 215.9SSS; and the percent by volume of: solids, water, and any compounds in the product specifically exempted from the VOC definition, as listed in Rule 101, Section 101.2 Definitions "Exempt Compounds."
- B. All sales data listed in Section 215.6A shall be maintained by the responsible official for a minimum of three years. Sales data submitted by the responsible official to the APCO may be claimed as confidential, and such information shall be handled in accordance with the procedures specified in Title 17, California Code of Regulations Sections 91000-91022.

215.7 COMPLIANCE PROVISIONS AND TEST METHODS:

- A. **CALCULATION OF VOC CONTENT:** For the purpose of determining compliance with the VOC content limits in the Table of Standards, the VOC content of a coating shall be determined as defined in Sections 215.9TTT, 215.9UUU, or 215.9VVV. The VOC content of a tint base shall be determined without colorant that is added after the tint base is manufactured. If the manufacturer does not recommend thinning, the VOC Content must be calculated for the product as supplied. If the manufacturer recommends thinning, the VOC Content must be calculated including the maximum amount of thinning solvent recommended by the manufacturer. If the coating is a multi-component product, the VOC content must be calculated as mixed or catalyzed. If the coating contains silanes, siloxanes, or other ingredients that generate ethanol or other VOCs during the curing process, the VOC content must include the VOCs emitted during curing.
- B. **VOC CONTENT:** To determine the physical properties of a coating to perform the calculations in Section 215.9TTT or 215.9VVV, the reference method is U.S. EPA Method 24, except as provided in Sections 215.7C and 215.7D. An alternative method to determine the VOC content of coatings is SCAQMD Method 304-91 (Revised 1996). The exempt compounds content shall be determined by SCAQMD Method 303-91 (Revised 1993), BAAQMD Method 43 (Revised 1996), or BAAQMD Method 41 (Revised 1995). To determine the VOC content of a coating, the manufacturer may use U.S. EPA Method 24, or an alternative method as provided in Section 215.7C, formulation data, or any other reasonable means for predicting that the coating has been formulated as intended (e.g., quality assurance, checks, recordkeeping). If there are any inconsistencies between the results of a Method 24 test and any other means for determining VOC content, the Method 24 test results will govern, except when an alternative method is approved as specified in section 215.7C. The APCO may require the manufacturer to conduct a Method 24 analysis.
- C. **ALTERNATIVE TEST METHODS:** Other test methods may also be used if demonstrated to provide results that are acceptable for purposes of determining compliance with Section 215.7B and after review and approval by the staff of the District, the CARB, and the U.S. EPA.
- D. **METHACRYLATE TRAFFIC MARKING COATINGS:** Analysis of methacrylate multicomponent coatings used as traffic marking coatings shall be conducted according to a modification of U.S. EPA Method 24 (40 CFR 59, subpart D, Appendix A), incorporated by reference in Section 215.7E.11. This method has not been approved for methacrylate multicomponent coatings used for purposes other than as traffic marking coatings or for other classes of multicomponent coatings.
- E. **TEST METHODS:** The following test methods are incorporated by reference herein and shall be used to test coatings subject to the provisions of this rule:

