



# Specifier

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## LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

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Welcome to the NEW Specifier!

In an attempt to serve our members better, we have redesigned the Newsletter to reflect the wealth of information at our fingertips.

The new format is interactive -- click on links and websites will open. Even our sponsor business cards are linked - you can send an email direct from each sponsor's card, directly from the Specifier.

I encourage you to test the links, if you find anything broken or missing, please let me know so it can be fixed.

We hope to make the monthly reading of the Vancouver Chapter's Specifier something our members look forward to, so please, if you have any input, something you want to include....send it to me!

Enjoy!

Lori Elling  
Newsletter Editor  
CSC Vancouver Chapter

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Have an IDEA for the  
**Specifier ?**

**We would love to hear  
from you!**

Announcements, upcoming events, or technical articles are welcome and encouraged!

Any submissions for the Specifier can be emailed for review and we will do our best to get it into print. Deadlines are the last Friday of the month for the following month's newsletter.

Share your knowledge -  
**this is YOUR industry!**

Lori Elling, Newsletter Editor  
lori@archidocs.ca  
778.389.1510

# BREAKFAST MEETING

**Community Centred Design,  
7 AM Thursday, 17 February 2011**

Darryl Condon is Managing Principal of Vancouver based Hughes Condon Marler Architects. He has been responsible for the design of a series of innovative and award winning sustainable community facilities across Canada, including the Vancouver Olympic Centre, West Vancouver Community Centre and the Whistler Public Library.

Using case studies of recent work, Darryl will outline aspects of the projects focused on the role they play in the development of strong, healthy and sustainable communities.

**Presented By:** Darryl Condon, MAIBC, AAA, OAA, FRAIC, LEED AP,  
Hughes Condon Marler Architects

**Breakfast:** 7:00-7:45 am—Breakfast (buffet style)  
**Business:** 7:45-8:00 am—Chapter Business  
**Program:** 8:00-9:00 am—Guest Speaker Presentation

**Location:** Sandman Inn, 180 West Georgia, Vancouver  
(through the restaurant at the back of Moxie's)

**Cost:** \$32.00 for pre-registered CSC Members / Association Executive Directors  
\$48.00 for guests and CSC members who have not pre-registered

**Parking:** *Sandman Hotel Parking:* Enter off Cambie Street, pass the Sandman Hotel Breezeway, underground parking to the left, press buzzer to access parkade and take elevator to restaurant level. *Cost is \$1.25 per 15 minutes.*  
*Easy Park:* Across the street on the corner of Georgia and Cambie Streets. *Cost is \$1.50 per 30 minutes.*

**Skytrain:** Exit at Stadium-Chinatown Station. Walk 2 minutes.

Note that our monthly meetings are approved for an educational unit credit by AIBC and are conveniently scheduled at breakfast so as not to conflict with normal business hours.

Please join us for these informative and entertaining meetings

**Register online at <http://vancouver.csc-dcc.ca> or fill out the form here**

**CHANGE YOUR BOOKMARKS!**  
**Our new website is LIVE at: [vancouver.csc-dcc.ca](http://vancouver.csc-dcc.ca)**  
**the old website, [csc-vancouver.ca](http://csc-vancouver.ca), will be taken offline next month**

**CSC Vancouver  
Executive 2010-11**

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**EDUCATION OFFICER:**

Nathan Thompson  
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**NEWSLETTER OFFICER:**

Lori Elling  
778-389-1510

**OFFICER AT LARGE:**

Spencer Todd

...

