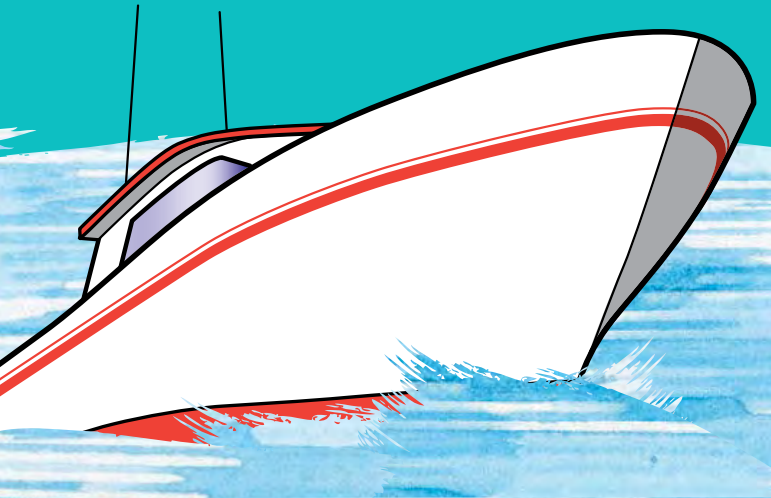


Safely using

ANTI-FOULING PAINTS



Environmental
Protection Authority
Te Mana Rauhi Taiao



Ministry of Business,
Innovation & Employment

newzealand.govt.nz

This brochure explains the best practice for using antifouling paints to protect your health, the health of others and the environment.

Antifouling paints are useful in preventing the build-up of unwanted organisms on your boat. However, these paints are toxic and can harm your health as well as the marine environment.

This brochure is not comprehensive and there are other rules that you must follow, such as how to store these paints safely. To check all the rules that apply to your antifouling product check its HSNO approval on the EPA website www.epa.govt.nz.

Protect yourself

Wear the right safety gear

Contact with antifouling paints can irritate your skin and eyes, and even permanently damage your health. To protect your health you must wear the right safety gear (personal protective equipment) to avoid getting paint on your skin or breathing in vapours.

When applying paints with a brush or roller, you should wear **goggles, full body coveralls, covered shoes** and **chemical resistant gloves**. If you are spraying these paints, or if the paint is applied in areas where there is poor ventilation, **respiratory protective equipment** should also be worn. Refer to the product's safety data sheet or talk to your product supplier to get advice on the right safety gear to wear to protect yourself.



YOUR HEALTH. OUR ENVIRONMENT. USE ANTIFOULING PAINTS SAFELY.

Paint application

When you apply antifouling paint you must set up a controlled work area. This is a defined area where you apply your paint. You must prevent paint leaving this area (overspray) and entering the environment, or coming into contact with neighbouring boats or bystanders. All application of antifouling paint must take place in the controlled work area.

There are a number of ways to prevent overspray leaving your controlled work area when you are spraying antifouling paint. For example, you could put up tarpaulins or panels that prevent spray from drifting away. Using a dry-dock to apply antifouling paint may also contain overspray. Check to see if your marina has facilities or equipment available to help you meet these requirements.

KNOW YOUR PRODUCT



Before using an antifouling paint **always** read the product label. The label will tell you the hazards of the product and what the product contains. It also tells you the precautions to take when handling the product and how to dispose of it safely.

Antifouling product safety data sheets contain information about first aid, safe storage, how to handle the product safely and what safety gear should be worn when handling your product. Ask your supplier for an up-to-date safety data sheet when you purchase an antifouling paint.

Collecting and disposing of waste

Old antifouling paint removed from boats can still be toxic to people and the environment. When you are scraping, sanding or removing paint from your boat, you must collect your paint waste and properly dispose of it. You should also wear chemical resistant gloves, coveralls and goggles.

If you are removing antifouling paint with a scraper, putting a tarpaulin or drop sheet under your boat will help collect paint scrapings. