

## GPG 9 Spray Painting



### Governing Legislation and Standards:

Environment Protection Act  
State Environment Protection Policy (The Air Environment)  
State Environment Protection Policy (Waters of Victoria)  
AS 4114, Spray Painting Booths



### Summary Information:

Many of the solvents and chemicals used in spray painting are health hazards, fire risks and have the potential to contribute to atmospheric pollution.

Paint particles suspended in the air, and odour associated with the use of solvents and paints, can create environmental problems and raise health and safety concerns.

Employers with continual spray painting work processes must ensure that the following equipment is provided:

- A spray painting booth that complies with AS 4114
- Appropriate dangerous goods storage facilities for paint and flammable solvents
- Personal Protective Equipment for all operators and effected people.



### Further Help:

Spray booth manufacturers and suppliers  
Paint and paint equipment suppliers  
National Guidance Material for Spray Painting,  
- National OHS Commission, Sydney, June 1999

# GPG 9



## Good Practice Risk Control:

- Review all spray painting activities to determine if any alternative production methods (like electrostatic powder coating or paint dipping) can be used.
- Where practical, subcontract spray painted to a well equipped supplier.
- Minimise the amount of paint and solvent stored on site. This will reduce hazards, wastes and pilferage.
- Implement high standards of housekeeping that reduce the risk of fires and spills.
- Make sure that all spray painting is carried out inside an approved spray painting booth.
- Review all materials used and always purchase the least harmful paints and solvents available.
- Dispose of old and excess paint as Prescribed Waste.
- Use technology and staff training techniques to reduce the amount of paint and solvent used in a job and discharged into the environment (this includes high solids paints, and HVLP spray equipment).
- Vacuum or sweep up dry sanding material and dispose of it into the General Waste.
- Make sure that wet sanding wastes are disposed of into the sewer, or contained and allowed to dry before being swept up and placed in the General Waste.
- Regularly inspect and maintain your spray booth in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications.
- Dispose of paint residue from the booth filters in the General Waste if it is dry, or with the booth waste water if it is a sludge.
- Spray booth water may be discharged to the sewer provided that it contains no solid materials.
- Save money and avoid spills by converting diesel fired ovens to gas fired ovens.
- Have your booth burners serviced at least annually.
- Ask the EPA to advise you of the height your spray booth exhaust stack needs to reach.
- Install a gun wash machine.
- Recycle gun wash with a solvent recovery machine, or dispose only with a permitted contractor.
- Ensure your painters and others are protected from the harmful effects of the paint material you use by the use of controls as specified by Material Safety Data Sheets.