



MINISTRY SURVEY SHOWS POSITIVE STORY IN SHOP PRACTICES

Environmental survey of Ontario shops shows better results than expected

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During the fall of 2011, the Ontario Ministry of Environment conducted a survey of autobody, collision repair and auto refinish facilities to determine their environmental practices and their level of understanding and knowledge of environmental regulations.

338 responses were received prior to March 31, 2012.

92% of the shops advising they were painting parts or complete vehicles in their booth, with 66% of the respondents identifying only one booth in use. 90% of all shops were aware that an environmental approval was required for their shop, but only 67% actually possessed that approval.

With 29% of shops in multi-tenanted buildings, all shops were asked about the paints they use. Only 53% advised waterbased, with a further 41% using a mixture of solvent and waterbased products. 5% of the shops continued to use only solvent-based paint products.

Shops had an over 90% compliance rating on handling hazardous wastes through a waste management company.

When shops were asked where they get information they responded in order of frequency:

308 shops answered -paint companies

222 shops answered-trade or business associations

205 shops answered-equipment suppliers

“The survey shows that Ontario auto refinish shops are taking their compliance emissions issues seriously and addressing them better than many other industry sectors. Shops should be congratulated for their efforts”, says John Norris, of the Ontario collision industry trade association, **CIIA**

Further assistance for shops to meet or exceed compliance requirements is available at www.autobodyhelp.ca or by calling 1 866 309 4272

The association has also announced a simplified procedure for obtaining Ontario’s mandatory Environmental Registry standard and a simplified, easier process for the CHEMtrac City of Toronto environmental reporting, that shops are required to submit prior to July 3, 2012. Please use info@ciia.com or call 1 866 309 4272 for any assistance.

“To represent the best interests of the industry, providing opportunities for growth for environmentally sound, profitable businesses, having trained professionals serving the public”

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