## 2011 PROGRAM

*All Meetings are (U.N.O.):  
7 am Breakfast  
Sandman Inn, Vancouver*

### FEBRUARY 17

**Community Centred Design**  
*Darryl Condon, MAIBC  
Hughes Condon Marler Architects*

### FEBRUARY 23-24

#### BUILDEX

Convention Centre West,  
Vancouver

### MARCH 17

**Construction Presentation**  
*John Logan and Rachel Mockler  
Jenkins Marzban Logan LLP*

### APRIL 14

**RCABC Plaza Deck  
Waterproofing Standards**  
*Jim Watson, Technical Manager  
RCABC*

### MAY 19

**Millennium Water / Olympic  
Village Building Tour**  
*Hank Jasper, GM Development  
& Construcion, Millennium  
Development Corporation*

### MAY 25-29

#### CSC National Conference 2011

*"Juggling Changes"*  
Downtown Delta Hotel  
Montreal, Quebec

### JUNE 16

**Vancouver Chapter Social Event**  
*CSC Members Only*



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cost analysis		

## Advertising: Newsletter & Website

Every month, the Specifier features a classified section. Advertise your business with us!

This will provide you with the opportunity to advertise within the industry in the newsletter and on the CSC Vancouver website.

For the cost of:

\$225 - Members

\$250 - Non Members

You will receive advertising space on the second page of the Specifier and on the CSC chapter website. The ad will be placed in 1 issue of the Specifier and reside on the website for 1 month. Ads must fit on one page only and are not limited to copy content or visual features. Other publications such as ours typically use this space for employment opportunities etc. and this is one type of advertising we are looking for.

If you are not sure whether the Specifier would be an appropriate tool for you, please email me with your questions.

So, if you would like to advertise, or have any questions, please let me know. All advertising content is subject to pre-approval by the responsible CSC Committee.

Best Regards,

Lori Elling  
Newsletter Editor

## WORDS FROM THE CHAIR

Your CSC Chapter board has been busy with the start of a new year, our breakfast program is complete & looking good, our new website is up & glitches cleaned up, our "NEW" newsletter is out, this is our first addition of the new format, please share your thoughts and ideas! Education courses have started, and our Membership drive is finishing February 28th, there are good prizes to be won....and still some time to recruit new members.....and now we are looking for volunteers to join the board this coming May! Please come join us & help make your Vancouver Chapter a huge success!



### What's up in February?

- Buildex Feb 23rd & 24th – CSC will be promoting our Chapter, please stop by our booth # 824, say hi, pick up membership info, remember anytime is a good time to promote our association....but right now the membership drive is on with prizes, until Feb 28th
- Breakfast meeting Feb 17th – guest speaker Darryl Condon/ HCMA
- **Valentine's day**

### Don't Forget:

- CSC Conference 2011: Montreal May 25th–29th Click here for more information and to register.
- To update your browser with the new CSC website: in with the new, <http://vancouver.csc-dcc.ca>
- Networking: don't forget business cards!
- Watch for information on our "CSC Members only" evening in June.
- **Valentine's Day** a card, or flowers, or chocolate for your Valentine!

**Melodie Schwartzman, CTR, LEED AP**  
architectural solutions specialist CGC INC  
**CSC Vancouver Chapter Chair**

*Happy  
Valentine's  
Day*

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**COST:** \_\_\_\_\_ CSC members @ \$32.00 ea. = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ non-members @ \$48.00 ea. = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
**Total Amount:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**PAYMENT:** At the door by cash, cheque or by **VISA credit card only**

- ☐ Cheque (payable to CSC Vancouver)  
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☐ VISA (complete the information below)

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**Complete and Fax this form to 604-291-9482.**  
**Pre-Registration ends at 5:00 PM on Monday before the meeting.**  
Walk-ins welcome provided there is room.

**Missed the deadline? Did not pre-register?** You may still attend at \$48 per person, space permitting, BUT please call 604-291-1458 beforehand. If you pre-register and do not attend, we may invoice you for the cost of the meeting.

If you have special dietary (meal) requirements, please notify us at least 24 hours before the event.

