



Compliance Tips for Automotive Refinishing Shop Painters and Owners

Do you plan to **repaint, paint match or paint repairs** to Automobiles or Mobile Equipment? If you answered yes, then you are subject to Regulation 8, Rule 45, Motor Vehicle and Mobile Equipment Coating Operations (8-45) of the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD or Air District).

What types of *Motor Vehicles and Mobile Equipment Coating Operations* are covered by 8-45?

Auto body repair and paint shops, production paint shops, fleet repair paint shops, new car dealer paint shops, and truck body and trailer painting facilities are subject to 8-45. However, if you paint any of the following you also may be subject to 8-45:

- Automobiles, trucks, motorcycles, vans, buses, **or**
- Railcars, truck bodies and trailers, camper shells, motor homes, campers and trailers, and golf carts, **or**
- Anything capable of being driven on a road or drawn on rails.

As an Owner or Painter how do I make sure I'm in compliance with 8-45?

First, **determine if you need a BAAQMD Permit**. If you use 30 gallons or more of coatings per year you need a permit to operate from the Air District. If you have a permit, it limits the amount of paint and solvent you can use in a year. Be familiar with your permit, keep a copy ready for when your Air District inspector comes to perform an inspection and know your limits. If you need a permit (and don't have one) call (415) 749-4990.

Second, remember even if you don't need a permit you **still** need to meet the following requirements:

Housekeeping

- Keep all paint and solvent containers closed when not in use.
- Keep all garbage cans containing paints or solvents closed when not in use.
- Keep all garbage cans containing paint or solvent coated rags and paint cans closed when not in use.
- Keep all spray gun cleaning solvent containers and spray gun washers closed when not in use.
- Apply all solvent cleaners from a hand held spray bottle.
- Make sure that all spray booths have proper filtration before painting (all filters are in place and well maintained).

Painting

When you paint, volatile organic compounds (VOCs) are released into the air, where they react to form ozone, a major component of smog. Ozone is harmful to health, crops, and property. The Air District limits the amount of VOC allowed in every coating you use. So before you paint, make sure you do the following:

- **Know the VOC limit for the paint you're spraying.** You can get a wall chart from your paint supplier that will tell you the VOC of the coating you're spraying and the Air District limit for that coating.
- **Follow the mix ratio on the can.** Paint companies do a lot of research so that they can give you a product that will preserve air quality and meet your needs. If you over reduce your paint, you are hurting the environment, your paint job and your bottom line.
- **Use an HVLP gun.** These guns give you a high transfer efficiency; this means more paint gets onto the car and less VOC gets into the air.

Recordkeeping

After you paint you must record:

- The amount of paint sprayed,
- The mix ratio of the coatings sprayed,
- The date you sprayed them, and
- The automobile license or repair order number for which you sprayed the paint.

You must also keep records each month of the amount of solvent you used for surface preparation and spraygun clean up. Copies of Air District recordkeeping forms can be obtained from the following link:

<http://www.baaqmd.gov/enf/forms/index.asp>

As an Owner or Painter how can I prepare for a BAAQMD Inspection?

Air District inspectors regularly visit 8-45 shops. To be ready for an inspection you must:

- Have a copy of your permit on-hand. **Know your permit limits and follow them,**
- **Follow the housekeeping guidelines** above,
- Follow the painting guidelines above and **know the allowed VOC limits for paints,**
- **Keep your records at the shop and make sure they are up to date.**

As an Owner or Painter how can I get more information on 8-45?

To find out more about this rule, you can call the Compliance and Enforcement Division Compliance Assistance Hotline at 415-749-4999 or get a copy of the regulation from the following link:

<http://www.baaqmd.gov/dst/regulations/rg0845.pdf>