

Rule 3:31 Architectural Coatings  
(Adopted 05-14-02)(Amended 07-26-05)(Amended 05-07-13)

A. Purpose:

To limit the quantity of Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) in architectural coatings supplied, sold, offered for sale, applied, solicited for application, or manufactured for use within the District.

B. Applicability:

Except as provided in Section D below, this Rule is applicable to any person who supplies, sells, offer for sale, or manufactures any architectural coating for use within the District, as well as any person who applies or solicits the application of any architectural coating within the District.

C. Severability:

If a court of competent jurisdiction issues an order that any provision of this Rule is invalid, it is the intent of the District that other provisions of this Rule remain in full force and effect, to the extent allowed by law.

D. Exemptions:

This Rule does not apply to:

1. Any architectural coating that is sold or manufactured for use outside of the District or for shipment to other manufactures for reformulation or repackaging;  
or
2. Any aerosol coating product; or
3. Any architectural coating that is sold in a container with a volume of one liter (1.057 quart) or less.

E. Definitions:

**Adhesive:** Any chemical substance that is applied for the purpose of bonding two surfaces together other than by mechanical means.

**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.

**Antenna Coating:** A coating labeled and formulated exclusively for application to equipment and associated structural appurtenances that are used to receive or transmit electromagnetic signals.

**Antifouling Coating:** A coating labeled and formulated for application to submerged stationary structures and their appurtenances to prevent or reduce the attachment of marine or freshwater biological organisms. To qualify as an antifouling coating, the coating must be registered with both the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (7 U.S.C. Section 136, *et seq.*) and with the California Department of Pesticide Regulation.

**Appurtenances:** Any accessory to a stationary structure coated at the site of installation, whether installed or detached, including but not limited to: bathroom and kitchen fixtures; cabinets; concrete forms; doors; elevators; fences; hand railings; heating equipment; air conditioning equipment; and other fixed mechanical equipment or stationary tools; lampposts; partitions; pipes and piping systems; rain gutters and downspouts; stairways; fixed ladders; catwalks; and fire escapes; and window screens.

**Architectural Coating:** A coating to be applied to stationary structures and their appurtenances at the site of installation, to portable buildings at the site of installation, to pavements, or to 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 purpose of this Rule.

**Bitumens:** Black or brown materials including, but not limited to, asphalt, tar, pitch, and asphaltite that are soluble in carbon disulfide, consist mainly of hydrocarbons, and are obtained from natural deposits or as residues from the distillation of crude petroleum or coal.

**Bituminous Roof Coating:** A coating which incorporates bitumens that is labeled and formulated exclusively for roofing.

**Bond Breakers:** A coating labeled and formulated for application between layers of concrete to prevent a freshly poured top layer of concrete from bonding to the layer over which it is poured.

**Clear Brushing Lacquers:** Clear wood finishes, excluding clear lacquer sanding sealers, formulated with nitrocellulose or synthetic resins to dry by solvent evaporation without chemical reaction and to provide a solid, protective film, which are intended

exclusively for application by brush, and which are labeled as specified in Section G.1.e. of this Rule.

**Clear Wood Coatings:** Clear and semi-transparent coatings, including lacquers and varnishes, applied to wood substrates to provide a transparent or translucent solid film.

**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.

**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.

**Concrete Curing Compound:** A coating labeled and formulated for application to freshly poured concrete to retard the evaporation of water.

**Dry Fog Coating:** A coating labeled and formulated only for spray application such that overspray droplets dry before subsequent contact with incidental surfaces in the vicinity of the surface coating activity.

**Exempt Compound:** A chemical identified in the following list. Exempt compounds content of a coating shall be determined by South Coast Air Quality Management District Method 303-91 (Revised August 1993), incorporated by reference in Section H.3.d.10. of this Rule.

- carbon monoxide
- carbon dioxide
- carbonic acid
- metallic carbides or carbonates
- ammonium carbonate
- methane
- ethane
- methylene chloride (dichloromethane)
- 1,1,1-trichloroethane (methyl chloroform)
- 1,1,2-trichloro-1,2,2-trifluoroethane (CFC-113)
- trichloro-fluoromethane (CFC-11)
- dichlorodifluoromethane (CFC-12)
- chlorodifluoromethane (HCFC-22)
- trifluoromethane (HFC-23)
- 1,2-dichloro-1,1,2,2-tetrafluoroethane (CFC-114)
- chloropentafluoroethane (CFC-115)
- 1,1,1-trifluoro-2,2-dichloroethane (HCFC-123)

