# NARRATIVE REPORT

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Job Code: 209001

Report Date: March 22, 2004
Client: Samuel J. Goldberg, American Formulation & Manufacturing
Product I.D.: 14211Q Safecoat Zero VOC Flat Paint
Manufacturer's I.D.: BS44
Production Date: February 24, 2004
Product Received: March 1, 2004
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**Report Approved By:** 

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Date: M2+ 22, 2004

# OBJECTIVE

The objective of this test was to measure the emissions of a target list of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and total volatile organic compounds (TVOC) from a paint sample at seven days. The test conformed to the guidance of the Japanese Industrial Standard, JIS A 1901 (2003), "Determination of the emission of volatile organic compounds and aldehydes for building products-Small chamber method."

## SUMMARY

The paint was tested for emissions of TVOC and the individual target compounds, toluene, ethylbenzene, m-/p-xylene isomers, o-xylene, styrene, p-dichlorobenzene and n-tetradecane. The test specimen was prepared by applying 3.23 grams of paint to a 178-mm x 178-mm ( $0.0316 \text{ m}^2$ ) stainless steel plate with a roller. The environmental parameters for the test were  $28\pm1^\circ$ C temperature,  $50\pm5\%$  relative humidity and  $1.0\pm0.005$  air change rate. Measurements of chamber VOC concentrations were made at 7 days. Area-specific emission rates (EF<sub>a</sub>) were calculated by mass balance. The TVOC EF was below the lower limit of quantitation. None of the target VOCs was detected.

## **METHODS**

## **Description of Product Specimen**

The laboratory received a product sample consisting of a sealed package of paint on March 1, 2004. The sample was identified as: manufacture's ID # BS44; product name Safecoat Flat Zero VOC; sample ID 14211Q; manufacturing date 2/24/04. The sample was handled in accordance with BAA-SOP-2000.02, "Selection, Collection and Handling of Material Specimens for Testing to Determine the Emissions of Volatile Organic Compounds." On March 9, 2004, the package containing the paint was opened. The paint was first thoroughly mixed in its container by stirring. Approximately 100 ml volume was transferred to an aluminum tray. The roller with a 10-cm cover was saturated with paint by running the roller back and forth in the tray. The paint was applied to one side of a 178-mm x 178-mm (0.0316 m<sup>2</sup>) stainless steel plate using four strokes, two in the vertical direction and two in the horizontal direction, so that the entire area is

uniformly covered. 3.23 Grams of paint were applied in a single film. The coated surface area was 0.0316 m<sup>2</sup>. The test specimen was placed on an open wire shelf in a chamber for testing.

## GC/MS Analysis of VOCs

The methods used for the sampling and analysis of VOCs are based on U.S. EPA Methods TO17, "Determination of Volatile Organic Compounds in Ambient Air Using Active Sampling Onto Sorbent Tubes" and TO1, "Determination of Volatile Organic Compounds in Ambient Air using Tenax Adsorption and Gas Chromatography/Mass Spectrometry (GC/MS)."

The multisorbent samplers (Model No. ST-032, Envirochem, Inc.) used for the collection of VOC samples contain Tenax-TA, Ambersorb XE-340 and activated charcoal, in series. With these samplers, C4 to C<sub>16</sub> nonpolar and moderately polar volatile organic compounds (VOCs), and many C<sub>1</sub> to C<sub>3</sub> compounds, depending upon functional group, are quantitatively collected. Highly reactive and very volatile compounds, such as formaldehyde, cannot be analyzed using these samplers.

The samplers are thermally desorbed, and the samples are introduced into a Hewlett-Packard 5971A GC/MS system using a UNACON 810 concentrating system (Envirochem, Inc.). Prior to analysis, an internal standard (ISTD) is added to each sampler. The ISTD is 121 ng of bromofluorobenzene (BFB). The ISTD is used to check on the operation of the system, to provide a retention-time marker, and for quantitative analysis. The GC/MS is operated in the SCAN mode over a mass range of m/z 33-300.

For qualitative analysis, the spectra of peaks from the total-ion-current chromatograms are first compared to spectra contained in a database of commonly occurring VOCs. This database was created by BAA from analyses of pure compounds. If a spectrum of a compound matches a spectrum of a compound in the database and if the compounds' retention times also match, then the identification is considered to be "confirmed." If no match is obtained, then the spectrum is compared to spectra contained in the NIST database of approximately 129,000 spectra. Such identifications are considered to be "tentative."

For the quantitative analysis of total VOCs (TVOC) in a sample, the GC/MS total-ioncurrent (TIC) chromatogram is integrated over a retention-time (RT) interval of 15 - 50 minutes using parameters that capture almost all of the TIC area in a sample. The integrated areas less the area of the ISTD are summed. The mass of the compounds represented by the sum is calculated relative to the known amount of the ISTD that is added to the sampler. The calculation uses the response factor for toluene relative to BFB, the ISTD. This relative response factor (RRF) is 1.63. Because there can be substantial variation in the TIC response of different classes of compounds, the measurement of TVOC is less accurate than the calibrated measurement of individual VOCs.