1. **FLAME SPREAD INDEX:** ASTM E 84-07, “Standard Test Method for Surface Burning Characteristics of Building Materials.”
2. **FIRE RESISTANCE RATING:** ASTM E 119-07, “Standard Test Methods for Fire Tests of Building Construction and Materials.”
3. **GLOSS DETERMINATION:** ASTM D 523-89 (1999), “Standard Test Method for Specular Gloss.”
4. **METAL CONTENT:** SCAQMD Method 318-95, “Determination of Weight Percent Elemental Metal in Coatings by X-Ray Diffraction,” SCAQMD Laboratory Methods of Analysis for Enforcement Samples.
5. **ACID CONTENT:** ASTM D 1613-06, “Standard Test Method for Acidity in Volatile Solvents and Chemical Intermediates Used in Paint, Varnish, Lacquer, and Related Products.”
6. **EXEMPT COMPOUNDS--SILOXANES:** Exempt compounds that are cyclic, branched, or linear completely methylated siloxanes shall be analyzed as exempt compounds for compliance with Section 215.7 by BAAQMD Method 43, “Determination of Volatile Methylsiloxanes in Solvent-Based Coatings, Inks, and Related Materials,” BAAQMD Manual of Procedures, Volume III, adopted 11/6/96.
7. **EXEMPT COMPOUNDS--PARACHLOROBENZOTRIFLUORIDE (PCBTF):** BAAQMD Method 41, “Determination of Volatile Organic Compounds in Solvent Based Coatings and Related Materials Containing Parachlorobenzotrifluoride,” BAAQMD Manual of Procedures, Volume III, adopted 12/20/95.
8. **EXEMPT COMPOUNDS:** Under U.S. EPA Method 24: SCAQMD Method 303-91 (Revised 1993), “Determination of Exempt Compounds,” SCAQMD Laboratory Methods of Analysis for Enforcement Samples.
9. **VOC CONTENT OF COATINGS:** U.S. EPA Method 24 as it exists in appendix A of 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) part 60, “Determination of Volatile Matter Content, Water Content, Density, Volume Solids, and Weight Solids of Surface Coatings.”
10. **ALTERNATIVE VOC CONTENT OF COATINGS:** Either U.S. EPA Method 24 or SCAQMD Method 304-91 (Revised 1996), “Determination of Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC) in Various Materials,” SCAQMD Laboratory Methods of Analysis for Enforcement Samples.
11. **METHACRYLATE MULTICOMPONENT TRAFFIC MARKING COATINGS:** 40 CFR part 59, subpart D, appendix A, “Determination of Volatile Matter Content of Methacrylate Multicomponent Coatings Used as Traffic Marking Coatings.”
12. **HYDROSTATIC PRESSURE FOR BASEMENT SPECIALTY COATINGS:** ASTM D7088-04, “Standard Practice for Resistance to Hydrostatic Pressure for Coatings Used in Below Grade Applications Applied to Masonry.”
13. **TUB AND TILE REFINISH COATING ADHESION:** ASTM D 4585-99, “Standard Practice for Testing Water Resistance of Coatings Using Controlled Condensation” and ASTM D3359-02, “Standard Test Methods for Measuring Adhesion by Tape Test.”
14. **TUB AND TILE REFINISH COATING HARDNESS:** ASTM D 3363-05, “Standard Test Method for Film Hardness by Pencil Test.”
15. **TUB AND TILE REFINISH COATING ABRASION RESISTANCE:** ASTM D 4060-07, “Standard Test Methods for Abrasion Resistance of Organic Coatings by the Taber Abraser”.
16. **TUB AND TILE REFINISH COATING WATER RESISTANCE:** ASTM D 4585-99, “Standard Practice for Testing Water Resistance of Coatings Using Controlled Condensation” and ASTM D714-02e1, “Standard Test Method for Evaluating Degree of Blistering of Paints.”
17. **WATERPROOFING MEMBRANE:** ASTM C836-06, “Standard Specification for High Solids Content, Cold Liquid-Applied Elastomeric Waterproofing Membrane for Use with Separate Wearing Course.”
18. **MOLD AND MILDEW GROWTH FOR BASEMENT SPECIALTY COATINGS:** ASTM D3273-00, “Standard Test Method for Resistance to Growth of Mold on the Surface of Interior

Coatings in an Environmental Chamber” and ASTM D3274-95, “Standard Test Method for Evaluating Degree of Surface Disfigurement of Paint Films by Microbial (Fungal or Algal) Growth or Soil and Dirt Accumulation.”

19. **REACTIVE PENETRATING SEALER WATER REPELLENCY:** ASTM C67-07, “Standard Test Methods for Sampling and Testing Brick and Structural Clay Tile”; or ASTM C97-02, “Standard Test Methods for Absorption and Bulk Specific Gravity of Dimension Stone”; or ASTM C140-06, “Standard Test Methods for Sampling and Testing Concrete Masonry Units and Related Units.”
20. **REACTIVE PENETRATING SEALER WATER VAPOR TRANSMISSION:** ASTM E96/E96M-05, “Standard Test Method for Water Vapor Transmission of Materials.”
21. **REACTIVE PENETRATING SEALER - CHLORIDE SCREENING APPLICATIONS:** National Cooperative Highway Research Report 244 (1981), “Concrete Sealers for the Protection of Bridge Structures.”
22. **STONE CONSOLIDANTS:** ASTM E2167-01, “Standard Guide for Selection and Use of Stone Consolidants.”

215.8 VIOLATIONS:

- A. Failure to comply with any provision of this rule shall constitute a violation of this rule.