1,1,1,2-tetra-fluoroethane (HFC-134a)  
1,1-dichloro-1-fluoroethane (HCFC-141b)  
1-chloro-1,1-difluoroethane (HCFC-142b)  
2-chloro-1,1,1,2-tetrafluoroethane (HCFC-124)  
pentafluoroethane (HFC-125)  
1,1,2,2-tetrafluoroethane (HFC-134)  
1,1,1-trifluoroethane (HFC-143a)  
1,1-difluoroethane (HFC-152a)  
parachlorobenzotrifluoride (PCBTF)  
cyclic, branched, or linear, completely methylated siloxanes  
acetone  
perchloroethylene (tetrachloroethylene)  
3,3-dichloro-1,1,1,2,2-pentafluoropropane (HCFC-225ca)  
1,3-dichloro-1,1,2,2,3-pentafluoropropane (HCFC-225cb)  
1,1,1,2,3,4,4,5,5-decafluoropropane (HFC 43-10mee)  
difluoromethane (HFC-32)  
ethyl fluoride (HFC-161)  
1,1,1,3,3,3-hexafluoropropane (HFC-236fa)  
1,1,2,2,3-pentafluoropropane (HFC-245ca)  
1,1,2,3,3-pentafluoropropane (HFC-245ea)  
1,1,1,2,3-pentafluoropropane (HFC-245eb)  
1,1,1,3,3-pentafluoropropane (HFC-245fa)  
1,1,1,2,3,3-hexafluoropropane (HFC-236ea)  
1,1,1,3,3-pentafluorobutane (HFC-365mfc)  
chlorofluoromethane (HCFC-31)  
1 chloro-1 fluoroethane (HCFC-151a)  
1,2-dichloro-1,1,2-trifluoroethane (HCFC-123a)  
1,1,1,2,2,3,3,4,4-nonafluoro-4-methoxy-butane (C<sub>4</sub>F<sub>9</sub>OCH<sub>3</sub>)  
2-(difluoromethoxymethyl)-1,1,1,2,3,3,3-heptafluoropropane  
(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>CF<sub>2</sub>OC<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>)  
1-ethoxy-1,1,2,2,3,3,4,4,4-nonafluorobutane (C<sub>4</sub>F<sub>9</sub>OC<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>)  
2-(ethoxydifluoromethyl)-1,1,1,2,3,3,3-heptafluoropropane ((CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>CF<sub>2</sub>OC<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>)  
methyl acetate  
t-butyl acetate  
dimethyl carbonate  
propylene carbonate  
perfluorocarbon compound which fall into these classes:  
Cyclic, branched, or linear, completely fluorinated alkanes;  
Cyclic, branched, or linear, completely fluorinated ethers with no  
unsaturations:  
Sulfur containing perfluorocarbons with no unsaturations and with sulfur  
bonds only to carbon and fluorine.

**Faux Finishing Coating:** A coating labeled and formulated as a stain or glaze to create artistic effects including, but not limited to, dirt, old age, smoke damage, and simulated marble and wood grain.

**Fire-Resistive Coating:** An opaque coating labeled and formulated to protect the structural integrity by increasing the fire endurance of interior or exterior steel and other structural materials, that has been fire tested and rated by a testing agency approved by building code officials for use in bringing assemblies of structural materials into compliance with federal, state, and local building code requirements. The fire-resistive coating and the testing agency must be approved by building code officials. The fire-resistive coating shall be tested in accordance with the American Society for Testing of Materials (ASTM) Designation E 119-12a, incorporated by reference in Section H.3.d.2. of this Rule.

**Fire-Retardant Coating:** A coating labeled and formulated to retard ignition and flame spread, that has been fire tested and rated by a testing agency approved by building code officials for use in bringing building and construction materials into compliance with federal, state, and local building code requirements. The fire-retardant coating and the testing agency must be approved by building code officials. The fire-retardant coating shall be tested in accordance with ASTM Designation E 84-99, incorporated by reference in Section H.3.d.1. of this Rule.

**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 523-08, incorporated by reference in Section H.3.d.3. of this Rule.

**Floor Coating:** An opaque coating that is labeled and formulated for application to flooring, including, but not limited to, decks, porches, steps, and other horizontal surfaces which may be subject to foot traffic.

**Flow Coating:** A coating labeled and formulated exclusively for use by electric power companies or their subcontractors to maintain the protective coating systems present on utility transformer units.

