



16 March 2007

Dear Sir/Madam,

Air Pollution Control (Volatile Organic Compounds) Regulation

We write to advise you that the Air Pollution Control (Volatile Organic Compounds) Regulation, which aims to control the emissions of volatile organic compounds (VOC) from architectural paints/coatings, printing inks and six selected consumer products (i.e., hairsprays, air freshener, floor wax strippers, multi-purpose lubricants, insecticides and aerosol insect repellents) will take effect on 1 April 2007. We understand from the Customs and Excise Department that your company may have been involved in the importing and/or local manufacturing of these regulated products. If you do not or have ceased to import or manufacture these products, we would be most grateful if you would discard this letter and write to us to confirm and update our records.

Under the Air Pollution Control (Volatile Organic Compounds) Regulation, other than those in transit, in the course of transshipment or are solely for export or re-export, no one may manufacture locally or import into Hong Kong the above-mentioned regulated products with VOC contents exceeding the respective maximum limit prescribed by the Regulation after the respective implementation dates. As an importer and/or local manufacturer of regulated products for local use or sale, you are required under the Regulation to comply with the stipulated VOC contents and, starting from next year, submit annual sales report of the preceding calendar year to the Director of Environmental Protection by 31 March of each year. Please also note that you are required to keep the records and documents containing the particulars of the regulated product manufactured or imported for at least 3 years for inspection upon request.

Please kindly note that any regulated product found in Hong Kong, in the absence of evidence to the contrary, will be presumed:

- (a) to have been imported or locally manufactured after the date on which the prohibition or requirement became effective;
- (b) to be not in transit, not in the course of transshipment and not goods that are solely for export or re-export.

You are, therefore, advised to retain all relevant documents or records even if the regulated products manufactured or imported by you are not subject to application of the Regulation.

If you manufacture or import into Hong Kong the regulated paints, please also be advised that you are required to fix a label for each of regulated paints not in compliance with the future prescribed limits on the surface both of the packaging and of the container, and display the information including the manufacture date, type of regulated paints and VOC information. These information shall also be notified to the Director of Environmental Protection prior to the sale or use of these paints in Hong Kong.

The Regulation in full may be downloaded from the following website:

- (a) Chinese: <http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr06-07/chinese/subleg/negative/ln020-07-c.pdf>
- (b) English: <http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr06-07/english/subleg/negative/ln020-07-e.pdf>

In addition, you may also get access to a guidebook entitled “A Guide to the Air Pollution Control (Volatile Organic Compounds) Regulation” in our website at:

- (a) Chinese:
http://www.epd.gov.hk/epd/tc_chi/environmentinhk/air/prob_solutions/files/voc_reg_guide_chi.pdf
- (b) English:
http://www.epd.gov.hk/epd/english/environmentinhk/air/prob_solutions/files/voc_reg_guide.pdf

We strongly recommend you to read them in details so as to ensure a full understanding of the requirements of the Regulation.

You may also be interested in knowing that from 1 April 2007 onwards, our enforcement colleagues would have regular visits to warehouses and godowns of manufacturers, importers and suppliers as well as the retailing shops to collect samples of regulated products to check compliance with the regulatory requirements. We would be most grateful if you would render the full cooperation and assistance to our colleagues during the inspection.

Please feel free to call our hotline at 2838 3111 or e-mail to enquiry@epd.gov.hk in case you have any queries or require any further clarification on the above.

Yours faithfully,



(PANG Sik-wing)

for Director of Environmental Protection

執事先生 / 女士：

《空氣污染管制(揮發性有機化合物)規例》

《空氣污染管制(揮發性有機化合物)規例》將於二零零七年四月一日生效。該規例的目的，是管制建築漆料 / 塗料、印墨和六類指定消費品 (即噴髮膠、空氣清新劑、地蠟清除劑、多用途潤滑劑、除蟲劑和噴霧驅蟲劑) 的揮發性有機化合物排放量。本署從香港海關得知，貴公司可能曾輸入及 / 或在本地生產上述受規管產品。不過，如貴公司沒有或已經停止輸入或生產上述產品，閣下可無須理會本通知，並以書面通知本署以更正有關紀錄。

根據《空氣污染管制(揮發性有機化合物)規例》，除了過境、轉運中或只供出口或再出口的貨品之外，在規例訂明的最高限制的生效日期之後，任何人士都不得在本地生產或輸入揮發性有機化合物含量超過訂明最高限制的上述受規管產品。輸入或在本地生產受規管產品以供在本地使用或出售的進口商及 / 或本地生產商，根據規例必須確保有關產品符合訂明的揮發性有機化合物含量。另外，由明年開始，亦必須在每年三月三十一日或之前，向環境保護署署長提交上一曆年的銷售報告。此外，進口商及 / 或本地生產商也必須備存紀錄和文件，內載生產或輸入的受規管產品詳情，為期不少於三年，就所要求以供查閱。

另請注意，凡在香港發現的受規管產品，在沒有相反證據的情況下，均會推定為：

- (a) 在禁止或規定的生效日期後才輸入或在本地生產；
- (b) 並非過境、轉運中及只供出口或再出口的貨品。

因此，縱使貴公司生產或輸入的受規管產品並不屬於規例的適用範圍，亦敬請保留所有有關文件或紀錄。

如貴公司在本港生產或輸入受規管漆料，就必須在所有未能符合日後訂明限制的受規管漆料的包裝及容器表面貼上標籤，並顯示包括生產日期、受規管漆料類別及揮發性有機化合物含量等資料。此外，在本港出售或使用這些漆料之前，亦須把上述資料提交環境保護署署長。

規例全文可於下列網址下載：

- (a) 中文本：
<http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr06-07/chinese/subleg/negative/ln020-07-c.pdf>
- (b) 英文本：
<http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr06-07/english/subleg/negative/ln020-07-e.pdf>

此外，你亦可參閱在本署以下網址的《空氣污染管制(揮發性有機化合物)規例指南》：

(a) 中文本：

http://www.epd.gov.hk/epd/tc_chi/environmentinhk/air/prob_solutions/files/voc_reg_guide_chi.pdf

(b) 英文本：

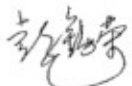
http://www.epd.gov.hk/epd/english/environmentinhk/air/prob_solutions/files/voc_reg_guide.pdf

我們極力推薦閣下細閱這些文件，以清楚了解規例的要求。

由二零零七年四月一日起，本署的執法人員將會定期巡查生產商、進口商和供應商的貨倉及零售店，以收集受規管產品的樣本，檢查是否符合規例的要求。在本署人員巡查期間，懇請閣下充分合作及提供協助。

如有查詢或需本署加以解釋以上所述，歡迎致電本署熱線 2838 3111 或電郵致 enquiry@epd.gov.hk。

環境保護署署長

(彭錫榮  代行)

二零零七年三月十六日