**Questions?** Contact Vancouver Chapter Program Officer, George McCutcheon at [gm@planinc.ca](mailto:gm@planinc.ca)



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**BUILDEX**  
VANCOUVER

NEXT SHOW:  
**FEBRUARY 23 & 24, 2011**  
VANCOUVER CONVENTION CENTRE WEST

**BUILDEX is about designing, building and managing real estate**

## February 23 & 24, 2011 - Vancouver Convention Centre (West)

BUILDEX Vancouver is one of Canada's largest trade expositions and the largest event at the Vancouver Convention Centre, welcoming over twelve thousand Design, Construction and Real Estate Management professionals each year. Over 600 exhibits and more than 50 educational seminars impact THREE distinct professional markets, all under one roof:

- Interior design and architecture
- Property and real estate management
- Construction and renovation

**EARLY BIRD DEADLINE FEBRUARY 9!** View the program & register at [www.buildexvancouver.com](http://www.buildexvancouver.com)  
Visit Construction Specifications Canada – Vancouver Chapter at booth 824 at this year's BUILDEX and enjoy two days of product launches, problem-solving, education and the year's best networking opportunity!

**Free tickets are available at the CSC Vancouver Office.**



**Joe McDermid, CTR**  
*Director - Sales & Marketing*

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## MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Please join me in welcoming four new Members to the Vancouver Chapter of the CSC.

**Peter Corr**, Dayliter Skylights

(a Division of Spectrum Skyworks)

**Loren Cocking**, CCI Industries

(a Division of Expocrete Concrete Products Ltd)

**Matthew Cherris**, Amando Natural Stone

**Dale Staples**, Integra Architecture Inc.

We look forward to seeing you at future CSC events.

## Join the Vancouver Chapter of the CSC!

November 1st 2010 to February 28th 2011: Sponsor a new member and get entered into a draw to win one of the following prizes:

- \$600 Cash from the Vancouver Chapter!
- A National draw for an Apple 64GB iPad with WiFi+3G
- Four runner up prizes of Apple 32GB iPod touch.

New Members will be entered into a prize draw to win \$300 cash from the Vancouver Chapter!

Every new member will receive a \$100 voucher that can be applied to the 2011 Montreal Conference cost and a copy of the new MasterFormat 2010 Update.

Winners will be announced March 2011.

*Please note: lapsed members wanting to qualify as new members must not have been a member of CSC within the past 5 years to qualify.*

**Stephen Amos**

Membership Officer 2010/2011

## EDUCATION REPORT

Specifier 1 is up and running, so for all of you who hesitated, better luck next time! We will be following Specifier 1 up with Specifier 2, which will begin on April 2nd. The registration form for that course will be out to you shortly. If you have taken the Principals of Construction Documentation (PCD) but not completed Specifier 1, do not despair, you are still eligible to tackle Specifier 2 if you so desire.

We will be confirming the final course we will be offering in 2011 in the near future too, so stay tuned. I know you will all be waiting with baited breath for our decision, but be patient!

Regards,


Nathan Thompson - CTR  
Cultured Stone®/CSI, Inc.

If you or your colleagues have any interest in taking these courses with us, please let us know by contacting our Education Officer, Nathan Thompson, CTR at [n.thompson@canadianstone.com](mailto:n.thompson@canadianstone.com)



We are looking for a new Membership Officer for the 2011/2012 term. If you are interested, please contact our Chair, Melodie Schwartzman.

A big THANK YOU to Stephen Amos who has served for the past term on the Vancouver Chapter Executive. We wish you the best in all your endeavours and hope to see you out at our future meetings!



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## CSC EXECUTIVE BIO

### Vince Smith

With specialty coatings and finishes being a large component of Vince's job, since the early eighties, he made the career move to Cloverdale Paint Inc, where he has been employed since 2003 as an Architectural Sales Representative, primarily servicing Architects, Interior Designers and specification writers.



"Cloverdale Paint is the best" Vince says – "remaining as a private, family business gives you a real feeling of personality and belonging in the very competitive multi-national global market." He also says, "having a technical background combined with sales experience has always been good for me. It is a very good combination to have."

"Belonging to Construction Specifications Canada fits in very well with my job", Vince adds. "The CSC membership is a great group of people from all areas of the construction arena. There are endless networking opportunities. I am very proud to be serving on the executive, and I encourage you all to enlighten any other potential CSC members to join."