215.9 DEFINITIONS:

- A. **ADHESIVE:** Any chemical substance that is applied for the purpose of bonding two surfaces together other than by mechanical means.
- B. **AEROSOL COATING PRODUCT:** A pressurized coating product containing pigments or resins that dispense product ingredients by means of a propellant and is packaged in a disposable can for hand-held application or for use in specialized equipment for ground traffic/marketing applications.
- C. **ALUMINUM ROOF COATING:** A coating labeled and formulated exclusively for application to roofs and containing at least 84 grams of elemental aluminum pigment per liter of coating (at least 0.7 pounds per gallon). Pigment content shall be determined in accordance with SCAQMD Method 318-95, incorporated by reference in Section 215.7E.4 Metal Content of Coatings.
- D. **APPURTENANCES:** Accessories to an architectural structure, coated at the site of installation whether installed or detached, including, but not limited to: hand railings, cabinets, bathroom and kitchen fixtures, fences, rain-gutters and down spouts, window screens, doors, elevators, lamp-posts, heating and air conditioning equipment, other fixed mechanical equipment, large fixed stationary tools, partitions, pipes and piping systems, stairways, fixed ladders, catwalks, fire escapes, and concrete forms.
- E. **ARCHITECTURAL COATINGS:** A coating to be applied to stationary structures or their appurtenances at the site of installation, portable buildings at the site of installation, to pavements, or curbs. Coatings applied in shop applications or to non-stationary structures such as airplanes, ships, boats, railcars, and automobiles, and adhesives are not considered architectural coatings for the purposes of this rule.
- F. **BASEMENT SPECIALTY COATING:** A clear or opaque coating that is labeled and formulated for application to concrete and masonry surfaces to provide a hydrostatic seal for basements and other below-grade surfaces. Basement Specialty Coatings must meet the following criteria:
 1. Coating must be capable of withstanding at least 10 psi of hydrostatic pressure, as determined in accordance with ASTM D7088-04, which is incorporated by reference in subsection 215.7E.12 Hydrostatic Pressure for Basement Specialty Coatings; and,
 2. Coating must be resistant to mold and mildew growth and must achieve a microbial growth rating of 8 or more, as determined in accordance with ASTM D3273-00 and ASTM D3274-95,

incorporated by reference in Section 215.7E.18 Mold and Mildew Growth for Basement Specialty Coatings.

- G. **BELOW GROUND WOOD PRESERVATIVES:** Coatings formulated to protect below ground wood from decay or insect attack and which contains a wood preservative chemical registered by the California Department of Food and Agriculture. Effective January 1, 2018, any coating meeting this definition will be subject to the VOC content limit for “Wood Preservatives” category.
- H. **BITUMINOUS COATING MATERIALS:** Black or brownish materials, soluble in carbon disulfide, consisting mainly of hydrocarbons and which are obtained from natural deposits or as residues from the distillation of crude petroleum oils, or of low grades of coal. Bitumens include, but are not limited to, asphalt, tar, pitch, and asphaltite.
 - 1. **BITUMINOUS ROOF COATING:** A coating which incorporates bitumens that is labeled and formulated exclusively for roofing.
 - 2. **BITUMINOUS ROOF PRIMER:** A primer which incorporates bitumens that is labeled and formulated exclusively for roofing and intended for the purpose of preparing a weathered or aged surface or improving the adhesion of subsequent surfacing components.
- I. **BOND BREAKERS:** Coatings labeled and formulated for application between layers of concrete to prevent the freshly poured top layer of concrete from bonding to the layer over which it is poured.
- J. **COATING:** A material applied onto or impregnated into a substrate for protective, decorative, or functional purposes. Such materials include, but are not limited to, paints, varnishes, sealers, and stains.
- K. **COLORANT:** A concentrated pigment dispersion in water, solvent, and/or binder that is added to an architectural coating after packaging in sale units to produce the desired color.
- L. **CLEAR WOOD FINISHES:** Clear and semi-transparent coatings, including lacquers and varnishes, applied to wood substrates to provide a transparent or translucent solid film. Effective January 1, 2018, any coating meeting this definition will be subject to the VOC content limit for “Wood Coatings” category.
- M. **CONCRETE CURING COMPOUND:** Coatings labeled and formulated for application to freshly poured concrete to retard the evaporation of water or harden or dustproof the surface.
- N. **CONCRETE MASONRY SEALER:** A clear or opaque coating that is labeled and formulated primarily for application to concrete and masonry surfaces to perform one or more of the following functions:
 - 1. Prevent penetration of water;
 - 2. Provide resistance against abrasion, alkalis, acids, mildew, staining, or ultraviolet light; or
 - 3. Harden or dustproof the surface of aged or cured concrete.
- O. **DRIVEWAY SEALER:** A coating labeled and formulated for application to worn asphalt driveway surfaces to perform one or more of the following functions:
 - 1. Fill cracks;
 - 2. Seal the surface to provide protection; or
 - 3. Restore or preserve the appearance.
- P. **DRY FOG COATING:** Coatings labeled and formulated only for spray application such that overspray droplets dry before subsequent contact with other surfaces.
- Q. **EXEMPT ORGANIC COMPOUNDS:** A compound identified as exempt under the definition of Volatile Organic Compound (VOC), Section 215.9SSS. Exempt compounds content of a coating shall be determined by U.S. EPA Method 24 or South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) Method 303-91 (Revised 1993), incorporated by reference in Sections 215.7E.8 and 215.7E. 9.
- R. **FAUX FINISHING COATING:** A coating labeled and formulated to meet one or more of the following criteria:
 - 1. A glaze or textured coating used to create artistic effects;
 - 2. A decorative coating used to create a metallic, iridescent, or pearlescent appearance that contains at least 48 grams of pearlescent mica pigment or other iridescent pigment per liter of coating as applied (at least 0.4 pounds per gallon);

