

## **CEPE Guideline**

# **„Classification of Vehicle Refinishing Coatings into Categories for the Directive 2004/42/EC”**

**June 2006**

2

CEPE Guideline:

## **Classification of Vehicle Refinishes Coatings in the Categories of the Directive 2004/42/EC**

Issued by CEPE, the European Council of Paint, Printing Inks and Artists' Colours Industry

### **Preface**

This guidance document was prepared by the Technical Committee Vehicle Refinishes (TC VR) of CEPE. The aim is to help paint manufacturers, their customers, relevant authorities, and the public to decide or to assess to which of the 5 categories (9, including sub-categories) of Annex I of the Directive 2004/42/EC a coating material belongs.

The definitions of the products as given in annex I, paragraph 2.1 cannot always be simply translated into the commonly used product terminology in the VR market sector.

The document presents a classification of local product types in the framework of the various categories. It gives some advice on product types that are out of scope of the directive. CEPE aims to create a uniform classification scheme across Europe with examples in order to avoid misinterpretation of the directive and wrong classification of products.

A similar document was published for the classification of DECO products.

### **1 Introduction**

Vehicle Refinishes coatings are widely used for the repair process of road vehicles as defined in Directive 70/156/EEC. Depending on the type of a coating material the Directive 2004/42/EC sets different limit values for the content of volatile organic compounds (VOC). The occurrence of a multitude of Vehicle Refinishes coatings in the market and their two or more component nature and their classification into different categories is a challenge even for experts. CEPE and experts from national paint makers associations have reviewed a large number of Vehicle Refinishes coatings and their local names, to sort them into one of the existing categories of 2004/42/EC or to consider them as out of scope of the directive.

The result is presented as a set of tables describing the category according to 2004/42/EC in English and the generic names of product types in English. Remarks on product types that are out of scope are made for clarification; they are presented in a final table in the spreadsheet.

## 2 Scope

This CEPE Guideline is applicable to Vehicle Refinishes coatings according to the Directive 2004/42/EC. It is not applicable to coatings which are – by claim of the manufacturer - not to be used for the repair of vehicles as defined in Directive 70/156/EEC. The Guideline is also not applicable to decorative coatings although the Directive 2004/42/EC deals with decorative coatings too.

## 3 Definitions

For definitions see Directive 2004/42/EC – in case of doubt use the English version.

## 4 Classification process

Experts of the CEPE TC VR have asked VR coatings manufacturers to send in lists of products or product types relevant in their market and to deliver their interpretation. Responses were received from the majority of the participants in TC VR, but it must be stated that the list was not exhaustive. The responses were reviewed and discussed in the TC VR. A draft proposal was sent to the members for corrections and comments. Comments and corrections were considered to ensure no conflict with the text and with the intention of the directive. The current document represents the approved common understanding of the experts in TC VR.

Due to the large number of products in the EC market more questions may come up and need decision. CEPE TC VR may extend and improve the present edition. Any important question should be addressed CEPE Office to obtain clarification.

## 5 Table of Classification

See Annex A

## 6 Table “Out of Scope”

See Annex B

## 7 User information

This CEPE Guideline is not intended to be used by CEPE member organizations only. Other interested organizations are welcome to apply it and to refer to it. Nevertheless, the reference to this Guideline constitutes the acceptance of the Guideline in its entirety.

When widely used the Guideline is an effective measure against trade barriers which may be caused simply by different classification of products by the authorities of different member states. This Guideline is a dynamic document, further contributions are still welcome.

## 9 References

### Directive 2004/42/EC

### DIRECTIVE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL

On the limitation of emissions of volatile organic compounds due to the use of organic solvents in decorative paints and varnishes and vehicle refinishing products and amending Directive 1999/13/EC

**Annex A “Classification of Products according to the Directive 2004/42/EC”**  
in order of categories

**Annex B Informative Annex “Products out of Scope”**

Copyright . 2005 CEPE

All rights reserved (including those of translation into other languages). No part of this document or its annexes may be reproduced, stored in any medium (including in any other web site) or introduced into a retrieval system, or transmitted, in any form, or by any means (electronic, photocopying or otherwise) without the prior written consent of CEPE.

If you wish to apply for permission to reproduce and distribute the document and its annexes with unchanged content, contact CEPE.

This publication is intended for guidance only and while the information is provided in good faith and has been based on the best information currently available, is to be relied upon at the user's own risk. As far as the authors are aware, no representations or warranties are made with regards to its completeness and no liability will be accepted for damages of any nature whatsoever resulting from the use of or reliance on the information contained in the publication.