

揮發性有機化合物與你 髮型屋 / 髮型師須知

Volatile Organic Compounds and You For Hair Salon / Stylist



環境保護署

Environmental Protection Department

揮發性有機化合物與我們息息相關，影響你我呼吸的每一口空氣。你也來出一分力，減少揮發性有機化合物的排放。請向供應商查證你現正售賣或使用的產品是否符合有關規例，共同締造更清新空氣，藍天白雲的環境。

什麼是揮發性有機化合物？為什麼噴髮膠含有揮發性有機化合物？

揮發性有機化合物是由多組有機化合物混合而成的物質。在正常情況下，這些有機化合物容易揮發並進入大氣中。揮發性有機化合物可製成噴霧式噴髮膠的溶劑和推進劑。在噴髮膠中較為常用的揮發性有機化合物包括乙醇和二甲醚，此等化合物可隨時散逸到空氣中，令室內空氣質素惡化，及造成空氣污染。

揮發性有機化合物與我有什麼關係？

吸入揮發性有機化合物，可能會對健康造成急性或慢性的不良影響。揮發性有機化合物中有多種會容易使人上癮，亦會抑制中樞神經系統。吸入高濃度的揮發性有機化合物，可引致眼睛、鼻子和喉嚨不適，甚至造成頭痛、暈眩、視力障礙及其他傷害。部分揮發性有機化合物更已被公認為人類或動物的致癌物質。

此外，揮發性有機化合物對大氣中臭氧和微粒的形成，起着重要作用。臭氧和微粒積聚會形成煙霧，刺激我們的眼睛、鼻子和喉嚨，甚至會令患有心臟或呼吸疾病(如哮喘)的人士病情惡化，影響我們的健康。煙霧亦會令能見度下降，不利旅遊業。

政府採取了什麼措施去減低噴髮膠中揮發性有機化合物的排放？

由二零零七年四月一日起，政府已實施新制訂的《空氣污染管制(揮發性有機化合物)規例》，以限制指定產品的最高揮發性有機化合物含量，包括建築漆料、油墨及六類指定消費品(即空氣清新劑、噴髮膠、多用途潤滑劑、地蠟清除劑、除蟲劑和驅蟲劑)。

噴髮膠揮發性有機化合物含量的最高限值(重量百分比)	生效日期
80	二零零七年四月一日
55	二零零九年一月一日

根據規例，任何人士都不能輸入或在本港生產超出以上揮發性有機化合物限值的噴髮膠供在本港出售或使用。至於零售商或用家，雖然他們不受規管，但亦須提供有關資料協助監督執法，例如交易詳情或該產品的進口商或本地生產商的資料。

我如何能幫助減少揮發性有機化合物的排放？

你的支持對改善空氣質素非常重要。作為髮型師或髮型屋的負責人，你可以協助減少揮發性有機化合物的排放，只要：

- ◎ 避免使用噴霧式噴髮膠，因為這些產品多以揮發性有機化合物為推進劑。你可以改用液體、凝膠或泵噴形式的非噴霧式頭髮護理產品。
- ◎ 要求供應商或商店提供不含揮發性有機化合物或含量低的產品。你可以查看標籤上的成分說明，盡量選取揮發性有機化合物含量低的產品。
- ◎ 使用符合規例的噴髮膠。避免購買來源不明的產品。

我從哪裏可以取得更多資料？

如需更多資料，請聯絡：

環境保護署

香港灣仔告士打道5號

稅務大樓33樓

電話：2838 3111

或瀏覽本署網頁：

<http://www.epd.gov.hk>



Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) affect all of us with every breath we take. To provide a healthier environment and a blue sky for everyone, you can do your part to reduce VOCs and help check with your suppliers to make certain the products you are selling or using comply with the regulation.

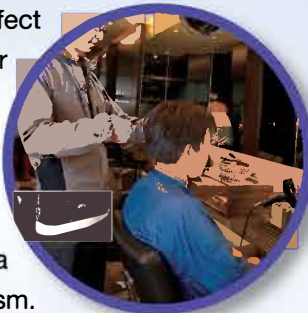
What are VOCs and why are they used in hairspray?

VOCs are a diverse group of organic chemical compounds that can easily vaporize and enter the atmosphere under normal conditions. They are used as solvents in the formulation and propellants for aerosol hairsprays. The more commonly used VOCs in hairsprays include ethanol and dimethyl ether. They disperse readily to air, deteriorating indoor air quality and creating air pollution.

Why do VOCs concern me?

Exposure to VOCs may result in both acute and chronic health effects. Many of the VOCs are strongly addictive and can result in the depression of the central nervous system. In sufficient quantities, VOCs can cause eye, nose and throat irritations, headaches, dizziness, visual disorder, and impairments. Some VOCs are also known as human or animal carcinogens.

Besides, VOCs play a significant role in the formation of ozone and fine particulates in the atmosphere. They result in smog which can affect our health - it may irritate our eyes, nose and throat, and may worsen existing heart and respiratory problems such as asthma. Smog also impairs visibility and has a negative impact on tourism.



What has the Government done on reduction of VOC emissions from hairsprays?

Since 1 April 2007, the Government has enforced the new Air Pollution Control (Volatile Organic Compounds) Regulation to restrict the maximum VOC content of specified products, including architectural paints, printing inks and six categories of consumer products (air fresheners, **hairsprays**, multi-purpose lubricants, floor wax strippers, insecticides and insect repellents).



Maximum Limit of VOC Content for Hairspray (weight %)	Effective Date
80	1 April 2007
55	1 January 2009

Under the regulation, no one is permitted to import or manufacture in Hong Kong any hairspray with a VOC content in excess of the above VOC limits for sale or use in Hong Kong. For retailers or users, although they are not subject to control, they would be required to assist the Authority in enforcement work by providing relevant information such as the transaction details or the identity of the importer or local manufacturer responsible for the concerned products.

How can I help reduce VOCs to the air?

Your support is very important for improving our air quality. As the hair stylist or responsible person of a hair salon, you can help reduce VOC emissions by:

- ⊙ Avoiding the use of aerosol hairsprays as they often use VOCs as their propellants. Non-aerosol hair care products in liquid, gel, or pump forms are often the better alternatives.
- ⊙ Asking your suppliers or stores for non-VOC or low-VOC products. Look for labels that show a minimum or low VOC content.
- ⊙ Using only those hairsprays in compliance with the Regulation. Refrain from buying products without knowing the sources or origins.

Where can I get more information?

For further information, please contact:

Environmental Protection Department

33/F, Revenue Tower

5 Gloucester Road

Wan Chai, Hong Kong

Tel. No.: 2838 3111

Or visit our website at: <http://www.epd.gov.hk>