3. A decorative coating used to create a metallic appearance that contains less than 48 grams of elemental metallic pigment per liter of coating as applied (less than 0.4 pounds per gallon), when tested in accordance with SCAQMD Method 318-95, incorporated by reference in Section 215.7E.4;
 4. A decorative coating used to create a metallic appearance that contains greater than 48 grams of elemental metallic pigment per liter of coating as applied (greater than 0.4 pounds per gallon) and which requires a clear topcoat to prevent the degradation of the finish under normal use conditions. The metallic pigment content shall be determined in accordance with SCAQMD Method 318-95, incorporated by reference in Section 215.7E.4; or
 5. A clear topcoat to seal and protect a Faux Finishing coating that meets the requirements of Sections 215.9R.1, 215.9R.2, 215.9R.3, or 215.9R.4. These clear topcoats must be sold and used solely as part of a Faux Finishing coating system, and must be labeled in accordance with Section 215.5D.
- S. **FIRE RESISTIVE COATINGS:** A coating labeled and formulated to protect structural integrity by increasing the fire endurance of interior or exterior steel and other structural materials. The Fire Resistive category includes sprayed fire resistive materials and intumescent fire resistive coatings that are used to bring structural materials into compliance with federal, state, and local building code requirements. Fire Resistive coatings shall be tested in accordance with ASTM Designation E 84-07, incorporated by reference in Section 215.7E.2. Fire Resistive coatings and testing agencies must be approved by building code officials.
- T. **FIRE RETARDANT COATINGS:** Coatings which have a flame spread index of less than 25 when tested in accordance with ASTM Designation E-84-07, "Standard Test Method for Surface Burning Characteristics of Building Material," after application to Douglas fir according to the manufacturer's recommendations or when tested by an equivalent method approved in writing by the APCO. Effective January 1, 2018, the Fire Retardant coating category is eliminated and coatings with fire retardant properties will be subject to the VOC limit of their primary category (e.g., Flat, Nonflat, etc.)
- U. **FLAT COATING:** A coating that is not defined under any other definition in this rule and that registers gloss less than 15 on an 85-degree meter or less than 5 on a 60-degree meter according to ASTM Designation D 523-89 (1999), incorporated by reference in Section 215.7E.3.
- V. **FLOOR COATING:** An opaque coating that is labeled and formulated for application to flooring, including, but not limited to, decks, porches, steps, garage floors, and other horizontal surfaces which may be subject to foot traffic.
- W. **FORM RELEASE COMPOUNDS:** Coatings labeled and formulated for application to a concrete form to prevent the freshly poured concrete from bonding to the form. The form may consist of wood, metal, or some material other than concrete.
- X. **GRAPHIC ARTS COATINGS (SIGN PAINTS):** Coatings labeled, formulated for, and hand-applied by artists using brush, air brush, or roller techniques to indoor and outdoor signs (excluding structural components) and murals, including lettering enamels, poster colors, copy blockers, and bulletin enamels.
- Y. **HIGH-TEMPERATURE COATINGS:** A high-performance coating labeled and formulated for application to substrates exposed continuously or intermittently to temperatures above 400°F.
- Z. **HIGH-TEMPERATURE INDUSTRIAL MAINTENANCE COATINGS:** High performance coatings labeled, formulated for, and applied to substrates exposed continuously or intermittently to temperatures above 400°F. Effective January 1, 2018, any coating meeting this definition will be subject to the VOC content limit for "High Temperature Coatings" category.
- AA. **INDUSTRIAL MAINTENANCE ANTI-GRAFFITI COATINGS:** Two component clear industrial maintenance coatings formulated for and applied to exterior walls and murals to resist repeated scrubbing and exposure to harsh solvents. Effective January 1, 2018, any coating meeting this definition will be subject to the VOC content limit for "Industrial Maintenance Coating" category.