**Form-Release Compound:** A coating 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 other material other than concrete.

**Graphic Arts Coating or Sign Paint:** A coating labeled and formulated for hand-application by artists using brush or roller techniques to indoor and outdoor signs (excluding structural components) and murals including lettering enamels, poster colors, copy blockers, and bulletin enamels.

**High-Temperature Coating:** A high performance coating labeled and formulated for application to substrates exposed continuously or intermittently to temperatures above 204°C (400°F).

**Industrial Maintenance Coating:** A high performance architectural coating, including primers, sealers, under coaters, intermediate coats, and topcoats, formulated for application to substrates exposed to one or more of the following extreme environmental conditions listed in a) through e) below, and labeled as specified in Section G.1.d. of this Rule.

- a) Immersion in water, wastewater, or chemical solutions (aqueous and non-aqueous solutions), or chronic exposure of interior surfaces to moisture condensation;
- b) Acute or chronic exposure to corrosive, caustic, or acidic agents, or to chemicals, chemical fumes, or chemical mixtures or solutions;
- c) Repeated exposure to temperatures above 121°C (250°F);
- d) Repeated (frequent) heavy abrasion, including mechanical wear and repeated (frequent) scrubbing with industrial solvents, cleansers, or scouring agents; or
- e) Exterior exposure of metal structures and structural components.

**Lacquer:** A clear or opaque wood coating, including clear lacquer sanding sealers, formulated with cellulosic or synthetic resins to dry by evaporation without chemical reaction and to provide a solid, protective film.

**Low-Solids Coating:** A coating containing 0.12 kilogram or less of solids per liter (1 pound or less of solids per gallon) of coating material. The VOC content for Low-Solids Coating shall be calculated in accordance with Section G.2.b. of this Rule.

**Magnesite Cement Coating:** A coating labeled and formulated for application to magnesite cement decking to protect the magnesite cement substrate from erosion by water.

**Metallic Pigmented Coating:** A coating containing at least 48 grams of elemental metallic pigment per liter of coating as applied (0.4 pounds per gallon), when tested in accordance with South Coast Air Quality Management District Method 318-95, incorporated by reference in Section H.3.d.4. of this Rule.

**Multi-Color Coating:** A coating that is packaged in a single container and that exhibits more than one color when applied in a single coat.

**Non-Flat Coating:** 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 5 or greater on a 60-

degree meter according to ASTM Designation D 523-89 (1999), incorporated by reference in Section H.3.d.3. of this Rule.

**Non-Flat-High Glass Coating:** A non-flat coating that registers a gloss of 70 or above on a 60-degree meter according to ASTM Designation D 523-08, incorporated by reference in Section H.3.d.3. of this Rule.

**Non-Industrial Use:** Non-industrial use means any use of architectural coatings except in the construction or maintenance of any of the following:

- a) Facilities used in the manufacturing of goods and commodities;
- b) Transportation infrastructure, including highways, bridges, airports and railroads;
- c) Facilities used in mining activities, including petroleum extraction; and
- d) Utilities infrastructure, including power generation and distribution, and water treatment and distribution systems.

**Post-Consumer Coating:** A finished coating that would have been disposed of in a landfill, having completed its usefulness to a consumer, and does not include manufacturing wastes.

**Pre-Treatment Wash Primer:** A primer that contains a minimum of 0.5 percent of acid, by weight, when tested in accordance with ASTM Designation D 1613-06 (2012), incorporated by reference in Section H.3.d.5. of this Rule, that is labeled and formulated for application directly to bare metal surfaces to provide corrosion resistance and to promote adhesion of subsequent topcoats.

**Primer:** A coating labeled and formulated for application to a substrate to provide a firm bond between the substrate and subsequent coats.

**Quick-Dry Enamel:** A non-flat coating that is labeled as specified in Section G.1.h. of this Rule and that is formulated to have the following characteristics:

- a) Is capable of being applied directly from the container under normal conditions with ambient temperatures between 16° and 27°C (60° and 80°F);
- b) When tested in accordance with ASTM Designation D 1640-03 (2009), incorporated by reference in Section H.3.d.6. of this Rule, sets to touch in 2 hours or less, is tack free in 4 hours or less, and dries hard in 8 hours or less by the mechanical test method; and
- c) Has a dried film gloss of 70 or above on a 60 degree-meter.

