

Online Resources

Below is a list of online resources that can help automotive body shops comply with environmental regulations while maintaining or improving business performance, productivity, quality, and safety.

Virginia Department of Environmental Quality

www.deq.virginia.gov/homepage.html

The mission of the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is to protect and improve the environment and the well being of all Virginians. DEQ administers state and federal laws and regulations for air quality, water quality, water supply and waste management. In addition, other programs cover a variety of environmental activities, such as improving the ability of businesses and local governments to protect the environment, and offering technical and financial assistance for air and water quality improvements. Through its seven regional offices, DEQ issues permits, conducts inspections and monitoring, and enforces regulations and permits.

DEQ Northern Virginia Auto Body Shop Self-Certification Program

www.deq.state.va.us/osba/nvaautobody.html

DEQ Northern Regional Office

www.deq.virginia.gov/regions/northern.html

The Northern Regional Office serves the counties of Arlington, Caroline, Culpeper, Fairfax, Fauquier, King George, Loudoun, Louisa, Madison, Orange, Prince William, Rappahannock, Spotsylvania and Stafford; and the cities of Alexandria, Fairfax, Falls Church, Fredericksburg, Manassas and Manassas Park. Regional activities include: permits, remediation, air quality, water quality, and compliance, monitoring and enforcement.

OSHA Autobody Repair and Refinishing

www.osha.gov/SLTC/autobody/index.html

This site provides information on hazards, OSHA standards, and solutions for the automotive body repair and refinishing industry.

U.S. EPA Design for the Environment Automotive Refinishing Partnership

www.epa.gov/opptintr/dfe/pubs/projects/auto/index.htm

The partnership works with the auto repair industry to identify and encourage the use of safer, cleaner, and more efficient practices and technologies. The site links to resources on best practices for shops as well to information on protective and pollution control equipment.

Paints and Coating Resource Center

www.paintcenter.org

PCRC provides regulatory compliance and pollution prevention information for shop managers and environmental staff. The Center has a useful online calculator to help shops calculate VOC and HAP amounts in their paints and coatings as described in Section 2 Air Pollution.

GreenLink Virtual Shops

www.ccar-greenlink.org/cshops/

This site has virtual shops for automotive repair, collision repair, paint mixing, and spray booths. Each virtual shop takes you through all the potential issues and how to properly handle the issues facing a facility with a similar operation.

Virtual Automotive Repair Shop

www.ccar-greenlink.org/vshops/index.html

Virtual Collision Repair Shop

www.ccar-greenlink.org/cshops/mainroom.html

Virtual Paint Mixing Room

www.ccar-greenlink.org/cshops/mixroom.html

Virtual Spray Booth

www.ccar-greenlink.org/cshops/sprayroom.html

Energy Star Small Business

www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=small_business.sb_index

The joint U.S. EPA-Department of Energy program in partnership with industry helps businesses identify money-saving energy efficiency equipment and practices.

Waste Reduction Resource Center

wrrc.p2pays.org/

The Center discusses cost-effective strategies to improve environmental performance and worker safety in the automobile repair industry. Information is provided for improved methods to manage vehicle fluids, batteries, tires, solvents and shop rags. Environmentally friendly parts cleaning, surface preparation and coating techniques are also discussed.

Iowa Waste Reduction Center

www.iwrc.org/

The center has several efforts oriented to automotive body shops:

Auto Body Surface Coating: A Practical Guide to Reducing Air Emissions

www.iwrc.org/downloads/pdf/absc.pdf

STAR® program is dedicated to improving the overall efficiency of manual spray coating operations by enhancing the techniques of spray technicians around the country.

www.iwrc.org/STAR/index.htm

Cost Calculator helps shops determine based on their paint usage the feasibility of HVLP spray guns, LaserTouch® device, automatic gun wash units, and paint thinner (solvent) distillation units.

Auto Body Professional Industry Associations

www.autobodypro.com/pro_assoc.htm

List of professional industry associations on the Autobody Pro web site

National Paints and Coatings Association

www.paint.org/index.htm

NPCA is a voluntary, nonprofit trade association, representing some 350 paint and coatings manufacturers, raw materials suppliers and distributors. NPCA's primary role is to serve as ally and advocate on legislative, regulatory and judicial issues at the federal, state and local levels.

LaserTouch®

www.lt-t.com/index.html

The LaserTouch® device, which attaches to any model spray gun, uses two laser beams adjusted to form a single dot when the spray gun is at the correct preset distance from the part. This enables the operator to paint and maintain the correct distance for consistent coverage. The single dot can be used to target the spray pattern on the part that results in an accurate 50% overlap on the painting surface. (Note: DEQ does not endorse or warrant particular vendors.)