



## Technical Bulletin

20 May 2021

### Subject: LEED® v4 and Solvent Cement

The new LEED® v4, effective October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2016, has brought substantial changes to the Indoor Environmental Quality section (“EQ”) and has created confusion as architects and specifiers try to incorporate the new VOC provisions of LEED® v4 into their new projects. Below we suggest paths for specifying solvent cement that would allow the project to meet the LEED® v4 EQ credit requirement for low-emitting materials.

#### Option 1 - Product Category Calculation

Solvent cement seems to best fit into the interior adhesive and sealant category.

Category	Threshold	Requirements
Interior adhesive and sealants applied on site (including flooring adhesive)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>At least 90%, by volume, for emissions;</li> <li>100% for VOC content</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>General Emissions Evaluation</li> <li>VOC content requirements for wet applied products</li> </ul>

If Low VOC SCAQMD Rule 1168 compliant solvent cements are used on the project, they already meet the requirement for VOC *content*:

Weld-On Products	Primer	PVC Solvent Cement	CPVC Solvent Cement	ABS Solvent Cement
Max VOC content (g/Liter)	550	510	490	325

Since the amount of solvent cement used is small compared with other adhesives and sealants, you may consider using the 10% exception for VOC *emissions*.

#### Option 2 - Budget Calculation Threshold

The budget method organizes the building interior into six assemblies and points are given based on percentage compliance. You may consider using the available 50% to 10% exception for VOC emissions for solvent cement.

Percentage Compliance	≥50% and <70%	≥70% and <90%	≥90%
Points	1	2	3

The solvent cement will need to be evaluated along with each of the other layers of the assembly including paints, coatings, adhesive and sealants for compliance based on total layer surface area. Usage of solvent cement will be extremely low compared to other wet applied products, assuming these products are compliant.

#### Credit Interpretation Request

If the solvent cement is used while the building interior is exposed during construction you may consider submitting a Credit Interpretation Request (CIR). The special circumstance is that solvent cement is used when the building interior is exposed so therefore solvent cement should be exempt from VOC emissions. All solvent cements used still meet the stringent VOC content requirement set by SCAQMD 1168.

For more detailed product or technical information regarding our products, feel free to contact us or visit us online at [www.weldon.com](http://www.weldon.com).