Continuing to run, play soccer, golf, tennis & cross-country skiing (with the occasional skydive added) for many more years, is Vince's main goal. "Fitness is in my psyche. I am constantly looking for fellow tennis players! Any takers?"

Vince Smith  
CSC Vancouver Chapter Treasurer  
(2007 - Present)

## INDUSTRY ORGANIZATIONS

### DIVISION 01: GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

Construction Waste Management – BuildSmart  
<http://www.metrovancouver.org/buildsmart/>

### DIVISION 02: EXISTING CONDITIONS

Demolition / Deconstruction – BuildSmart  
<http://www.metrovancouver.org/about/publications/Publications/dlctoolkit08web1.pdf>

### DIVISION 03: CONCRETE

Cement Association of Canada  
<http://www.cement.ca/>  
 Canadian Precast Concrete Institute  
<http://www.cpci.ca/>

### DIVISION 04: MASONRY

Masonry Institute of BC  
<http://www.masonrybc.org/>  
 Masonry Institute (American)  
<http://www.masonryinstitute.com>

### DIVISION 05: METALS

Canadian Institute of Steel Construction  
<http://www.cisc-icca.ca/>

### DIVISION 06: WOOD, PLASTICS, & COMPOSITES

Architectural Woodwork Mfrs' Assoc.  
<http://www.awmac.com/bcchapters.php>  
 Western Red Cedar Lumber Association  
<http://www.wrcla.org/>

### DIVISION 07: THERMAL & MOISTURE PROTECTION

Roofing Contractors Association of BC  
<http://www.rcabc.org/>  
 BC Sheet Metal Workers Associations  
<http://www.smacna-bc.org/>

### DIVISION 08: OPENINGS (DOORS, WINDOWS)

Steel Door Institute  
<http://www.steeldoor.org/>  
 Canadian Steel Door Manufacturers Assoc  
<http://www.csdma.org/>  
 Door Hardware Institute  
<http://www.dhi.org/>

### DIVISION 09: FINISHES

Association of Wall and Ceiling Contractors of BC  
<http://www.awccbc.org/>  
 Gypsum Association  
<http://www.gypsum.org/>  
 Master Painters Institute  
<http://www.paintinfo.com>  
 Carpet and Rug Institute  
<http://www.carpet-rug.org/>  
 National Flooring Covering Association  
<http://www.nfcaonline.ca/>  
 National Wood Flooring Association  
<http://www.nwfa.org/member/>  
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<http://www.ttmac.com/>

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## TECH NOTES

### Green Coatings - Truths & Myths

(and the case for water-borne alkyds)

by Master Painters Institute

#### Introduction

Just about everyone these days has a “green” product in the coatings industry. There is ‘Eco this’ or ‘Enviro that’ labeling. Manufacturers splash exotic colors all over their slick brochures with lush green leafs and tranquil waterfalls cascading in the background. They inform us how their coatings are environmentally friendly and will help protect our fragile ecosystems. But are these coatings really environmental at all? Not always.

The industry has long sought alternatives to the conventional alkyds that for decades were prized for their durability and smooth glossy finish as well as ease of application: these were the “go-to” products for doors, trim, chair rails, base moldings, etc. With the industry now gripped by the need to meet LEED and/or new or pending government VOC limits, interest in traditional alkyds has waned considerably. But now, waterborne alkyd paints are making their presence known in the market, and depending on the application, appear to provide the lower VOC with alkyd performance and application properties that specification writers, owners, and contractors are seeking.

Since it was first introduced, waterborne alkyd technology has had its bumps in the road. But the chemistry has evolved considerably over the last decade, with current generation products far advanced above the early formulations.

Master Painters Institute (MPI) offers a range of standards for interior waterborne alkyd paints, from primer to gloss finishes, each with performance/testing requirements virtually the same as their solvent-borne counterparts.

And several manufacturers now have products approved under those standards that offer VOC under 50 g/l, clean-up with soap and water, resistance to yellowing, and application properties their manufacturers say are comparable to conventional high VOC alkyds.

