

Regulatory Alert

NY DEC - Adopted Part 226, Solvent Cleaning Processes and Industrial Cleaning Solvents

Regulation:

The Department has revised 6 NYCRR Part 226 'Solvent Metal Cleaning Processes' and attendant changes to Part 201. This regulation currently applies to the cleaning of metal by specific cleaning processes using various types of solvents and cleaning equipment (like sinks or washing machines). The revised rule lowers the volatile organic compound (VOC) content limit of a particular type of cleaning process called 'cold cleaning'. It also eliminates the distinction that the rule only applies to the cleaning of metal.

This new regulation establishes VOC content limits for cleaning solvents used in operations not covered by other regulations. The purpose of this rulemaking is to reduce the emissions of VOCs to the atmosphere from current cleaning processes and by adding regulatory limits to solvent cleaning operations not currently regulated.

Below is the link to NY DEC website for additional information on the regulation.

<https://www.dec.ny.gov/regulations/116332.html>

Compliance Date:

December 1, 2020 (For the applicability of VOC content products)

The rule changes the current requirement of using a solvent with a maximum vapor pressure of 1.0 mm Hg, or less, at 20°C - to using a cleaner with no more than 25 grams of VOC per liter (25g/l) of cleaning solution.

Below are excerpts from the rule that are/may be applicable to HCC operations/customers:

Section 226-1.3 General requirements.

Owners or operators conducting solvent cleaning processes must:

- (a) store solvent in covered containers and transfer or dispose of waste solvent in such a manner that less than 20 percent of the waste solvent (by weight) can evaporate into the atmosphere;
- (b) maintain equipment to minimize leaks and fugitive emissions;
- (c) display at the equipment location a conspicuous summary of proper operating procedures consistent with minimizing emissions of VOCs;
- (d) keep the degreaser cover closed except when parts are being placed into or being removed from the degreaser;
- (e) create and retain a record of solvent consumption for five years.
- (f) not clean sponges, fabric, wood, leather, paper products and other absorbent materials in a degreaser; and

Regulatory Alert

(g) if using a cold cleaning degreaser that is subject to section 226-1.4(a)(4) of this Subpart, retain a record of the following three items for five years and provide these records to the department upon request.

- (1) the name and address of the solvent supplier;
- (2) the type of solvent including the product or vendor identification number; and
- (3) the VOC content of the cleaning solution in grams per liter (gm/l) or the vapor pressure of the solvent measured in mm Hg at 20°C (68°F) as appropriate to verify compliance.

Section 226-1.4 Equipment specifications and control requirements:

The following types of control [equipment] requirements must be used by a [person] owner or operator conducting solvent [metal] cleaning:

(a) 'Cold cleaning degreasing when the internal volume of the machine is greater than two gallons.'

- (1) A cover which can be operated easily.
- (2) An internal drainage facility (under cover), if practical.
- (3) A control system that limits VOC emissions to those achievable with equipment having a freeboard ratio greater than or equal to 0.5, or a water cover when the solvent is insoluble in and heavier than water. Remote reservoir degreasers are exempt from this requirement.
- (4) [Solvent with] Cleaning solution with a maximum VOC content of 25 grams per liter at 20°C; prior to December 1, 2020 a cleaning solution with a vapor pressure of 1.0 mm Hg, or less, at 20°C may be used to demonstrate compliance with this subdivision.

Applicability:

- This Subpart applies to all owners or operators of facilities who operate cold cleaners (including remote reservoir cold cleaning machines), open-top vapor degreasers, and all types of conveyORIZED degreasers that carry out solvent cleaning processes of metal objects using a solution containing volatile organic compounds (VOCs). After December 1, 2020, this Subpart also applies to cleaning of non-metal objects.
- This also applies to paint-gun cleaners.
- **Until December 1, 2020**, a cleaning solution with a vapor pressure of 1.0 mm Hg, or less, at 20°C may be used to demonstrate compliance.
- **After December 1, 2020**, only cleaning solutions with a maximum VOC content of 25 grams of VOC per liter at 20°C can be used to comply with the rule.