

Works Procedure 15  
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## Paint and Spraying

### 1.0 Purpose and Application

- 1.1 How to control the hazards associated with paint and the application of paint by spray.
- 1.2 It is important to note that CoSHH (2002) regulations and guidelines for each individual paint must be adhered to at all times.

### 2.0 Related Documents

### 3.0 Procedure - Safe Systems of Work

#### 3.1 Hazards to Health

- 3.1.1 Resins – Non-reactive resin esters such as alkyds are not normally considered hazardous, however, certain reactive resins can be and include the following;
  - 1. Epoxy resin based paints – can cause irritant and allergic skin reactions.
- 3.1.2 Two component reactive resins can contain sufficient monomer di-isocyanate to cause eye injury or allergic skin or respiratory problems.
- 3.1.3 Pigments – Certain pigments based on lead or hexavalent chromium compounds are toxic and have potential to cause a variety of adverse health effects which can include; damage to the nervous system, blood system or allergic reactions. Inhalation and ingestion should be avoided.
- 3.1.4 Solvents – Certain solvents, if not used under conditions of good occupational hygiene (particularly ventilation) can cause acute and chronic health problems. Acute toxicity includes irritation of the skin, eyes, nose and throat together with central nervous system depression resulting in dizziness, headache and nausea. At very high exposure levels unconsciousness and death will eventually result. Chronic toxicity can involve de-fatting of the skin and damage to the blood, liver, kidneys and more serious nervous system damage. Some paint solvents also cause allergic reactions when in contact with skin.
- 3.1.5 Electrical equipment associated with spraying may present a hazard if not properly installed or earthed. Regulations for this equipment must be adhered to at all times.
- 3.1.6 Fire – Many paint systems contain solvents which present flammability risks. All sources of unnecessary heat and ignition should be removed from the area to minimize this risk. The pouring of solvents from one container to another may

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also produce static electricity which can produce a spark and will be necessary to ensure that containers are properly earth grounded. It is important to note that certain alkyd based systems containing driers are prone to spontaneous combustion if they dry in contact with combustible material.

- 3.1.7 In all cases refer to the guidelines in CoSHH assessment and adhere to the regulations therein at all times.

**All operatives should receive the appropriate COSHH training.**

**3.2 Control**

- 3.2.1 Ventilation - Adequate ventilation must be provided and where necessary a properly designed booth with provisions for appropriate regulation of air intake and output, temperature and humidity must be provided. Ventilation should be balanced so as to ensure a slight negative pressure. For painting inside tanks or confined spaces please consult the “confined spaces” procedure.
- 3.2.2 Hygiene – G.D.Parvin-Ltd must provide adequate facilities for washing and skin care, including the provision of hand cleansers and barrier creams which should be used where appropriate.
- 3.2.3 PPE – The following are general guidelines for the use of PPE when dealing with paints and spraying. More detailed requirements for protective clothing and equipment will be stipulated in the CoSHH assessment.
- 3.2.4 Skin care – Gloves of an appropriate type must be worn.
- 3.2.5 Hearing – Some booths may be designated “hearing protection areas” and appropriate protection should be worn.
- 3.2.6 Respiratory – Appropriate protection must be worn at all times. It is important to note that masks of plastic foam, gauze or disposable ‘cup’ masks only help to control paint droplets and particles of dust, they do not offer protection against solvents and thinners.
- 3.2.7 Eye care, where required eye wash facilities should be provided in areas where there is a risk to eyes from paint contact.

**4 Records**

Risk Assessments  
Accident & Incident Reports  
COSHH assessments  
Material Safety Data Sheets