



Collision Repair Center Best Practices

Safety Program and Compliance Resources

Creating a Safety Program

All collision repair centers should have a written safety program in order to help prevent incidents that could cause injury and interruption to business. A well-developed safety process is important to any shop that wants to achieve productivity gains and reduce costs. Common costs are related to accidents, workers compensation, and possible financial, legal and regulatory liabilities.

Ownership of the program is a must. Management and employees both need to understand who is responsible for enforcing safety procedures and take accountability for properly following them. This commitment will result in a safer working environment.

The key success points to your written safety program should include procedures for the following:

- ◆ Employee training
- ◆ Incident reporting
- ◆ Emergencies
- ◆ Meeting safety and health standards
- ◆ Controlling safety and health hazards

Resources

Multiple online resources are available to answer questions you have regarding health, safety and environmental issues.

www.ccar-greenlink.org

This site provides **Environmental Compliance Information** to the automotive industry. Shop owners can find information on alternative technologies and materials that can help reduce business costs and generated wastes. Check out the EPA regulation "Paint Rule" training DVD hosted by Jeff Gordon that will help your shop comply with reducing air pollution from vehicle painting.

www.epa.gov/dfepubs/projects/autobody

This site contains **Best Practices** and a **Self-Evaluation Checklist** to assist you in evaluating your current situation and identifying improvement areas in the following categories:

- ◆ Surface preparation activities
- ◆ Paint mixing
- ◆ Spray painting
- ◆ Spray gun cleaning
- ◆ Health and safety management

www.sp2.org

This site is the industry standard for **Environmental and Safety Awareness Training**. An annual subscription can be purchased at a very reasonable price and you can sign up for free newsletters delivered via email.



www.osha.gov/dcsp/alliances/ccar/ccar.html

The National Alliance between OSHA & CCAR works to provide information, guidance and access to training resources to help protect employees' health and safety.

www.osha.gov/SLTC/autobody

This site details OSHA standards and gives examples of hazards while providing solutions. A few of the most common collision repair OSHA violations are:

- ◆ Respiratory protection
- ◆ Written hazard communication program
- ◆ Use of personal protection equipment
- ◆ Handling and storage of flammable and combustible liquids
- ◆ Electrical wiring

www.gmgenvirosafe.com

Companies such as GMG Envirosafe will manage compliance for you at a cost.

Mark Your Calendar

An **Initial Notification Form** is required to be submitted to the EPA by January 11, 2010 and full compliance for existing facilities is required by March 11, 2011. The Initial Notification is specifically for the new EPA national emissions standards for autobody refinishing shops. Meeting the requirements of this regulation will result in the following benefits:

- ◆ Improved health and safety for employees
- ◆ Reduced amount of materials required to refinish a part
- ◆ Extended booth filter life
- ◆ Reduced gun cleaning solvent consumption



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