#### VOC Debate

Many environmental organizations such as the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD), Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) and Green Seal have established a number of well intentioned but erroneous standards regarding VOC's. Generally speaking, VOC levels for interior latex paints are 150 g/L for non-flat paints and 50 g/L for flat paints. Exterior paints are typically 200 g/L for non-flat and 100 g/L for flat paints.

But what does this all mean? Perhaps it means very little because VOC's are only calculated on the base



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Regional Sales Manager, BC

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...Green Coatings, continued:

white product and without the colorant system. For example, a 150 gram VOC base white with the addition of a red oxide pigment could increase to 160 g/L. Universal colorants can have more than 160 grams per liter of VOC's because of high glycol levels. If a painting contractor is coating a surface with an accent color such as yellow, three to five coats are often required to get decent hide. If you combine the VOC's from the base polymer with the universal colorant system then a great deal more VOC's are being emitted from the combined coats.

VOC's can cause headaches, allergic reactions and health problems in humans if inhaled and contribute to the formation of troposphere ozone, smog and global warming.

## Energy Efficiency

Energy efficiency should be considered a criterion for green coatings. Energy-efficient coatings utilize sophisticated heat-blocking pigments that refract the sun's visible, infrared and UV radiation away from the substrate, thereby reducing radiant heat transfer within a property. If a property can remain cool, there is a lower demand for cooling systems, which, in turn, decreases the demand on utility companies to burn fossil fuels to run generators. It is the burning of fossil fuels that contributes to smog and ozone depletion. Typical retail-bought paints, which are specified on most exterior walls, are not heat-reflective or energy-efficient. They can contain high levels of VOC's, may not be durable and often do not help protect the environment.

## Performance

Performance should be an important feature of an environmental coating. A long-lasting coating means less paint cycles, which means fewer VOC's are emitted. The physical performance of latex paints depends on a number of variables such as quality of pigments, film build, polymer and sheen. Highly reflective Mixed Metal Oxides (MMOs) reduce surface temperature, which extends the life of the coating. High film build coatings last longer than low film build simply because of greater thickness.



DELTA® protects property. Saves energy. Creates comfort.

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**Independent Manufacturers Representatives**

...Green Coatings, continued:

One-hundred-percent acrylics last longer than styrene and PVA acrylics. High-sheen coatings last longer than flat-sheen coatings because they contain fewer fillers and extender pigments.

Retail latex paints typically last 3-7 years between re-paint cycles. Some high-performing elastomerics and thermoplastics that utilize heat reflective technology can last more than 20 years between recoats. The longer a coating lasts, the better it is for the environment, and this is the reason why it should be considered a criterion for a green coating specification.

### Recycling

Recycled paint has been a green practice for a period of time in the United States. However, why aren't the paint containers also recycled in a similar fashion as they are in other countries such as New Zealand or Canada? It is estimated that 95% of all paint cans in the U.S. end up clogging landfills. Many paint cans are manufactured from polyethylene, which can be recycled into garbage bags, soda bottles or shopping bags.

### Definition of a Green Coating System

Defining a green coating within the USA is like pulling

a confused rabbit out of a magic hat. Anyone can conjure up his or her own set of standards. Green coating standards must include a more comprehensive look at VOC's, energy efficiency, long-term performance, and recycling latex polymers and containers.

## BUILDING OF THE MONTH

The **Longaberger corporate headquarters** on Ohio State Route 16 is a local landmark and a well-known example of novelty architecture, since it takes the shape of their biggest seller, the "Medium Market Basket."



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# VOC Concentration Limits For Architectural Coatings Are Regulated As Of September 2010



Enforced through Environment Canada and the Environmental Protection Act, new VOC Concentration Limits for Architectural Coatings are in effect as of September 2010.

This legislation regulates the manufacture, distribution and sale of Architectural Coatings.

The regulations put VOC concentration limits on 53 categories of Architectural paints and coatings.

