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Coatings Review

News and Updates from Your Source for Quality Wood Finishing Solutions

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Regulatory Compliance - Reporting Time

It's a new year, and it is reporting time again! At home we all have the pleasure of completing our tax returns; at work we are confronted with annual environmental reporting. What kind of reporting should your company be considering?

Dangerous/Hazardous Waste Reporting: Companies who use solvent-borne coatings generate hazardous waste. If you generate 220 pounds (approximately 30 gallons) or more, of hazardous waste per month, you are required to submit annual reports. Or if your company accumulates or stores 2,200 pounds (approximately 300 gallons) or more, you are re-

quired to submit annual reports. Specific reporting requirements are administered by state or federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

“...What kind of reporting should your company be considering?”

EPCRA Tier I/Tier II Reporting: The Emergency Planning and Community Right-To-Know Act (EPCRA) require that local communities plan for potential emergencies. In order to plan for potential chemical emergencies such as fire or large chemical

spills, local planning commissions need to know what is being stored in their communities. If you store more than 500 pounds of an extremely hazardous substance or 10,000 pounds of a hazardous substance, you are required to report to your local planning committee, local fire department and/or your state EPA.

Toxic Release Inventory (A.K.A. SARA Title III, Form R, and EPCRA 313): This report is triggered if you manufacture, process or otherwise use specific Section 313 listed chemicals above the threshold reporting quantities. Companies that apply

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Technical Tip - Compressed Air Filtering

Compressed air is a universal component of all manufacturing and finishing operations. It is used to operate saws, drills, lifts, hoists, and many other tools.

Because of its wide usage, clean, dry air is essential

for the efficiency and longevity of the equipment, as well as the quality of a finish. There are three main contaminants that could exist in an air line: particulate from corroding or rusting air pipe, oil from the air compressor, and water.

A majority of the time these can be removed from the system with a simple oil/water extractor. This type of unit usually has 5 micron filter for the particulate and centrifugal battle system to spin the oil and water to the side of the

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Regulatory Compliance (cont.)

coatings, and use more than 10,000 pounds of any EPCRA 313 chemical are required to report. Reports are sent to your state and federal EPA.

Pollution Prevention Planning Updates: If you file an annual hazardous waste report, more than likely you will also be required to submit a pollution prevention plan (P2 Plan) every five years. Additionally, you will be required to submit an annual progress report covering aspects outlined in the P2 plan. Reports are usually submitted to your state EPA.

Additional Considerations: You may also want to consider the potential for storm water reporting, waste water reporting, and other local reporting requirements.

The reports listed above are not all inclusive. Familiarity with local rules and regulations is essential to reporting compliance. For additional information, log on to your local environmental quality department websites. You may also contact the Rudd Company, Inc. regulatory department for guidance.

Helpful Tools

With its professional fan-spray button, Rudd Company's On-Site Touch-Up Lacquer offers high quality finisher-grade results in a convenient easy-to-use aerosol package.



Ideal for use on cabinets, doors, millwork and other interior wood surfaces, On-Site's special "Mar-Shield"™ formula provides superior mar and scratch resistance. It comes in handy for touching up pieces in the shop before shipping, and it's the perfect tool if touch-up is needed during or after an installation.

Use On-Site to repair minor scratches and dings or blend restored areas with minimal shadowing or halo effect.

On-Site clear lacquer complies with VOC regulations for aerosol coatings and is available in **Gloss, High Semi-Gloss** (matches Rudd's 60% sheen lacquers!) **Semi-Gloss, Satin and Flat** sheens.

The next time you place an order, mention this article to receive a free can of On-Site lacquer, and find out why On-Site is quickly becoming the aerosol touch-up lacquer of choice!

