

MechSE WELLness

X12 Short-Term Emission Control

Intent: Minimize the impact of slow-emitting (VOCs) on indoor air quality by judiciously procuring materials with low-VOC emissions for the interior environment.

Volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOCs) have a wide range of health effects, from nose, eye and throat irritation, headaches and nausea to liver, kidney and central nervous system damage. Some select VOCs and SVOCs are known or suspected carcinogens.

Impact: Improved occupant health. Restriction of source VOCs in building materials and products can limit their presence in indoor air and dust and help to mitigate exposure risks and health hazards.

What are the requirements to earn this credit?

1. Newly applied adhesives, sealants, paints, and coatings applied inside the building shall meet all VOC emission thresholds for minimally 50% compliance by cost, with subsequent goals of 70% and 90%, set by California Department of Public Health (CDPH) Standard Method v.1.2-2017 or any more recent version.
2. Newly applied adhesives, sealants, paints, and coatings applied inside the building shall meet VOC content thresholds for minimally 75% compliance by cost, with subsequent goal of 90%, set by California Air Resources Board (CARB) 2007, Suggested Control Measure (SCM) for Architectural Coatings.

How is MechSE accomplishing these requirements?

All building materials shall be approved by the Facilities & Operations Office before purchase, delivery or use. The Facilities Office will seek to maintain an accessible, digital library of available research, furniture, furnishings, building materials and vendors that facilitate policy compliance and occupant education. Web links to sites will be provided where possible. Our goal is to avoid International Living Future 'Red List' products.



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