

Draft Specification for 'Coating Removal Products'

April 2020

Background

Methylene chloride (MC) and N-methyl-2-pyrrolidone (NMP) are two of the most commonly used solvents in coating removal products. However, these chemicals can be harmful to human health through both acute and chronic effects. As other governments are working to reduce or eliminate the use of these chemicals in coating removal products, the availability of products that use other chemicals as solvents is increasing. Some of these alternative solvent chemicals have a similar level of hazard to MC and NMP, or there is less information about them. Safer alternative solvents are available and this draft specification would encourage agencies and other affected entities to procure products containing those solvents.

This draft specification would require agencies and other affected entities to procure coating removal products that do not contain MC or NMP. Further, it would encourage them to procure coating removal products that have an identified third party certification or do not contain any of the other identified chemicals.