**Quick Dry Primer, Sealer and Under Coater:** A primer, sealer or under coater that is dry to the touch in 30 minutes and can be recoated in 2 hours when tested in accordance with ASTM Designation 1640-03 (2009), incorporated by reference in Section H.3.d.6. of this Rule.

**Recycled Coating:** An architectural coating formulated such that not less than 50 percent of the total weight of secondary and post-consumer coating, with not less than 10 percent of the total weight consisting of post-consumer coating.

**Residential:** Areas where people reside or lodge, including, but not limited to, single and multiple family dwellings, condominiums, mobile homes, apartment complexes, motels, and hotels.

**Roof Coating:** A non-bituminous coating labeled and formulated exclusively for application to 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 Coating shall not be considered to be in this category, but shall be considered to be in the Metallic Pigmented Coating category.

**Rust Preventative Coating:** A coating formulated for non-industrial use to prevent the corrosion of metal surfaces and labeled as specified in Section G.1.f. of this Rule.

**Sanding Sealer:** A clear or semi-transparent wood coating labeled and formulated for application to bare wood to seal the wood and to provide a coat that can be abraded to create a smooth surface for subsequent applications of coatings. A sanding sealer that also meets the definition of a lacquer is not included in this category, but is included in the lacquer category.

**Sealer:** A coating labeled and formulated for application to a substrate for one or more of the following purposes: to prevent subsequent coating from being absorbed by the substrate, or to prevent harm to subsequent coatings by materials in the substrate.

**Secondary Coating (Rework):** A fragment of a finished coating or a finished coating from a manufacturing process that has converted resources into a commodity of real economic value, but does not include excess virgin resources of the manufacturing process.

**Shellac:** A clear or opaque coating formulated solely with the resinous secretions of the lac beetle (*Laccifer lacca*), thinned with alcohol, and formulated to dry by evaporation without a chemical reaction.



**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).

**Solicit:** To require for use or to specify, by written or oral contract.

**Specialty Primer, Sealer and Under Coater:** A coating labeled as specified in Section G.1.g. of this Rule and that is formulated for application to a substrate to seal fire, smoke, or water damage; to condition excessively chalky surfaces, or to block stains. An excessively chalky surface is one that is defined as having a chalk rating of four or less as determined by ASTM Designation D 4214-07, incorporated by reference in Section H.3.d.7. of this Rule.

**Stain:** A clear, semitransparent, or opaque coating labeled and formulated to change the color of a surface but not conceal the grain pattern or texture.

**Swimming Pool Coating:** A coating labeled and formulated to coat the interior of swimming pools and to resist swimming pool chemicals.

**Swimming Pool Repair and Maintenance Coatings:** A rubber based coating labeled and formulated to be used over existing rubber based coatings for the repair and maintenance of swimming pools.

**Temperature-Indicator Safety Coating:** A coating labeled and formulated as a color-changing indicator coating for the purpose of monitoring the temperature and safety of the substrate, underlying piping, or underlying equipment, and for application to substrates exposed continuously or intermittently to temperatures above 204°C (400°F).

**Tint Base:** An architectural coating to which colorant is added after packaging in sale units to produce a desired color.

**Traffic Marking Coating:** A coating labeled and formulated for marking and striping streets, highways, or other traffic surfaces including, but not limited to, curbs, berms, driveways, parking lots, sidewalks, and airport runways.

**Under Coater:** A coating labeled and formulated to provide a smooth surface for subsequent coats.

**Varnish:** A clear or semi-transparent wood coating, excluding lacquers and shellacs, formulated to dry by chemical reaction on exposure to air. Varnishes may contain small amounts of pigment to color a surface, or to control the final sheen or gloss of the finish.

**Volatile Organic Compound (VOC):** Any compound of carbon (excluding carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide, carbonic acid, metallic carbides or carbonates, ammonium carbonate, methyl acetate, and methane) that has a vapor pressure greater than 0.1 mm of Hg at standard conditions.

**VOC Content:** The weight of VOC per volume of coating, calculated according to the procedures specified in Section G.2. of this Rule.

**Waterproofing Sealer:** A coating labeled and formulated for application to a porous substrate for the primary purpose of preventing the penetration of water.

**Waterproofing Concrete/Masonry Sealer:** A clear or pigmented film-forming coating that is labeled and formulated for sealing concrete and masonry to provide resistance against water, alkalis, acids, ultraviolet light, and staining.

**Wood Preservative:** A coating labeled and formulated to protect exposed wood from decay or insect attack, that is registered with both the 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.

