

Environmental Protection Agency

§ 59.104

underbody coatings, uniform finish blenders, and weld-through primers.

Thinner means any solvent used to reduce the viscosity or solids content of a coating.

Three-stage topcoat means a topcoat composed of a pigmented basecoat, a midcoat, and a transparent clearcoat.

Topcoat means any coating or series of coatings applied over a primer or an existing finish for the purpose of protection or beautification.

Touch-up coating means a coating applied by brush, air-brush, or nonrefillable aerosol can to cover minor surface damage.

Two-stage topcoat means a topcoat consisting of a pigmented basecoat and a transparent clearcoat.

Uniform finish blender means a coating designed to blend a repaired topcoat into an existing topcoat.

United States means the United States of America, including the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Volatile organic compounds or *VOC* means any compound of carbon, other than those organic compounds that the Administrator has excluded in 40 CFR part 51, §51.100 from this definition.

VOC content means the weight of VOC per volume of coating, calculated according to the procedures in §59.104(a) of this subpart.

Water hold-out coating means a coating applied to the interior cavity areas of doors, quarter panels and rocker panels for the purpose of corrosion resistance to prolonged water exposure.

Weld-through primer means a primer that is applied to an area before welding is performed, and that provides corrosion resistance to the surface after welding has been performed.

§ 59.102 Standards.

(a) Except as provided in §59.106 of this subpart, any coating resulting from the mixing instructions of a regulated entity must meet the VOC content limit given in table 1 of this subpart. VOC content is determined according to §59.104(a).

(b) Different combinations or mixing ratios of coating components constitute different coatings. For example,

coating components may be mixed one way to make a primer, and mixed another way to make a primer sealer. Each of these coatings must meet its corresponding VOC content limit in table 1 of this subpart. If the same combination and mixing ratio of coating components is recommended by a regulated entity for use in more than one category in table 1 of this subpart, then the most restrictive VOC content limit shall apply.

§ 59.103 Container labeling requirements.

Each regulated entity subject to this subpart must clearly display on each automobile refinish coating or coating component container or package, the day, month, and year on which the product was manufactured, or a code indicating such date.

§ 59.104 Compliance provisions.

(a) For the purpose of determining compliance with the VOC content limits in §59.102(a) of this subpart, each regulated entity shall determine the VOC content of a coating using the procedures described in paragraph (a)(1) or (a)(2) of this section, as appropriate.

(1) Determine the VOC content in grams of VOC per liter of coating prepared for application according to its mixing instructions, excluding the volume of any water or exempt compounds. VOC content shall be calculated using the following equation:

$$\text{VOC} = \frac{(W_v - W_w - W_{ec})}{(V - V_w - V_{ec})}$$

Where:

VOC content = grams of VOC per liter of coating;

W_v = mass of total volatiles, in grams;

W_w = mass of water, in grams;

W_{ec} = mass of exempt compounds, in grams;

V = volume of coating, in liters;

V_w = volume of water, in liters; and

V_{ec} = volume of exempt compounds, in liters.

(2) The VOC content of a multi-stage topcoat shall be calculated using the following equation:

$$\text{VOC}_{\text{multi}} = \frac{\text{VOC}_{\text{bc}} + \sum_{i=0}^M \text{VOC}_{\text{mci}} + 2 (\text{VOC}_{\text{cc}})}{M + 3}$$