For the quantitative analysis of individual VOCs, multi-point internal-standard calibrations are prepared using pure compounds. Standards of the more volatile compounds are prepared by injecting microliter quantities of mixtures of the compounds into static dilution bottles. Gas volumes are withdrawn from the static dilution bottles and transferred to conditioned samplers using gas-tight syringes. Standards of the less volatile compounds are prepared by making serial dilutions in an appropriate low-boiling solvent and injecting microliter quantities of the dilute standards directly onto samplers containing Tenax. Samplers containing standards are analyzed in the same manner as field samples.

# Testing for Emissions of VOCs from Products Using Small-Volume Chambers

The methods used for the measurement of emissions of VOCs from this product specimen are based on the Japanese Industrial Standard, JIS A 1901 (2003), "Determination of the emission of volatile organic compounds and aldehydes for building products-Small chamber method," English edition.

The chamber consists of a 67-L, stainless steel cylindrical vessel with a stainless-steel lid equipped with three fittings. The chamber is held in an incubator that is maintained at 28±1° C. Purified air from a clean air generator is introduced into the chamber through one fitting with a stainless-steel tubing extension. The inlet flow rate of 1.12±0.06 standard L min<sup>-1</sup> is regulated with electronic mass-flow controllers (calibrated at 25° C and 1 atm. pressure). The gas stream is split into two streams. One of these is passed through a bubbler containing distilled water. This saturated gas stream is mixed with the dry gas stream to produce a humidified gas stream with a relative humidity (RH) of 50±5% that is then introduced into the chamber. A humidity probe (Model HMD 30YB, Vaisala) is inserted into the chamber through a second fitting on the lid. Chamber temperature and humidity are measured and recorded throughout the test. Gas exits and is sampled for the analytes of interest at the other fitting on the lid. Atmospheric pressure at the laboratory is near 1 atm. Prior to use, the chamber and fittings are cleaned by washing them with hot water and a detergent.

A clean, empty chamber is operated at the same testing conditions for at least three hours prior to a test. Chamber background concentrations are measured. Then, the chamber is opened and the material specimen is positioned on a wire rack approximately near the center of the chamber. To initiate a test, the chamber is sealed and ventilated. At specified times, gas samples are collected at the chamber exhaust. The sample flow rates are regulated with electronic mass-flow controllers (calibrated at 25° C and 1 atm. pressure). Samples for VOCs are collected on multisorbent samplers at a flow rate of 100 standard cm<sup>3</sup> min<sup>-1</sup>. For this test, 3-L gas samples for the analysis of TVOC and individual target VOCs were collected 7-days after initiating the test period. The parameters for the emissions test are summarized in Table 1.

Parameter	Value
Chamber volume, m <sup>3</sup>	0.067
Paint substrate	Stainless steel
Substrate dimensions, mm	178 x 178
Painted surface area, m <sup>2</sup>	0.0316
Loading ratio, m <sup>2</sup> m <sup>-3</sup>	0.472
Weight of paint applied, g	3.23
Inlet flow rate, m <sup>3</sup> h <sup>-1</sup>	$0.067 \pm 0.003$
Average temp, <sup>o</sup> C	28 ± 1
Atmosphere	Humidified Air
Average humidity, %RH	$50 \pm 5$
Test duration, day	7

Table 1.	. Parameters for a VOC emission test conducted in a small-scale environmental
(	chamber.

# Data Analysis and Reporting for Emission Tests

Steady-state emission rates ( $\mu$ g h<sup>-1</sup>) are calculated for the quantified compounds using the following equation:

$$\mathsf{ER} = \mathsf{Q} \left(\mathsf{C} - \mathsf{C}_{\mathsf{0}}\right) \tag{1}$$

where Q is the volumetric flow rate (m<sup>3</sup> h<sup>-1</sup>) through the chamber; C is the average chamber concentration for the sampling interval ( $\mu$ g m<sup>-3</sup>); and C<sub>0</sub> is the chamber blank or inlet gas concentration ( $\mu$ g m<sup>-3</sup>). An area-specific emission rate or emission factor, EF<sub>a</sub> ( $\mu$ g m<sup>-2</sup> h<sup>-1</sup>) is calculated by dividing the emission rate by A, the exposed planar surface area of the product (m<sup>2</sup>).

$$EF_a = ER / A$$
 (2)

## RESULTS

## Emissions of TVOC and Individual Target VOCs

The 7-day chamber sample was quantitatively analyzed for toluene, ethylbenzene, combined m-/p-xylene isomers, o-xylene, styrene, p-dichlorobenzene and n-tetradecane. The chamber concentration and area-specific emission rate results are presented Table 2. None of these target VOCs was detected in the sample. The lower limit of detection for each of these compounds is approximately 1 ng or 0.3  $\mu$ g m<sup>-3</sup>. The TVOC chamber blank concentration of 8.4  $\mu$ g m<sup>-3</sup> was subtracted from the TVOC chamber concentration of the sample. The TVOC lower limit of quantitation is approximately 10  $\mu$ g m<sup>-3</sup>.

Emission Factor (µg m <sup>-2</sup> h <sup>-1</sup> )
<21
ND

 Table 2. Chamber concentrations and emission factors of TVOC and individual target VOCs measured at 7 days for a test of 14211Q Safecoat Zero VOC Flat Paint.

\*ND = Indicates value is below detection. The ND for the individual compounds tested is 0.3  $\mu$ g m<sup>-3</sup>, based on a 1 ng limit for a 3-liter sample.