



ADVISORY NOTE

AP-AN003



APAS Specifications for Residential Buildings and the VOC Limits

This advisory note is intended to illustrate the key Australian Paint Approval Scheme (APAS) specifications for certified products used in residential buildings. The aim is to guide manufacturers, builders, and homeowners in selecting certified products that ensure high-quality finishes, durability, and compliance with environmental standards, specifically focusing on VOC (Volatile Organic Compounds) emissions.

APAS Specifications for Residential Buildings

Figure 1 illustrates the recommended product specifications and the corresponding VOC limits for various areas of a typical residential building. The specifications focus on interior and exterior applications, providing VOC limits for each certified product to ensure minimal environmental impact and enhanced safety for residential use. This allows builders, contractors, and homeowners to make informed decisions on which certified products to select based on their intended application and environmental impact.

A full list of current APAS certified products can be also found [online](#) via the APAS website. Additionally, if you are unsure whether a product is APAS approved, please refer to the AP-AN002 advisory note, also available [online](#).

VOC Compliance and Environmental Impact

One of the key considerations in residential paints and surface coatings is the emission of VOCs. High VOC levels contribute negatively to air pollution by participating in atmospheric photochemical reactions with other emissions, such as nitrogen oxides from vehicles, producing air pollution effects such as ozone production and smog. APAS-certified products adhere to strict VOC limits, ensuring they contribute to a safer living environment while meeting performance standards. The latest APAS VOC limits can be found in the AP-D181 document [online](#).

Further Information

For further information on the APAS specifications, please contact the Executive Officer, Arman Namvar, at +61 3 9545 2208, via email at arman.namvar@csiro.au or through the [Contact Us](#) page on the website.



Figure 1 APAS specifications for residential buildings and their VOC limits.



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Appendix A

Document History

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0	11-09-2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Original document