- BB. INDUSTRIAL MAINTENANCE COATING:** High-performance architectural coatings including primers, sealers, undercoaters, intermediate coats, and topcoats formulated for application to substrates, including floors, exposed to one or more of the following extreme environmental conditions listed in subsections 215.9BB.1 through 215.9BB.5 and labeled as specified in Section 215.5E.
1. Immersion in water, wastewater, or chemical solutions (aqueous and non-aqueous solutions), or chronic exposure of interior surfaces to moisture condensation;
 2. Acute or chronic exposure to corrosive, caustic, or acidic agents or to chemicals, chemical fumes, chemical mixtures, or solutions;
 3. Frequent exposure to temperatures in excess of 250°F;
 4. Frequent heavy abrasion, including mechanical wear and frequent scrubbing with industrial solvents, cleaners, or scouring agents; or
 5. Exterior exposure of metal structures.
- CC. LACQUER:** Clear or pigmented coating formulated with nitrocellulose or synthetic resins to dry, by evaporation without chemical reaction and to provide a quick drying, solid protective film. Effective January 1, 2018, any coating meeting this definition will be subject to the VOC content limit for “Wood Coatings” category.
- DD. LOW-SOLIDS COATING:** Coatings containing one pound or less of solids per gallon of material. The VOC content for Low Solids Coating shall be calculated in accordance with Sections 215.9UUU and 215.9TTT.
- EE. MAGNESITE CEMENT COATINGS:** Coatings labeled and formulated for and applied to magnesite cement decking to protect the magnesite cement substrate from erosion by water.
- FF. MANUFACTURER’S MAXIMUM THINNING RECOMMENDATION:** The maximum recommendation for adding thinning solvent(s) indicated on the label or lid of the coating container.
- GG. MASTIC TEXTURE COATINGS:** Coatings labeled and formulated to cover holes, minor cracks, and conceal surface irregularities and which are applied in a thickness of at least 10 mils (dry single coat).
- HH. MEDIUM DENSITY FIBERBOARD (MDF):** A composite wood product, panel, molding, or other building material composed of cellulosic fibers (usually wood) made by dry forming and pressing of a resinated fiber mat.
- II. METALLIC PIGMENTED COATINGS:** A coating that is labeled and formulated to provide a metallic appearance. Coatings containing at least 0.4 pounds of elemental metallic pigment (excluding zinc) per gallon of coating as applied when tested in accordance with SCAQMD Method 318-95. The Metallic Pigmented Coating category does not include coatings applied to roofs or Zinc-Rich Primers.
- JJ. MULTI-COLORED COATINGS:** Coatings labeled and formulated to exhibit more than one color when applied and which are packaged in a single container and applied in a single coat.
- KK. NON-FLAT COATINGS:** A coating that is not defined under any other definition in this rule and that registers a gloss of 15 or greater on an 85-degree meter and five or greater on a 60 degree meter, according to ASTM Designation D 523-89 (1999).
- LL. NONFLAT – HIGH GLOSS COATINGS:** A nonflat coating that registers a gloss of 70 or greater on a 60-degree meter according to ASTM Designation D 523-89 (1999). Nonflat – High Gloss coatings must be labeled in accordance with Section 215.5I.
- MM. OPAQUE STAINS:** All stains not classified as semi-transparent stains. Effective January 1, 2018, any coating meeting this definition will be subject to the VOC content limit for “Stains” category.
- NN. OPAQUE WOOD PRESERVATIVES:** Wood preservatives not classified as clear or semi-transparent wood preservatives or as below ground wood preservatives or low solids wood preservatives. Effective January 1, 2018, any coating meeting this definition will be subject to the VOC content limit for “Wood Preservatives” category.
- OO. PARTICLE BOARD:** A composite wood product panel, molding, or other building material composed of cellulosic material in the form of discrete particles, as distinguished from fibers, flakes, or

strands, which are pressed together with a resin.

