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SAFETY ALERT

No. 06-01

REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS FOR USE OF
VOLATILE ORGANIC COMPOUNDS

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The South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) has imposed stringent new rules on the use of "*volatile organic compounds*" (VOCs). VOCs are common constituents in paints and coatings, thinners, solvents, adhesives, and graphic arts materials. District schools and facilities which use these materials are now subject to daily recordkeeping requirements. Note: This requirement does not apply to the use of "*water-based*" paints and coatings, adhesives, and graphic arts materials.

District schools and facilities that are uncertain as to whether this regulation applies should obtain a "*Material Safety Data Sheet*" (MSDS) from <http://www.lausd-oehs.org/productreview.asp> for each product in use, and determine whether any of the products contain VOCs. If so, the new regulation applies.

Schools and facilities that are subject to this requirement must keep a daily record on the use of such materials using the appropriate SCAQMD form, which may be obtained at <http://www.aqmd.gov>. The daily record should be kept on file at the school or facility for a period of 2 years, and should be made readily available to SCAQMD inspectors upon request.

As a reminder, any waste generated from the use of VOC-containing products should be handled as "hazardous waste".

Questions may be directed to Soe Aung at (213) 241-3904.

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