

Risk Insights

Advice for you and your business

Spray Paint Booth Maintenance



Fires in spray paint operation areas can develop very quickly, have high heat release rates and produce large volumes of toxic smoke.

The interval of the maintenance schedule will depend on the usage and overall condition of the spray paint booth. The following components of the booth require regular maintenance, as per the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Fire Protection Handbook:

● Walls, ceiling and floor

- A routine maintenance program should account for the periodic removal of overspray residue from the walls, ceiling and floor of the booth.

● Filters

- Filters should be replaced as often as recommended by the manufacturer. Contaminated filters should be removed from the building as soon as they're replaced, or kept immersed in water until disposal, as they present a serious spontaneous combustion hazard.

Always operate the spray paint booth with the filters in place.

● Exhaust ducts

- The ductwork requires routine cleaning to keep it clear of residue buildup. Any accumulation inside the ductwork should be removed using non-sparking tools, as vapour pockets may be ignited.

Paint residue accumulation is a serious spontaneous combustion hazard.

● Light covers

- Ensure that all light covers are in place and any cracked covers are replaced immediately.

● Fire protection

- It's recommended to have the automatic extinguishing system inspected on a semi-annual basis by a recognized servicing contractor.

Spray Paint Booth Maintenance *(continued)*

● General housekeeping

- Quantities of combustible or flammable materials should not exceed a one-day supply in the spray paint booth area.
- Open flames, spark-producing equipment and any exposed surface exceeding the ignition temperature of the material being sprayed should be prohibited. This includes smoking in and around the spray paint operation.
- Electrical interlocks or grounding cables should be used to prevent electrostatic ignition.
- The area should be kept clean of debris. Remove all unused items such as rags and waste. Rags should be disposed into a portable waste can with a self-closing cover located outside of the spray paint booth.

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