- PP. **PEARLESCENT:** Exhibiting various colors depending on the angles of illumination and viewing.
- QQ. **PLYWOOD:** A panel product consisting of layers of wood veneers or composite core pressed together with resin. Plywood includes panel products made by either hot or cold pressing (with resin) veneers to a platform.
- RR. **POST CONSUMER COATING:** Finished coatings generated by a business or consumer that were used and are recovered from or otherwise diverted from the waste stream for the purpose of recycling.
- SS. **PRE-TREATMENT WASH PRIMER:** A coating which contains at least one-half percent acid, by weight, when tested in accordance with ASTM Designation D 1613-06 that is labeled and formulated for application directly to bare metal surfaces to provide necessary surface etching and corrosion resistance and to promote adhesion of subsequent topcoats.
- TT. **PRIMERS, SEALERS, AND UNDERCOATERS:** Coatings labeled, formulated and applied to substrates to:
1. Provide a firm bond between the substrate and subsequent coats;
 2. Prevent subsequent coatings from being absorbed by the substrate;
 3. Prevent harm to subsequent coatings by materials in the substrate;
 4. Provide a smooth surface for the substrate application of coatings;
 5. Provide a clear finish coat to seal the substrate; or
 6. Block materials from penetrating into or leaching out of a substrate
- UU. **REACTIVE PENETRATING SEALER:** A clear or pigmented coating that is labeled and formulated for application to above-grade concrete and masonry substrates to provide protection from water and waterborne contaminants, including, but not limited to, alkalis, acids, and salts. Reactive Penetrating Sealers must penetrate into concrete and masonry substrates and chemically react to form covalent bonds with naturally occurring minerals in the substrate. Reactive Penetrating Sealers line the pores of concrete and masonry substrates with a hydrophobic coating, but do not form a surface film. Reactive Penetrating Sealers must meet all of the following criteria:
1. The Reactive Penetrating Sealer must improve water repellency at least 80 percent after application on a concrete or masonry substrate. This performance must be verified on standardized test specimens, in accordance with one or more of the following standards, incorporated by reference in Section 215.7E.19: ASTM C67-07, or ASTM C97-02, or ASTM C140-06;
 2. The Reactive Penetrating Sealer must not reduce the water vapor transmission rate by more than 2 percent after application on a concrete or masonry substrate. This performance must be verified on standardized test specimens, in accordance with ASTM E96/E96M-05; and
 3. Products labeled and formulated for vehicular traffic surface chloride screening applications must meet the performance criteria listed in the National Cooperative Highway Research Report 244 (1981). Reactive Penetrating Sealers must be labeled in accordance with Section 215.5G.
- VV. **RECYCLED COATING:** An architectural coating formulated such that it contains a minimum of 50 percent by volume post-consumer coating, with a maximum of 50 percent by volume secondary industrial materials or virgin materials.
- WW. **RESIDENTIAL:** Areas where people reside or lodge.
- XX. **ROOF COATINGS:** Non-bituminous coatings labeled and formulated for application to exterior roofs for the primary purpose of preventing penetration of the substrate by water, or reflecting heat and ultraviolet radiation. Metallic pigmented roof coatings which qualify as metallic pigmented coatings shall not be considered to be in this category, but shall be considered to be in the metallic pigmented coatings category.
- YY. **RUST PREVENTATIVE COATING:** A coating formulated to prevent the corrosion of metal surfaces for direct-to-metal coating or application over rusty, previously coated surfaces. This category applies to coatings for metal substrates only and must be labeled as such in accordance with the labeling requirements in Section 215.5F. This category does not include coatings required to be applied as a topcoat over a primer, or coatings for use on wood or other non-metallic surface.

