



DIRECTIVE 2004/42/EC

Directive 2004/42/EC limits the amount of Volatile Organic Compounds in certain paints and varnishes applied to buildings, their trim and fittings and associated structures for decorative, functional and protective purposes.

The labels of the related products must indicate the category and subcategory of the product. Also the VOC limit values (g/l) of the subcategory in question for 2007 and 2010 must be indicated together with the maximum content of the VOC, in g/l, of the product in a ready-to-use condition with maximum recommended thinning.

We will be using the following marking on the labels (Eko-Joker as an example):

EU VOC limit value/Grenzwert/dopuszczalna zawartość/határérték/limitné hodnoty/mezní hodnota
(cat A/a) 75g/l(2007)/ 30g/l(2010).

Eko-Joker contains/enthält/zawiera/tartalmaz/obsahuje/ VOC max. 30g/l.

In reality the VOC value of the product can be very close to the given maximum value or it can be substantially lower. E.g. the VOC content of Eko-Joker is less than 5 g/l.

In practice the marking on the labels indicates only whether the product fulfils the limit value of 2007 or also the one of 2010.

Some product groups do not fall under the VOC-directive and, therefore, will not require any VOC-marking. Such product groups include:

- paints and lacquers for machines and equipment
- furniture paints and lacquers
- boat paints and lacquers
- fillers, thinners, detergents, colorants

Products manufactured and filled after 1.1.2007 must have VOC-comment on the label. During 2007 products without any VOC-comment can still be sold if they have been manufactured before 31.12.2006.