

FACT SHEET

FINAL RULE TO REDUCE HAZARDOUS AIR EMISSIONS FROM MISCELLANEOUS COATING MANUFACTURING FACILITIES

ACTION

- ! On August 29, 2003, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued a rule to reduce hazardous air emissions from miscellaneous coating manufacturing facilities. Facilities producing paints, inks, or adhesives will most likely be affected by this rule.
- ! Hazardous air pollutants, also known as air toxics, are those pollutants known, or suspected, to cause cancer and other serious health problems. The primary air toxics emitted during the production of organic chemicals used in coatings are xylene, glycol ethers, methyl isobutyl ketone, and toluene.
- ! Today's final rule requires facilities to install emissions controls known as "maximum achievable control technology" or MACT for process vessels, storage tanks, equipment leaks, wastewater systems, and transfer operations at facilities covered by this rule.
- ! The final rule will reduce air toxics emissions by 4,900 tons per year. The rule will also reduce volatile organic compound emissions, which contribute to the formation of ground-level ozone (smog).
- ! The annualized cost of this rule will be approximately \$16 million.

BACKGROUND

- ! The Clean Air Act (CAA) requires EPA to identify industrial or "source" categories that emit one or more of the 188 toxic air pollutants listed in the Act.
- ! For major sources within each source category, the CAA requires EPA to develop standards that restrict emissions to levels consistent with the lowest emitting plants. Major sources are those sources that emit 10 tons per year or more of a single air toxic or 25 tons per year or more of a combination of air toxics.
- ! This rule was proposed on April 4, 2002 along with the NESHAP for Miscellaneous Organic Chemical Manufacturing.

MORE INFORMATION

- ! For further information about the rule, contact Randy McDonald of EPA's Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards at (919) 541-5402.

- ! EPA's Office of Air and Radiation's homepage on the internet contains a wide range of information on the air toxics program, as well as many other air pollution programs and issues. The Office of Air and Radiation's home page address is: <http://www.epa.gov/oar>.