F. Requirements

1. **VOC Content Limits:** Except as provided in Sections F.2. and F.7., below, no person shall: (i) manufacture, blend, or repackage for sale within the District; (ii) supply, sell, or offer for sale within the District; or (iii) solicit for application or apply within the District, any architectural coating with a VOC content in excess of the corresponding limit specified in the following table. Limits are expressed in grams of VOC per liter<sup>1</sup> of coating thinned to the manufacturer's maximum recommendation, excluding the volume of any water, exempt compounds, or colorant added to the tint bases. "Manufacturer's maximum recommendation" means the maximum recommendation for thinning that is indicated on the label of lid of the coating container.

(REFER TO CATEGORY TABLE BELOW)

| <b>CATEGORY</b>                                      | <b>VOC LIMIT (grams/liter)<br/>Effective 1-1-04</b> |
|--|---|
| <b>Coatings:</b>                                     |   |
| Flat Coatings  | 100   |
| Non-Flat Coatings                                    | 150   |
| Non-Flat-High Gloss                                  | 250   |
| <b>Specialty Coatings:</b>                           |   |
| Antenna Coatings                                     | 530   |
| Antifouling Coatings                                 | 400   |
| Bituminous Roof Coatings                             | 300   |
| Bituminous Roof Primers                              | 350   |
| Bond Breakers  | 350   |
| <b>Clear Wood Coatings:</b>                          |   |
| Clear Brushing Lacquer                               | 680   |
| Lacquers (including lacquer sanding sealers)         | 550   |
| Sanding Sealers (other than lacquer sanding sealers) | 350   |
| Varnishes  | 350   |
| <b>Concrete Curing Compounds</b>                     | 350   |
| <b>Dry Fog Coatings</b>                              | 400   |
| <b>Faux Finishing Coatings</b>                       | 350   |
| <b>Fire-Retardant Coatings:</b>                      |   |
| Clear  | 650   |
| Opaque   | 350   |
| <b>Floor Coatings</b>                                | 250   |
| <b>Flow Coatings</b>                                 | 420   |
| <b>Form-Release Compounds</b>                        | 250   |
| <b>Graphic Arts Coatings (Sign Paints)</b>           | 500   |
| <b>High Temperature Coatings</b>                     | 420   |
| <b>Industrial Maintenance Coatings</b>               | 250   |
| <b>Low-Solids Coatings<sup>2</sup></b>               | 120   |
| <b>Magnesite Cement Coatings</b>                     | 450   |
| <b>Mastic Texture Coatings</b>                       | 300   |
| <b>Metallic Pigmented Coatings</b>                   | 500   |
| <b>Multi-Color Coatings</b>                          | 250   |
| <b>Pre-Treatment Wash Primers</b>                    | 420   |
| <b>Primers, Sealers, and Under Coaters</b>           | 200   |
| <b>Quick-Dry Enamels</b>                             | 250   |
| <b>Quick-Dry Primers, Sealers, Under Coaters</b>     | 200   |
| <b>Recycled Coatings</b>                             | 250   |
| <b>Roof Coatings</b>                                 | 250   |
| <b>Rust Preventative Coatings</b>                    | 400   |
| <b>Shellacs:</b>                                     |   |
| Clear  | 730   |
| Opaque   | 550   |

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| <b>Specialty Primers, Sealers and Under Coaters</b>  | 350 |
| <b>Stains</b>  | 250 |
| <b>Swimming Pool Coatings</b>                        | 340 |
| <b>Swimming Pool Repair and Maintenance Coatings</b> | 340 |
| <b>Temperature-Indicator Safety Coatings</b>         | 550 |
| <b>Traffic Marking Coatings</b>                      | 150 |
| <b>Waterproofing Sealers</b>                         | 250 |
| <b>Waterproofing Concrete/Masonry Sealers</b>        | 400 |
| <b>Wood Preservatives</b>                            | 350 |

<sup>1</sup> Conversion factor: One pound VOC per gallon (U.S.) – 119.95 grams VOC per liter.

<sup>2</sup> Units for Low-Solids Coatings are grams of VOC per liter of coating, including water and exempt compounds.