Products that exceed the VOC limit of their category will be banned from being manufactured or imported in Canada as of September 2010.

Products that exceed their VOC Category limits can be sold up to September 2012.

Paint applicators and end users can continue to use non-compliant architectural coatings indefinitely. After September 2012, it will be illegal for distributors and retailers to supply non-compliant coatings for architectural applications.

Image Source: <http://www.gazette.gc.ca/rp-pr/p2/2009/2009-09-30/html/sor-dors264-eng.html>

## What Are Volatile Organic Compounds?

At its core, paints are made from two basic categories of raw materials: solids and liquids. Volatile Organic Compounds ("VOCs") in paint typically come from organic solvents, resins and additives used in paint formulations.

During the application process and until the paint dries, VOCs (solvents) evaporate into the air, leaving the solids to beautify and protect the surface.

VOCs contribute to ground level ozone, commonly referred to as "smog". Smog refers to a noxious mixture of gases and particles that often appears as a haze in the air. It has been linked to a number of adverse effects on health and the environment.<sup>1</sup> Governments around the world have made Air Quality a priority and one of the ways the Government of Canada is addressing this issue is through these Regulations.

VOCs are emitted by a wide array of products numbering in the thousands and many are outside the paint and coating industry. Examples include: cleaning supplies, pesticides, building materials and furnishings, office equipment such as copiers and printers, correction fluids and carbonless copy paper, graphics and craft materials including glues and adhesives, permanent markers, and photographic solutions.<sup>2</sup>

1. Environment Canada, [http://www.ec.gc.ca/cleanair-airpur/Smog-WS1300E0AA-1\\_En.htm](http://www.ec.gc.ca/cleanair-airpur/Smog-WS1300E0AA-1_En.htm)

2. US Environmental Protection Agency, <http://www.epa.gov/iaq/voc.html>

## How Will The Regulations Be Enforced?

Enforcement of this Regulation is strictly at the point of sale and not where the product is being applied.

## Where Can I Get Detailed Information On VOC Concentration Limits?

The full text of the Volatile Organic Compound (VOC) Concentration Limits for Architectural Coatings is available free on the Ministry of Justice Canada's web site:

<http://www.gazette.gc.ca/rp-pr/p2/2009/2009-09-30/html/sor-dors264-eng.html>

## What Is The Impact On The Paint Industry?

In order to meet ongoing changes to VOC Concentration Limits for Architectural Coatings, paint and coatings manufacturers have reformulated products to provide the same quality and performance targets that customers expect in low VOC formulations.

At Cloverdale Paint, we have reformulated many products to reduce VOC levels. Some reformulations require small adjustments, such as a solvent reduction or change, yet many reformulations require major changes, such as to entirely new technologies.



During the reformulation process, we discovered a number of new technologies that were previously unavailable to our customers. Examples include Polycarbonates for crystal clear and extremely durable interior clear wood finishes. Water-Borne Alkyds that provide similar application characteristics at extremely low VOC levels to replace Alkyd Urethane varnishes.

With the reduction of VOCs, paint Applicators may notice subtle differences in products that had higher VOC concentrations. Some examples include reduced odours from the removal of solvents, higher solids content, which contributed to better hide.

## What Are Some Of The Coating Categories And Their VOC Concentration Limits?

Below is a list of some of the common coating categories that are used daily in the painting industry. For each category, there is only one limit.

For example: "Category #51: Any Flat Coating" the limit is 100 g/L. This means any flat coating, as long as it is not in one of the other 52 categories, must not exceed 100 g/L. There is no differentiation between interior, exterior, oil or latex.

If a coating fits into more than one category, it is the category with the lowest VOC limit that the coating must meet.

