



Decorative Paints Regulations: Who Does What?¹

Retailers are responsible for:

- Selling only paint products that meet the VOC content requirements (if in doubt, ask your supplier);
- Selling and taking into stock from 1 January 2008 only paint products that are correctly individually labelled and meet VOC content requirements;
- Notifying the Environmental Protection Agency if they receive or are offered any unlabelled or product that does not meet the VOC content requirements;
- Acting in accordance with instructions from the EPA where any unlabelled or non-compliant product is received;
- Selling VOC-content compliant paint (manufactured before 1 January 2007 and supplied before 31 December 2007, where no individual label is applied) **only** with an approved shelf-edge label;
- Encouraging all players in their sector to comply;
- Providing information to the enforcement authorities.

Manufacturers/Distributors/Wholesalers are responsible for:

- Ensuring that all their products meet compliance requirements, both solvent-content and correctly individually labelled;
- Ensuring only compliant products, correctly individually labelled are supplied to retailers;
- Providing compliance information to customers;
- Providing information to the enforcement authorities.

¹ Based on SI 199 of 2007, this is a non-exhaustive list of roles but is indicative of the **Multi-stakeholder** nature of enforcement. If each player fulfils their role to the full, then this enables others to fulfil theirs in turn, and *vice versa*.

² Following exemptions apply: 1. Products sold for the exclusive use of an activity defined under Directive 1999/13/EC and carried out in a registered or authorised installation, 2. Products sold under Ministerial approval for restorative/maintenance purposes.



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Public and private sector, general public are responsible for:

- Green Procurement – only purchasing compliant products;
- Reporting to the enforcement authorities any retailers suspected of offering unlabelled non-compliant products.

Local Authorities are responsible for:

- As Competent Bodies enforcing Regulations in their functional areas, establishing a register of relevant operators (manufacturers, producers, suppliers, wholesalers and major retailers) in their functional areas;
- Engaging with the OEE/EEN Decorative Paints Group;
- Carry out, or cause to be carried out, any necessary paint product inspections and legal action as required, or as directed by the EPA;
- Maintain records and provide information to the EPA.

EPA is responsible for:

- As Competent Authority, leading the enforcement of the Compliant Paint Product aspects of the Regulations;
- Engaging with all stakeholders to ensure that the Regulations are correctly implemented;
- Carrying out, or causing to be carried out, paint product/label inspections and taking legal action where deemed necessary;
- Supervising, and where necessary, directing enforcement actions of Local Authorities;
- Promoting knowledge of, and compliance with, the Regulations as well as Green procurement.
- Reporting to the Commission on enforcement activities within the State.

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Department of the Environment, Heritage & Local Government are responsible for:

- Providing leadership and oversight to the implementation of the Regulations;
- Providing the necessary resources to enable the EPA and Local Authorities to fulfil their roles;
- Introducing amendments to Regulations if necessary.

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