2. **Most Restrictive VOC Limits:** If anyone on the container of any architectural coating or 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, any representation is made that indicates that the coating meets the definition of or is recommended for use for more than one of the coating categories listed in the table in Section F.1., then the most restrictive VOC content limit shall apply. This provision does not apply to the coating categories specified below:

Lacquer coatings (including lacquer sanding sealers)  
 Metallic pigmented coatings  
 Shellacs  
 Fire-retardant coatings  
 Pretreatment wash primers  
 Industrial maintenance coatings  
 Low-solids coatings  
 Wood preservatives  
 High temperature coatings  
 Temperature-indicator safety coatings  
 Antenna coatings  
 Antifouling coatings  
 Flow coatings  
 Bituminous roof primers  
 Specialty primers, sealers, and under coaters

3. **Painting Practices:** All architectural coating containers used to apply the contents therein to a surface directly from the container by pouring, siphoning,

brushing, rolling, padding, ragging, or other means shall be closed when not in use. These architectural coating containers include, but are not limited to, drums, buckets, cans, pails, trays or other application containers. Containers of any VOC-containing materials used for thinning and cleanup shall also be closed when not in use.

4. **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 in Section F.1. of this Rule.
5. **Rust Preventative Coatings:** Effective January 1, 2004, a person shall only apply or solicit the application of any rust preventative coating for nonindustrial use, unless such a rust preventative coating complies with the industrial maintenance VOC limit specified in the table in Section F.1. of this Rule.
6. **Coatings Not Listed In Section F.1. of this Rule:** For any coating that does not meet any of the definitions for the specialty coatings categories listed in the table in Section F.1., the VOC content limit shall be determined by classifying the coating as a flat coating or a non-flat coating, based on its gloss, as defined in the definitions for Flat Coating, Non-Flat Coating and Non-Flat-High Gloss Coating in Section E. of this Rule and the corresponding flat or non-flat VOC limit shall apply.
7. **Lacquers:** Notwithstanding the provisions of Sections F.1. and F.4. above, a person or facility may add up to 10 percent (10%) by volume of VOC to a lacquer to avoid blushing of the finish during days with relative humidity greater than 70 percent (70%) and temperature below 65 percent (65%), at the time of application, provided that the coating contains acetone and no more than 550 grams of VOC per liter of coating, less water and exempt compounds, prior to the addition of VOC.

G. Administrative Requirements:

1. **Container Labeling Requirements:** Each manufacturer of any architectural coating subject to this Rule shall display the information listed in Sections a) through i) below 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 CARB Executive Officer.

- b) **Thinning Recommendations:** A statement of the manufacturer's recommendation regarding thinning of the coating 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:** Each container of any coating subject to this Rule shall display either the maximum or the actual VOC content of the coating, as supplied, including the maximum thinning as recommended by the manufacturer. VOC content shall be displayed as grams of VOC per liter of coating. VOC content displayed shall be calculated using product formulation data, or shall be determined using the test method in Section H.3. of this Rule. The equations in Section G.2. of this Rule shall be used to calculate VOC content.
- d) **Industrial Maintenance Coatings:** In addition to the information specified in Section G.1. a., b., and c. above, each manufacturer of any industrial maintenance coating subject to this Rule shall display on the label or lid of the container in which the coating is sold or distributed one or more of the descriptions listed below:
- “For industrial use only.”  
“For professional use only.”  
“Not for residential use” or “Not intended for residential use.”
- e) **Clear Brushing Lacquers:** Effective January 1, 2003, the labels of all clear brushing lacquers shall prominently display the statements “For brush application only,” and “This product must not be thinned or sprayed.”
- f) **Rust Preventative Coatings:** Effective January 1, 2003, the labels of all rust preventative coatings shall prominently display the statement “For Metal Substrates Only.”
- g) **Specialty Primers, Sealers, and Under Coaters:** Effective January 1, 2003, the labels of all specialty primers, sealers, and under coaters shall prominently display one or more of the descriptions listed below:

For blocking stains.

For fire-damaged substrates.  
 For smoke-damaged substrates.  
 For water-damaged substrates.  
 For excessively chalky substrates.

- h) **Quick-Dry Enamels:** Effective January 1, 2003, the labels of all quick dry enamels shall prominently display the words “Quick Dry” and the dry hard time.
- i) **Non-Flat-High Gloss Coatings:** Effective January 1, 2003, the labels of the non-flat-high gloss coatings shall prominently display the words “High Gloss.”

2. **Calculation of VOC Content:** For the purpose of determining compliance with the VOC content limits in the table in Section F.1. of this Rule, the VOC content of a coating shall be determined by using the procedures described in Sections G.2.a. or G.2.b. below, as appropriate. The VOC content of a tint base shall be determined without colorant that is added after the tint base is manufactured.