- ZZ. SANDING SEALERS:** Clear wood coatings formulated for and applied to bare wood for sanding and to seal the wood for subsequent application of varnish. Effective January 1, 2018, any coating meeting this definition will be subject to the VOC content limit for “Wood Coating” category.
- AAA. SECONDARY INDUSTRIAL MATERIALS:** Products or by-products of the paint manufacturing process that are of known composition and have economic value but can no longer be used for their intended purpose.
- BBB. SEMI-TRANSPARENT STAINS:** Coatings that contain binders and colored pigments and are formulated to change the color of a surface but not conceal the surface grain pattern or texture. Effective January 1, 2018, any coating meeting this definition will be subject to the VOC content limit for “Stains” category.
- CCC. SEMI-TRANSPARENT WOOD PRESERVATIVES:** Wood preservative stains formulated and used to protect exposed wood from decay or insect attack by the addition of a wood preservative chemicals registered by the California Department of Food and Agriculture, which change the color of a surface but do not conceal the surface, including clear wood preservatives. Effective January 1, 2018, any coating meeting this definition will be subject to the VOC content limit for “Wood Preservatives” category.
- DDD. SHELLACS:** Clear or opaque coatings formulated solely with the resinous secretions of the lac (*Lacifer lacca*) beetle, and formulated to dry by evaporation without a chemical reaction.
- EEE. SHOP APPLICATION:** Application of a coating to a product or a component of a product in or on the premises of a factory or a shop as part of a manufacturing, production, or repairing process (e.g., original equipment manufacturing coatings).
- FFF. SOLICIT:** To require for use or to specify, by written or oral contract.
- GGG. SPECIALTY PRIMERS, SEALERS, AND UNDERCOATERS:** Coatings formulated and used only to repair fire, smoke, or water damage.
- HHH. STAIN:** A semitransparent or opaque coating labeled and formulated to change the color of a surface but not conceal the grain pattern or texture.
- III. STONE CONSOLIDANT:** A coating that is labeled and formulated for application to stone substrates to repair structures damaged by weathering or other decay mechanisms. Stone Consolidants must penetrate into stone substrates to create bonds between particles and consolidate deteriorated material. Stone Consolidants must be specified and used in accordance with ASTM E2167-01. This coating is for professional use only and must be labeled as such, in accordance with the labeling requirements in Section 215.5H.
- JJJ. SWIMMING POOL COATINGS:** Coatings labeled, formulated, and used to coat the interior of swimming pools and to resist swimming pool chemicals. Effective January 1, 2018, this category will also include coatings for swimming pool repair and maintenance.
- KKK. SWIMMING POOL REPAIR COATINGS:** Chlorinated rubber based coatings used for the repair and maintenance of swimming pools over existing chlorinated rubber based coatings. Effective January 1, 2018, any coating meeting this definition will be subject to the VOC content limit for “Swimming Pool Coatings” category.
- LLL. TINT BASE:** An architectural coating to which colorant is added after packaging in sale units to produce a desired color.
- MMM. TRAFFIC COATINGS:** Coatings formulated for and applied to public streets, highways, and other surfaces including, but not limited to curbs, berms, driveways, parking lots, sidewalks and airport runways. Effective January 1, 2018, any coating meeting this definition will be subject to the VOC content limit for “Traffic Marking Coating” category.
- NNN. TRAFFIC MARKING COATING:** Coatings labeled and formulated for and applied to public streets, highways, and other surfaces including curbs, berms, driveways, parking lots, sidewalks and airport runways.
- OOO. TUB AND TILE REFINISH COATING:** Clear or opaque coating that is labeled and formulated exclusively for refinishing the surface of a bathtub, shower, sink, or countertop. Tub and Tile Refinish

coatings must meet all of the following criteria:

1. Have a scratch hardness of 3H or harder and a gouge hardness of 4H or harder determined on bonderite 1000 in accordance with ASTM D3363-05 incorporated by reference in Section 215.7E.14;
2. Have a weight loss of 20 milligrams or less after 1000 cycles as determined by CS-17 wheels on bonderite 1000 in accordance with ASTM D4060-07, incorporated by reference in Section 215.7E.15;
3. Withstand 1,000 hours or more of exposure with few or no #8 blisters as determined on unscribed bonderite, in accordance with ASTM D4585-99, and ASTM D714-02e1, incorporated by reference in Section 215.7E.16; and
4. Have an adhesion rating of 4B or better after 24 hours of recovery. This must be determined on unscribed bonderite, in accordance with ASTM D4585-99 and ASTM D3359- 02.

- PPP. **VARNISHES:** Clear wood finishes formulated with various resins to dry by chemical reaction on exposure to air. Effective January 1, 2018, any coating meeting this definition will be subject to the VOC content limit for “Wood Coatings” category.
- QQQ. **VENEER:** Thin sheets of wood peeled or sliced from logs for use in the manufacture of wood products such as plywood, laminated veneer lumber, or other products.
- RRR. **VIRGIN MATERIAL:** Materials that contain no post-consumer coatings or secondary industrial materials.
- SSS. **VOLATILE ORGANIC COMPOUNDS (VOC):** Any volatile compound containing at least one atom of carbon, excluding those compounds listed in District Rule 101, Section 101.2 Definitions “Exempt Compounds.”
- TTT. **VOC ACTUAL:** The weight of VOC per volume of coating and it is calculated with the following equation:

$$\text{VOC Actual} = \frac{(W_s - W_w - W_{ec})}{(V_m)}$$

Where:

- VOC Actual = the grams of VOC per liter of coating (also known as “Material VOC”).
- W_s = weight of volatiles, in grams.
- W_w = weight of water, in grams.
- W_{ec} = weight of exempt compounds, in grams.
- V_m = volume of coating, in liters.

