



South Coast Air Quality Management District

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VOC Reactivity Technology Forum and Roundtable Discussion

September 25, 2007 -- 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
South Coast AQMD Headquarters Auditorium
21865 Copley Drive
Diamond Bar, CA 91765

Over the past two decades, regulations for coatings and solvents have primarily focused on lowering VOC content. Reformulation of high-VOC compounds to low-VOC alternatives has resulted in substantial reductions in VOC emissions from these categories and improved ambient air quality. However, different chemicals used in coatings and solvents exhibit different reactivity rates in forming ozone in the atmosphere. Because of the need to achieve additional VOC reductions in order to demonstrate ozone attainment, reformulation based on less reactive compounds needs to be evaluated and considered in future rulemakings for coatings and solvents, with the aim of providing a viable compliance option.

Although significant research has been conducted on reactivity, further study is desirable to evaluate the reactivity of different compounds under various meteorological conditions, as well as to assess primary and secondary organic aerosol formation from these compounds. Consideration of toxicity of the compounds with lower reactivity is another area in need of further evaluation. Lastly, the effectiveness and cost of implementing and enforcing a reactivity-based approach also needs to be assessed.

In order to evaluate the issues listed above, the South Coast Air Quality Management District plans to assemble area experts to present their views on reactivity issues, as well as discuss and recommend effective next steps to be able to implement a reactivity-based approach to ozone reduction.

The AQMD encourages anyone interested in this topic to attend this forum free of charge (lunch will be on your own). The forum will also be webcast live, and copies of the agenda, presentations and the webcast will be posted on the AQMD's Technology Forum/Roundtable website at:

<http://www.aqmd.gov/tao/ConferencesWorkshops/techforum.htm>.

If you have any questions about this forum, contact Naveen Berry at (909) 396-2363.

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