- a) With the exception of low solids coatings, determine the VOC content in grams of VOC per liter of coating thinned to the manufacturer’s maximum recommendation, excluding the volume of any water and exempt compounds. Determine the VOC content using the following equation:

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

Where: VOC content = grams of VOC per liter of coating  
 $W_s$  = weight of all 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

- b) For low solids coatings, determine the VOC content in units of grams of VOC per liter of coating thinned to the manufacturer’s maximum recommendation, including the volume of any water and exempt compounds. Determine the VOC content using the following equation:

$$\text{VOC Content} = (W_s - W_w - W_{ec}) / (V_m)$$

Where: VOC content = the VOC content of a low solids coating in grams of VOC per liter of coating

|          |   |                                      |
|----------|---|--------------------------------------|
| $W_s$    | = | weight of all 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         |

H. Monitoring, Record Keeping, and Testing:

1. **Sales Data:** A responsible official from each manufacturer shall upon request of the Executive Officer of the ARB, or his or her delegate, provide data concerning the distribution and sales of architectural coatings. The responsible official shall within 180 days provide information, including, but not limited to:
  - a) The name and mailing address of the manufacturer;
  - b) The name, address and telephone number of a contact person;
  - c) The name of the coating product as it appears on the label and the applicable coating category;
  - d) Whether the product is marketed for interior or exterior use or both;
  - e) 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);
  - f) The VOC content in grams per liter. If thinning is recommended, list the VOC 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;
  - g) The names and Chemical Abstract Service (CAS) numbers of the VOC constituents in the product;
  - h) The names and CAS numbers of any compounds in the product specifically exempted from the VOC definition, as listed in Section E;
  - i) Whether the product is marketed as solve borne, waterborne, or 100% solids;
  - j) Description of resin or binder in the product;
  - k) Whether the coating is a single-component or multi-component product;



- l) The density of the product in pounds per gallon;
  - m) 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 E; and
  - n) The percent by volume of: solids, water, and any compounds in the product specifically exempted from the VOC definition, as listed in Section E.
2. All sales data listed in subsections H.1.a. to H.1.n. shall be maintained by the responsible official for a minimum of three years. Sales data submitted by the responsible official to the Executive Officer of the ARB 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.
3. Testing Procedure:
  - a) **VOC Content:** To determine the physical properties of a coating in order to perform the calculation in Section G.2. of this Rule, the reference method for VOC content is EPA Method 24, incorporated by reference in Section H3.d.11. of this Rule, except as provided in Sections H.3.b. and H.3.c. below. An alternative method to determine the VOC content of coatings is South Coast Air Quality Management District Method 304-91 (Revised February 1993), incorporated by reference in Section H.3.d.12. of this Rule. The exempt compounds content shall be determined by South Coast Air Quality Management District Method 303-91 (Revised August 1993), incorporated by reference in Section H.3.d.10. of this Rule. To determine the VOC content of a coating, the manufacturer may use EPA Method 24, or an alternative method as provided in Section H.3.b. below, formulation data, or any other reasonable means for predicting that the coating has been formulated as intended (e.g. quality assurance checks, record keeping). However, if there are any inconsistencies between the results of an EPA Method 24 test and any other means for determining VOC content, the EPA Method 24 test results will govern, except when an alternative method is approved as specified in Section H.3.b. below. The District Air Pollution Control Officer may require the manufacturer to conduct an EPA Method 24 analysis.
  - b) **Alternative Test Method:** Other test methods demonstrated to provide results that are acceptable for purposes of determining compliance with

Section H.3.a. above, after review and approved in writing by the staffs of the District, CARB, and EPA, may also be used.

