

## GO GREEN WITHOUT BREAKING THE BANK WITH THIS AUSTRALIAN-MADE SOLUTION

A number of green alternatives do not live up to their eco-friendly credentials. Consider waterborne paint technology. It is not common knowledge but waterborne coatings are not solvent-free. They require more work, specialised equipment and use up more energy, which in the end means taxing the environment further.

But, what's the alternative? Well, consider removing the harmful solvents with more environmentally-friendly ones. Such is the NO MIX®\_LV base coat system from Concept Paints. Already recognised locally for an automotive refinish paint system that requires no agitation—NO MIX, which, as the name implies, requires no agitation.

"We're a 100 per cent Australian-owned company that has made inroads internationally and locally with our innovative approach to automotive coatings and ancillary products," explains Joe Kaltoum, Concept Paints' founder and managing director.

Already used in Canada and the USA, NO MIX\_LV is now available in Australia. "In fact, the base coat system is approved for use in California, which arguably has the toughest clean air regulations in the world," Kaltoum adds.

The California Air Resources Board (CARB) has been cracking down on products containing volatile organic compounds (VOCs) since the state signed the Clean Air Act in 1988.

NO MIX\_LV has extremely low VOCs and can be used similarly to solvent-based systems. This does away with the need for special equipment like non-corrosive sprayguns, drying and blower equipment and the need to greatly improve surface preparation practices. After all, waterborne paints take a long time to dry and cannot just rely on heating systems alone to assist drying. Air agitation is required to prevent water-saturated air sitting above the refinished area, which slows drying further.

"We looked outside the box and did a lot of R and D, to improve our existing solvent-based systems that used standard equipment, thus saving the automotive refinisher time and money," notes Kaltoum.

Like the original NO MIX® systems, the new Low VOC system uses techniques like steric stabilisation and controlled flocculation to do away with the need to stir tinters into solution. What's more, the Low VOC system has a price advantage to most waterborne system, while saving application and drying times.

The NO MIX\_LV system includes Solid, Metallic, Pearl and Xirallic tinters. This low



VOC solvent clear over base system, even if it requires no mixing, still displays the same characteristics of the current NO MIX product line – without the extra costs of waterborne systems.

Contrary to what one might think, waterborne paints cannot just be poured down the drain. After all, they contain solvent. And, there is little or no difference in protective requirements for waterborne or solvent-based products.

The NO MIX\_LV basecoat paint system is a fully integrated range of eco-friendly

products which includes Low VOC 2K Clears and Low VOC 2k Primers. These are supported by a comprehensive global colour library system and other colour tools—all designed to assist the user in meeting modern compliance benchmarks, while still being eco-friendly, affordable and using existing equipment and work practices.

For further information contact Concept Paints on 02 9673 2555, email [info@conceptpaints.com.au](mailto:info@conceptpaints.com.au), or visit [www.conceptpaints.com.au](http://www.conceptpaints.com.au)