Coating Category	VOC Concentration Limit (g/L)	Effective Date
51: Any Flat Coating	100	Sept 2010
52: Any Non Flat Coating	150	Sept 2010
53: Any High Gloss Coating	250	Sept 2010
42: Primer, Sealer or undercoater	200	Sept 2010
12: Dry Fog Coating	400	Sept 2010
18: Floor Enamel	250	Sept 2012
27: Shellac, Opaque	550	Sept 2010
39: Specialty Primer	350	Sept 2010
45: Rust Preventative Coating	400	Sept 2010
47: Exterior Wood Stain (Clear/ST)	250	Sept 2012
48: Any other stain	250	Sept 2010
46: Interior Wiping Stain	250	Sept 2012
50: Traffic Marking Coatings	450	Sept 2010



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After Sept 2010



# Volatile Organic Compound Concentration Limits for Architectural Coatings Regulations

## What Are Architectural Coatings?

Architectural coatings are products such as **paints, stains, varnishes, lacquers** and other types of coatings applied to traffic surfaces or to a wide variety of stationary structures in residential, commercial, institutional and industrial settings.



The Canadian architectural coatings sector produces coatings for three main segments:

- **General architectural coatings:** coatings sold to painting contractors and to the general public through retail outlets.
- **Industrial maintenance coatings:** high-performance architectural coatings for industrial or professional application to surfaces exposed to extreme conditions.
- **Traffic marking (TM) coatings:** used for marking traffic surfaces such as streets and highways, parking lots, airport runways.

## What Are Volatile Organic Compounds?

Volatile organic compound (VOC) emissions from the architectural coating sector result from the use of solvents in both solvent-based and water-based coatings. The solvents in coatings are released to the atmosphere by evaporation during the drying and curing process. They then contribute to the formation of ground-level ozone and particulate matter, which form smog.

## Why Are Regulations Necessary?

The Government of Canada is working to protect the environment and health of Canadians from the effects of air pollution which increase the risk of respiratory and heart diseases.

In 2005, it was estimated that 51 kilotonnes of VOCs were emitted from architectural coatings in Canada. It is not feasible to capture and control VOC emissions resulting at the point of use. The best option to reduce VOC emissions from architectural coatings is to **reformulate products to contain lower levels of VOCs**. The Regulations would result in an annual reduction in VOC emissions from these sources of approximately 28%.

## To Whom Do the Regulations Apply?

The Regulations apply to the **manufacturers, importers and sellers** of architectural coatings, as well as to the **users of TM coatings**.

## What Are the Main Requirements of the Regulations?

The Regulations set mandatory VOC concentration limits for **53 categories** of architectural coatings. Concentration limits vary between **100 g/L–800 g/L** depending on the category and are set out in the Schedule to the Regulations, which can be viewed at [www.ec.gc.ca/ceparegistry](http://www.ec.gc.ca/ceparegistry).

The prohibition of architectural coatings that exceed the applicable limit takes effect as follows:

Number of Categories	Date When the Prohibition Takes Effect for:		
	Manufacture / Import	Sale and Offer for Sale	Use
45	Sept. 9, 2010	Sept. 10, 2012	N/A
6	Sept. 9, 2012	Sept. 10, 2014	N/A
1 ("recycled coating")	Sept. 9, 2014	Sept. 10, 2016	N/A
1 ("TM coating")	Sept. 9, 2010	Sept. 10, 2012	Sept. 10, 2012*

\*The category for "TM coating" is the only one subject to an annual use prohibition during the period **beginning May 1 and ending October 15**, when the VOC concentration exceeds **150 g/L**. For the remainder of the year, the use of TM coatings will not be restricted and applicators will be able to use products which are compliant with the Regulations for manufacture, import, sale and offer for sale.

These specific requirements were developed in response to concerns expressed by TM stakeholders regarding the performance and cost of low-VOC traffic marking coatings for cold weather application.

## HOW TO STAY INFORMED?

For additional information visit  
[www.ec.gc.ca/cov-voc](http://www.ec.gc.ca/cov-voc).

Questions and inquiries can be directed to Environment Canada:

Tel.: 1-800-668-6767  
Fax: 1-888-391-3695 or 819-953-3132  
Email: [vocinfo@ec.gc.ca](mailto:vocinfo@ec.gc.ca)