



**Hogg Construction**

**General Contractor • Construction Management • Design/Build**

## “Green” Paints and Coatings

With energy costs rising and a more environmentally aware nation, “green” building and construction will continue to increase in the future. The LEED program (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design building rating system) provides a benchmark for the design, construction and operation of high-performance “green” buildings, including a standard to provide higher quality indoor air for building occupants.

The demand for paints and coatings with low toxicity levels is increasing. The pollutants in most standard paints include a variety of chemicals called volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and releases low level toxic emissions into the air for years after application that can cause health issues for building occupants. Most paint manufacturers now produce non-VOC varieties of paint. These new paints are durable and less harmful to the environment.

Benefits of using these new paints are:

- Health—reduced toxins in the air we breathe
- Environmental—reduces landfill, groundwater and ozone depleting contaminants.
- Effective—low VOC products perform well and have the same coverage and maintenance of most high VOC paints.
- Water-Based—cleanup is easy with soap and water
- Little or no Hazardous Fumes—there is almost no odor during application and no odor once the paint is completely dry.
- Not a Hazardous Waste Product—Disposal is simplified because no chemicals are used.

Green building and construction standards will continually be revised, placing stricter regulations on materials and increasing the demand for environmentally friendly products. Low-VOC products, which are widely available, help owners and contractors meet that demand without sacrificing quality or performance.

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