- UUU. **VOC CONTENT:** The weight of VOC per volume of coating. VOC Content is VOC Regulatory, as defined in Section 215.9VVV, for all coatings except those in the Low Solids category. For coatings in the Low Solids category, the VOC Content is VOC Actual, as defined in Section 215.9TTT. If the coating is a multi-component product, the VOC content is VOC Regulatory as mixed or catalyzed. If the coating contains silanes, siloxanes, or other ingredients that generate ethanol or other VOCs during the curing process, the VOC content must include the VOCs emitted during curing.
- VVV. **VOC REGULATORY:** The weight of VOC per volume of coating, less the volume of water and exempt compounds. It is calculated with the following equation:

$$\text{VOC Regulatory} = \frac{(W_s - W_w - W_{ec})}{(V_m - V_w - V_{ec})}$$

Where:

- VOC Regulatory = the grams of VOC per liter of coating, less water and exempt compounds (also known as “Coating VOC”).
- W_s = weight of volatiles, in grams.
- W_w = weight of water, in grams.
- W_{ec} = weight of exempt compounds, in grams.

- V_m = volume of coating, in liters.
- V_w = volume of water, in liters.
- V_{ec} = volume of exempt compounds, in liters.

- WWW. WATERPROOFING MEMBRANE:** A clear or opaque coating labeled and formulated for application to concrete and masonry surfaces to provide a seamless waterproofing membrane that prevents penetration of water into the substrate. Waterproofing Membranes are intended for the following waterproofing applications: below-grade surfaces, between concrete slabs, inside tunnels, inside concrete planters, and under flooring materials. The Waterproofing Membrane category does not include topcoats that are included in the Concrete/Masonry Sealer category (e.g., parking deck topcoats, pedestrian deck topcoats, etc.). Waterproofing Membranes must meet the following criteria:
1. Coating must be applied in a single coat of at least 25 mils (at least 0.025 inch) dry film thickness; and
 2. Coatings must meet or exceed the requirements contained in ASTM C836-06.
- The Waterproofing Membrane category does not include topcoats that are included in the Concrete/Masonry Sealer category (e.g., parking deck topcoats, pedestrian deck topcoats, etc.).
- XXX. WATERPROOFING SEALERS:** Clear, colorless, or opaque coatings formulated and applied for the sole purpose of protecting porous substrates by preventing the penetration of water and which do not alter the surface appearance or texture. Effective January 1, 2018, any coating meeting this definition will be subject to the VOC content limit for “Waterproofing Membranes” category.
- YYY. WOOD COATINGS:** Coatings labeled and formulated for application to wood substrates only. This category includes the following clear and semitransparent coatings: lacquers; varnishes; sanding sealers; penetrating oils; clear stains; wood conditioners used as undercoats; and wood sealers used as topcoats. This category also includes the following opaque wood coatings: opaque lacquers; opaque sanding sealers; and opaque lacquer undercoaters. Wood Coatings must be labeled “For Wood Substrates Only,” in accordance with Section 215.5J. The Wood Coatings category does not include the following: clear sealers that are labeled and formulated for use on concrete/masonry surfaces or coatings intended for substrates other than wood.
- ZZZ. WOOD PRESERVATIVE:** A coating labeled and formulated to protect exposed wood from decay or insect attack that is registered with both the U.S. EPA under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (7 United States Code (U.S.C.) Section 136, et seq.) and with the California Department of Pesticide Regulation.
- AAAA. WOOD SUBSTRATE:** A layer made of wood, particleboard, plywood, medium density fiberboard, rattan, wicker, bamboo, or composite products with exposed wood grain. Wood Substrates do not include items comprised of simulated wood.
- BBBB. ZINC-RICH PRIMER:** A coating that meets all of the following specifications:
1. Contains at least 65 percent metallic zinc powder or zinc dust by weight of total solids;
 2. Is formulated for application to metal substrates to provide a firm bond between the substrate and subsequent applications of coatings; and
 3. Is intended for professional use only and is labeled as such, in accordance with the labeling requirements in Section 215.5K.