

GUIDE TO VOC COMPLIANT CONCRETE CURE & SEAL PRODUCTS IN CANADA



EUCLID CHEMICAL

CHANGE IS GOOD.

For more than 20 years, the VOC content of architectural paints and coatings has been regulated by U.S. state and federal environmental protection agencies, and now Canada has adopted similar regulations. Concrete construction chemicals, such as curing and sealing products, are affected by these regulations.

Manufacturers, distributors, and users of cure & seals have been forced to deal with frequent product changes over the last ten years as VOC regulations became more strict in some areas of the United States. Tighter regulations are expected and will be more widespread in the coming years. Areas of Canada and the U.S. that have not yet been affected by strict VOC laws will soon feel their influence. As of September 9, 2010, the new regulation "*Volatile Organic Compound (VOC) Concentration Limits for Architectural Coatings Regulations*" enacted by Environment Canada is in effect

Why are these regulations necessary? Simply put: cleaner air. Although new regulations often require changes that we are reluctant to make, the impact of reducing VOC emissions on the environment is good for all of us.

OPTIONS.

Concrete curing and sealing products are available in water based and exempt solvent formulations that comply with VOC laws nationwide. **Water based** technology has advanced greatly in the last several years; water based cure & seals are better today than they were even just a year ago.

The Euclid Chemical Company also produces concrete cure & seals with a unique blend of **exempt solvents** that are VOC-compliant, yet still provide the performance of traditional xylene based products. One of the exempt solvents for use in Canada under the new regulation is acetone. This solvent is exempt from VOC calculations because it does not contribute to air pollution. Exempt solvent cure & seals dry faster than the xylene based products, so application methods must be adjusted when using acetone-based products.

EUCLID CHEMICAL PRODUCTS WHICH MEET NEW VOC REGULATIONS

IF YOU PREVIOUSLY SOLD OR USED:	NOW USE:
EverClear (as a sealer only)	EverClear TB EverClear VOX Super Diamond Clear VOX
Super Diamond Clear (ASTM C 309 & C 1315)	Super Diamond Clear AC Super Diamond Clear VOX EverClear TB
Diamond Clear 13% or 20% (ASTM C 309)	Eucocure VOX Diamond Clear VOX Rez-Seal AC-UV EverClear VOX EverClear TB
BrownTone CS	BrownTone VOX
Euco-Guard 200, S-20 & S-40 & Baracade Silane 40	Baracade Silane 100 C
Euco-Guard 100	Baracade WB 244
Weather-Guard	Chemstop WB Regular & Heavy Duty

GUIDE TO USING ACETONE CURE & SEALS

Exempt solvent cure & seal products dry much faster than traditional solvent based cure & seal products. Listed below are specific application methods that should be followed to ensure successful results.

Exempt solvent cure & seals should be applied with an industrial, hand held pump-up sprayer equipped with solvent-resistant (Viton®) gaskets, o-rings, and hoses. Chapin's Xtreme Industrial Concrete Sprayer, which is resistant to acetone, works well. The fittings in standard pump-up sprayers will deteriorate when in contact with acetone. Sprayers should be equipped with a 1 gallon per minute spray tip.

Because acetone cure & seals dry quickly, the nozzle of the sprayer must be held close to the concrete surface – no more than 12" (30 cm) above. Do not wave the sprayer nozzle back and forth high above the concrete, as this can lead to flash drying or "spider webbing" of the sealer.

Maintain a wet edge during spraying to prevent overlap marks and do not over-apply the product.

When sealing or re-sealing existing concrete, best results are achieved by spraying exempt solvent cure & seals rather than rolling. If rolling is necessary, do not overwork the roller; this can cause bubbling and stringing of the cure and seal. Once the product has become tacky, do not roll over it. Keep a tray of solvent nearby to help keep the roller wet.

The fast dry times of exempt solvent products require application during the coolest times of the day (early morning or late evening; avoid hot, direct sunlight) is especially critical to good results. Applying acetone products in hot weather or direct sun will result in severe bubbling. Keep the product cool; don't leave pails in direct sunlight. If bubbling does occur, the cure & seal can be re-wetted with solvent

In summary:

- Always follow product instructions - especially coverage rates - very carefully
- Keep products cool during storage
- Spray, don't roll, and keep the sprayer tip low
- Use during the coolest part of the day
- Apply "thin to win"

Euclid Chemical is committed to providing the knowledge, products, and advice you need to serve the VOC regulated concrete construction market. Please contact your local Euclid Chemical sales representative for more information, or visit euclidchemical.com to download technical data on any of our construction products or admixtures. We look forward to hearing from you!



EUCLID CHEMICAL