

'Green' for your environment and your people.

More and more regulations are being set in order to reduce the impact of industrial activity on the environment and on employees. In some cases these require costly investments that are not easy to recoup. There is a European directive to minimize the use of solvents and the negative effects that these have on people and on the environment. This directive is to be respected and followed by all member states. The following is a resume of the Dutch implementation of this European directive:

The Solvents decree is a decree that puts the European directive on volatile organic compounds into the national legislation, officially becoming the 'Solvent decree implementation EC-VOC-directive environmental management'. This has been in place since 1 April 2001. The decree is intended to limit emissions of volatile organic compounds (VOCs). These compounds are released when organic solvents are used in activities such as the degreasing, printing, coating, varnishing and cleaning of metals and other surfaces, chemical cleaning and gluing. As of 31 October 2007 the solvents decree has applied to all (industrial) activities in which considerable VOCs are released (source: www.wikilucht.nl). Consult or download the decree at <http://wetten.overheid.nl/>

In practice however, you will also find that you cannot meet the growing demands of your customers without the above activities. You will continue, for example, to want to protect your manufactured goods from damage and corrosion.

The second largest bus manufacturer in Europe has already travelled this road. Whereas in the past the undersides of all buses were coated in a product containing solvents, today these are now coated in water-based equivalents. This has not only lead to a cleaner manufacturing environment (less 'overspray'), but has also resulted in a friendlier work environment for those people working on the bus. This trend will be followed by all bus manufacturers in Europe and is sure to spread to other industries.

Tectyl products were often applied when a metal needed to be protected against corrosion. It has long now been the case however, that the solvent based products as we knew them from the past are no longer used. Years of knowledge and experience have lead to new, water-based product lines that are solvent free.

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Your 1-stop solution

These have many advantages for the user. The water-based products are odour-free, which is an enormous improvement on what we are used to with traditional Tectyl products. The correct use of water-based products means that consumption can be significantly reduced (up to a good 30%). The drying time of Tectyl water-based products is also better than that of solvent-based products. And finally, the use of these products has no negative effects on the environment and they have a positive contribution to make for meeting the above mentioned solvents decree.

Appropriate advice is obviously essential in order for you to find the best way of tackling your protection problems! Every situation requires a unique approach and we at IPAR Industrial Partners b.v. are glad to help you.

If you would like more information, please do not hesitate to contact us.

