Specifier's Guide for Determining Containment Class and Environmental Monitoring Strategies for Lead Paint Removal Projects

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Document History

2022-06-10: Reaffirmed by AMPP Standards Committee (SC) 24, Environmental Health and Safety/Regulatory
2015-05-15: Editorial Revisions by SSPC C.5.3.A
2008-02-01: Approved by SSPC C.5.3.A, Containment of Hazardous Debris

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Charts and Tables

Section 1: Scope

This Guide describes a six-step process to assist in determining the type of containment system and the level of environmental monitoring that should be specified on a project-specific basis when removing coatings that contain lead. The selection of the containment and monitoring strategies is based on an assessment of the type of paint removal method that will be used and the potential impact of the operations on the public, other workers in the area, and the environment. Note that local and state codes and regulations must be reviewed and take precedence to any guidance provided in this document.

The guidance provided in this document also applies to coatings containing other hazardous metals such as cadmium and chromium; however, the recommended analytical monitoring is often based on an analysis for lead. Paint chip sampling and testing for lead and other hazardous metals should be undertaken to properly characterize the paint being removed.

This Guide does not cover the selection of paint removal methods, or design of containment/ventilation systems.

Section 2: Description

This Guide is intended to assist those who specify, design, construct, or monitor the effectiveness of containments and environmental monitoring procedures on projects where lead-containing coatings are being disturbed. It provides users with a series of steps for gathering and organizing information about a specific lead paint removal operation in order to select the type of containment and the environmental monitoring strategy that will result in the least risk to the public and the environment.

Section 3: Information Resources

Much of the information contained in the Guide has been extracted from *Project Design*,[1] which also provides additional details on the design process for lead-paint removal projects. Additional sources of information that the reader should consult for the proper use of this guide are SSPC-Guide 6, "Guide for Containing Debris Generated During Paint Removal Operations,"[2] and SSPC-TU 7, "Conducting Ambient Air, Soil, and Water Sampling During Surface Preparation and Paint Disturbance Activities."[3]

Section 4: Steps for Gathering and Ordering Information

Step 1 – Identify the Emissions Potential of the Selected Paint Removal Method(s)

The various methods of paint removal will create differing amounts of emissions. The particle size distribution (PSD) of emissions may range from a few large paint chips and little airborne dust in the case of hand scraping, to large amounts of smaller particles, debris, and airborne dust in the case of abrasive blast cleaning. The small particle sizes will be carried further by the wind, placing the removal method into a higher "Paint Removal Emissions Category." For the purpose of this guide, four "Paint Removal Emissions Categories" are defined based on the general number of emissions created, whether the emissions are wet or dry.

NOTE: No relationship is being implied between the emission category and the amount of lead that may be present in the emission. For example, open power tool cleaning is classified "moderate emissions potential," whereas water jetting is classified as "high emissions potential." However, the actual amount of lead in the dust surrounding the power tool operation may be greater than the amount of lead in the mist of water surrounding the water jetting operation.

Paint Removal Emissions Categories:

- Category 1 — Very High Emissions Potential: The paint removal methods in this category include open abrasive blast cleaning with expendable or recyclable abrasives.
- Category 2 — High Emissions Potential: The paint removal methods in this category involve the use of