



Auto Body/Collision Repair

Hazardous Waste Determination: Waterborne Paint

Hazardous waste determinations of all wastes are the responsibility of the generator.

Most auto body shops add a coagulant to the waste paint to create two phases of waste: liquid and solid.

Liquid and Solid Phase

- 1) Conduct a hazardous waste determination.
- 2) Review environmental data sheets (EDS) of all paint including catalyst, hardener, reducer or anything added to the paint.
- 3) Compare ingredients on EDS to Env-Hw 403.06 Toxicity Characteristics, sometimes called the D-list TCLP. While the EDS may not specify one metal, the coating may contain lead chromate or barium sulfate.
- 4) If none of the ingredients on the EDS matches a constituent from the toxicity characteristics list and you determine that the waste is non-hazardous, you should:
 - a. Document how you determined the waste is non-hazardous, including signature and date.
 - b. Save the document in your files.
 - c. Manage as non-hazardous waste.
 - i. Solid phase: Can be disposed in solid waste (trash) with permission from the solid waste hauler.
 - ii. Liquid phase: Can be discharged to **sewer** with permission from the local wastewater treatment facility. Or if the shop is connected to a **septic system**, collect the wastewater and contact a septic hauler for disposal. The wastewater will not meet the criteria of ambient water quality and cannot be discharged to septic systems or to the ground.
- 5) If any of the ingredients on the EDS matches a constituent for the toxicity characteristics, the waste can be managed as a hazardous waste or tested to determine if it is hazardous. If you decide to have the waste tested, you should:
 - a. Request a TCLP test for the matching constituent from an environmental laboratory. Call a couple of labs for a quote. A list of labs is available at http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/waste/hwcb/documents/labs_hw.pdf.
 - b. Test the waste paint solid and the liquid phase separately.
 - c. Compare the test results to the maximum concentration/regulatory level in Env-Hw 403.06.
 - i. Solid and liquid phase: If the results are at or greater than the regulatory level, the waste must be managed as a hazardous waste.
 - ii. Solid phase: If the results are less than the regulatory level, the waste can be managed as a solid waste (trash).
 - iii. Liquid phase: If the results are less than the regulatory level and the shop is connected to **sewer**, contact the local wastewater treatment facility to determine if the wastewater can be discharged to the sewer. Or if the shop is connected to a **septic system**, collect the wastewater and contact a

septic hauler for disposal. The wastewater will not meet the criteria of ambient water quality and cannot be discharged to septic systems or to the ground.

- d. Save the test results in your files.

Additional testing may be needed depending if the waste comes into contact with other hazardous waste. If the generator changes its product line or if the product formula changes, the hazardous waste determination must be completed and documented again.

Waste primer and waste clear coat are not waterborne coatings. Please refer to the *Options for Managing Leftover Paint* and *Hazardous Waste Determination of Waste Clear Coat* on guidance to manage these wastes.

For questions on hazardous waste determinations, contact the Hazardous Waste Compliance Bureau at (603) 271-2942 or hwcomp@des.nh.gov.

For more information:

Visit: www.des.nh.gov on the A to Z list “Auto Body Shop Assistance”

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