

VOC regulations in France

A French regulation foresees a mandatory labeling of:

- Walls, ceiling, floor coverings and coatings
- Panels for rooms partition and suspended ceiling
- Insulation products
- Doors and windows
- All products used for the installation of the products listed above

The regulation does not cover untreated metal or glass, lockers, iron, screws etc.

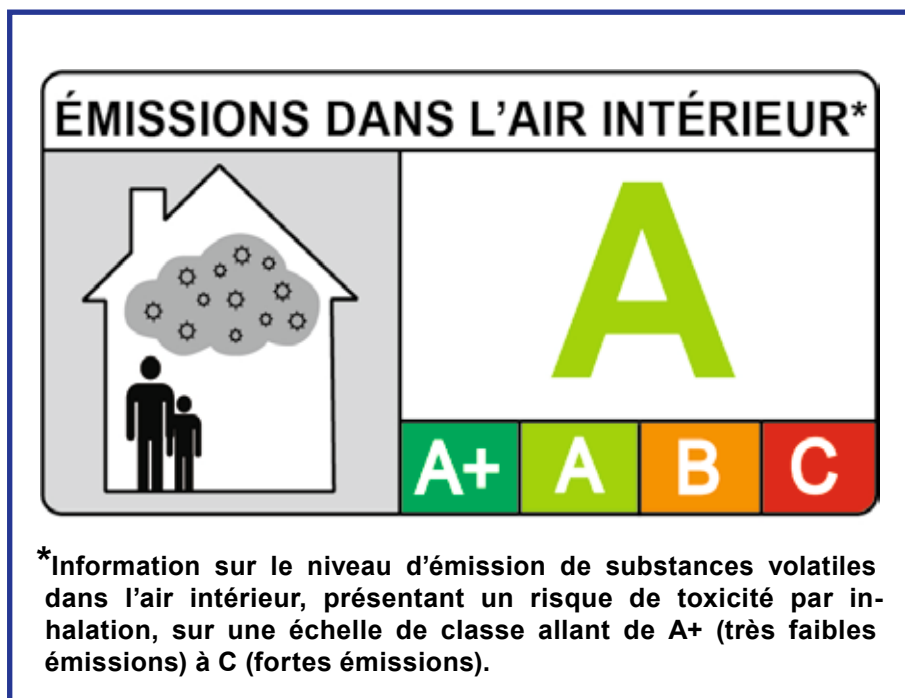
This regulation foresees that from 1 January 2012, any covered product newly placed on French market has to be labeled with emission classes based on their emissions after 28 days, as tested with ISO 16000 and calculated for European Reference Room. Products that are in French market before that date need to be labeled from 1 September 2013.



VOC emissions classes

The limit values for the emission classes are listed in the table, all given as $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ in the European Reference Rooms after 28 days ventilated storage.

Classes	C	B	A	A+
TVOC	>2,000	<2,000	<1,500	<1,000
Formaldehyde	>120	<120	<60	<10
Acetaldehyde	>400	<400	<300	<200
Toluene	>600	<600	<450	<300
Tetrachloroethylene	>500	<500	<350	<250
Xylene	>400	<400	<300	<200
1,2,4-Trimethylbenzene	>2,000	<2,000	<1,500	<1,000
1,4-Dichlorobenzene	>120	<120	<90	<60
Ethylbenzene	>1,500	<1,500	<1,000	<750
2-Butoxyethanol	>2,000	<2,000	<1,500	<1,000
Styrene	>500	<500	<350	<250



Compulsory French VOC label

The label on the products includes a letter indicating the highest (worst) emissions class of the listed individual substances and the TVOC. There are detailed rules on how the label has to look like, see the example above. Minimum dimensions are 15 mm × 30 mm. The additional sentence below always shall be placed next to the label in readable letter size, and in French language.

The emissions class will be assigned by the manufacturer in his self-responsibility. An emissions test is not required if other information allows assignment of an emissions class. Earlier tests 28 days VOC emissions testing for German

regulation (AgBB/DIBt) can be used for assigning an emissions class, without new tests and without conversion of the test results. The same holds true for EMICODE, GUT and Blue Angel test reports. Even other valid information can be used, such as shorter tests based on ISO 16000.



AFSSET guideline

The earlier AFSSET guideline must not be confused with the French regulation on VOC emissions. AFSSET guideline is NOT the regulation. It is a non-binding guidance that you may use or not, depending on what the market requires.

CMR emissions

From 1 January 2010, only construction products may be sold in France if they show 28 days emission of CMR substances trichloroethylene, benzene, DEHP and DBP below 1 µg/m³ each, tested with ISO 16000 and calculated for European reference room.

Further information

Please find links to the original regulations, graphic files and more links in the internet at

www.eurofins.com/france-voc.

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