Word Puzzle

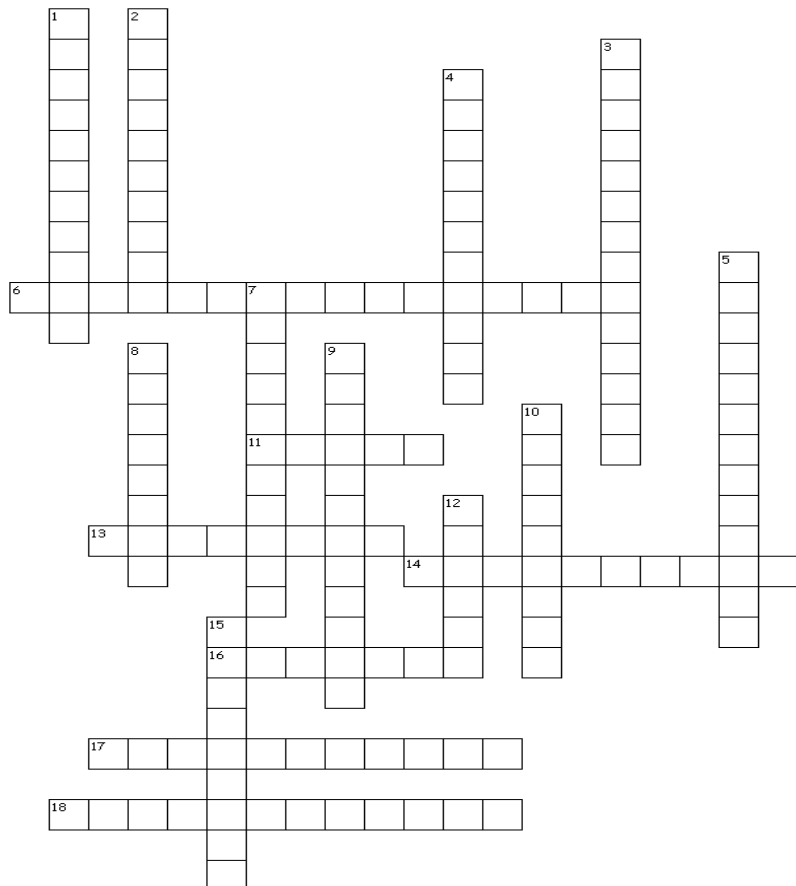
Down

1. Sworn in under nickname
2. Elected in 1952
3. First President born as US citizen
4. Served from 1993-2001
5. Only President to earn a doctorate
7. First President to have a presidential car
8. 3rd President to be assassinated
9. Nickname for John Tyler
10. Authorized the Lewis & Clark expedition
12. Oldest President ever elected

15. Served two non-consecutive terms

Across

6. First American President
11. Had Thomas Jefferson as his Vice President
13. Grandson of William H Harrison
14. President No. 43
16. Assassinated
17. Husband of Elizabeth Monroe
18. Resigned his presidency



For answers to this quarters puzzle visit
www.ruddcompany.com

Technical Tip (continued)

filter bowl, allowing it to drip down to the drain plug. Filters and Extractors should be drained frequently.

There are instances when a standard extractor isn't completely removing the water. This can happen when the air isn't sufficiently cooled by the time it enters the Extractor. The moisture, in the form of vapor, goes right through the extractor and either condenses further on down the line or at the use point, such as a spray gun, air tool or pneumatic pump.

In order to prevent this, the temperature of the compressed air must drop below the dew point then the water will condense and allow an extractor to remove it from the system. An After-Cooler, and in severe cases a Refrigerated Dryer will cool the air to the dew point. These can be expensive options so if you have a water problem in your system, try the less expensive remedies first.

"There are instances when a standard extractor isn't completely removing the water."

If you have questions or need help to determine whether you have water in your spray system, call any of our qualified repair technicians. Our Trade Sales Equipment Repair performs in-house repairs on many brands including:

- Binks
- C.A. Technologies
- Campbell Hausfeld
- Cap Spray
- Devilbiss
- Graco

Our store can also supply repair parts if you perform your own repairs.

Call Greg, Dan, or Chris direct at (206) 505-6725 or toll free at (800) 444-7833.

Finishing to be competitive (Article Excerpt)

Every company is in business to make a profit. In the woodworking industry, companies can use their finishing department to aid in differentiating themselves from the competition.

Know the cost

Finishers today have to not only produce a durable and beautiful product, but have to also be very price competitive to keep and add customers. These price pressures can

lead some to just look for lower cost raw materials, but with those, often you don't get what you don't pay for. These lower priced raw materials may in fact have a higher "total cost" of finishing when labor, the cost of reworks and lost customers due to poor products are calculated.

"...Work with your finish supplier to find out what's possible."

Work with your employees to find the bottlenecks and causes of rework and returns.

Next, work with your finish supplier to find out what's possible. Collaborating with your suppliers can provide ideas any one of you alone might not

have thought of. Sometimes higher priced finish and spray equipment with an

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Calendar Highlights

Monday, February 19th:

Rudd Company will be closed in observance of Presidents Day. Freight companies will not deliver on Monday.



Saturday March 11th:

Daylight Saving Time begins. Don't forget to set your clocks one hour ahead on Friday before leaving the office!



Regular customer service hours are Monday - Friday 7:30 am - 5:00pm PST

Fun Facts

The earliest known lacquers were either made in China or Japan, with earliest discovery dating back to 7000 B.C.

These lacquers, made from the resin of the tree *Rhus verniciflora*, produce very hard, durable finishes that are both beautiful, and very resistant to damage by water, acid, alkali or abrasion. They do not, however, stand up well to ultraviolet light.



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Finishing to be competitive (continued from page 3)

experienced person can lower the “total costs” because less finish and labor are required and fewer rejects occur.

Reduce the number of coats

One area to look at is reducing the number of coats of finish by using higher solids coatings. Using a higher solids finish may not mean changing the type of finish, but possibly just a higher solids version of what you are using.

While the higher solids finish can cost significantly more per gallon than the lower solids finish, using only two-thirds as many gallons can bring the cost close.

Furniture and cabinets can be customized in different sizes, styles and colors while retaining the basic structural elements—and so can wood finishes. Consider purchasing a custom designed finish instead of trying to make your finishing process

fit the coating.

No-wipe stains

Another area where significant labor savings can be made is replacing wiping stains with “no-wipe” spray stains. The employee spraying the stain will also have to be trained on the proper application techniques, and new spray equipment or nozzles may have to be purchased for the best results. The costs incurred in simplifying and improving the finishing process is often recouped quickly because of the significant labor savings.

Saving on labor

The greatest area of potential savings is labor. Just as some higher cost per gallon coatings can reduce the total cost of fin-

ishing, better trained and more experienced employees can reduce the cost per unit even though they are paid higher wages.

Well trained employees can lower finishing costs with fewer reworks, less waste of materials and time, and fewer customers lost because of poor workmanship.

Building a team of well trained employees and suppliers will take some effort, but it can keep your total cost of finishing down and improve the quality at the same time.

“...better trained and more experienced employees can reduce the cost per unit...”

Excerpts taken from the article “Finishing to be competitive” by David Jackson. The full article can be found in the January/February, 2007 issue of Finishing magazine.