- c) **Methacrylate Traffic Marking Coatings:** Analysis of methacrylate multicomponent coatings used as traffic marking coatings shall be conducted according to a modification of EPA Method 24 (40 CFR 59, Subpart D, Appendix A), incorporated by reference in Section H.3.d.13. of this Rule. 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.
- d) **Test Methods:** The following test methods are incorporated by reference herein, and shall be used to test coatings subject to provisions of this Rule:
  - 1) **Flame Spread Index:** The flame spread index of a fire-retardant coating shall be determined by ASTM Designation E 84-99, “Standard Test Method for Surface Burning Characteristics of Building Materials,” (see definition of Fire-Retardant Coating in Section E of this Rule).
  - 2) **Fire Resistance Rating:** The fire resistance rating of a fire-resistive coating shall be determined by ASTM Designation E 199-12a, “Standard Test Methods for Fire Tests of Building Construction Materials,” (see definition of Fire-Resistive Coating in Section E of this Rule).
  - 3) **Gloss Determination:** The gloss of a coating shall be determined by ASTM Designation D 523-08, “Standard Test Method for Specular Gloss,” (see definition of Flat Coating, Non-Flat Coating, Non-Flat-High Gloss Coating, and Quick-Dry Enamels in Section E of this Rule).
  - 4) **Metal Content of Coatings:** The metallic content of a coating shall be determined by South Coast Air Quality Management District Method 318-95 (1996), “Determination of Weight Percent Elemental Metal in Coatings by X-Ray Diffraction,” South Coast Air Quality Management District “Laboratory Methods of Analysis for Enforcement Samples,” (see definition of Metallic Pigmented Coating in Section E of this Rule).
  - 5) **Acid Content of Coatings:** The acid content of a coating shall be determined by ASTM Designation D 1613-06 (2012),

“Standard Test Method for Acidity in Volatile Solvents and Chemical Intermediates Used in Paint, Varnish, Lacquer, and Related Products,” (see definition of Pre-Treatment Wash Primers in Section E of this Rule).

- 6) **Drying Times:** The set-to-touch, dry-hard, dry-to-touch, and dry-to-recoat times of a coating shall be determined by ASTM Designation D 1640-03 (2009), “Standard Test Methods for Drying, Curing, or Film Formation of Organic Coatings Room Temperature,” (see definition of Enamel and Quick-Dry Primer, Sealer, and Under Coater in Section E of this Rule). The tack-free time of a quick-dry enamel coating shall be determined by the Mechanical Test Method of ASTM Designation D 1640-03 (2009).
- 7) **Surface Chalkiness:** The chalkiness of a surface shall be determined using ASTM Designation D 4214-07, “Standard Test Methods for Evaluating the Degree of Chalking of Exterior Paint Films,” (see definition of Specialty Primer, Sealer, and Under Coater in Section E of this Rule).
- 8) **Exempt Compounds – Siloxanes:** Exempt compounds that are cyclic, branched, or linear completely methylated siloxanes, shall be analyzed as exempt compounds for compliance with Section H.3. of this Rule by Bay Area Air Quality Management District Method 43, “Determination of Volatile Methyl siloxanes in Solvent-Based Coatings, Inks, and Related Materials, Bay Area Air Quality Management District Manual of Procedures, Volume III, adopted (May 2005), (see definition of Volatile Organic Compounds in Section E and Section H.3.a. of this Rule).
- 9) **Exempt Compounds – Parachlorobenzotrifluoride (PCBTF):** The exempt compound parachlorobenzotrifluoride, shall be analyzed as an exempt compound for compliance with Section H.3. of this Rule by Bay Area Air Quality Management District Method 41, “Determination of Volatile Organic Compounds in Solvent-Based Coatings and Related Materials Containing Parachlorobenzotrifluoride, Bay Area Air Quality Management District Manual of Procedures, Volume III, adopted (May 2005), (see definition of Volatile Organic Compound in Section E and Section H.3.a. of this Rule).

- 10) **Exempt Compounds:** The content of compounds exempt under EPA Method 24 shall be analyzed by South Coast Air Quality Management District Method 303-91 (Revised 1996), “Determination of Exempt Compounds,” South Coast Air Quality Management District “Laboratory Methods of Analysis for Enforcement Samples,” (see definition of Volatile Organic Compound in Section E and Section H.3.a. of this Rule).
- 11) **VOC Content of Coatings:** The VOC content of a coating shall be determined by 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,” (see Section H.3.a of this Rule).
- 12) **Alternative VOC Content of Coatings:** The VOC content of coatings may be analyzed either by EPA Method 24 or South Coast Air Quality Management District Method 304-91 (Revised 1996), “Determination of Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC) in Various Materials,” South Coast Air Quality Management District “Laboratory Methods of Analysis for Enforcement Samples,” (see Section H.3.a. of this Rule).
- 13) **Methacrylate Traffic Marking Coatings:** The VOC content of methacrylate multicomponent coatings used as traffic marking coatings shall be analyzed by the procedures in 40 CFR Part 59, Subpart D, Appendix A, “Determination of Volatile Matter Content of Methacrylate Multicomponent Coatings Used as Traffic Marking Coatings,” (September 11, 1998), (see Section H.3.a. of this Rule).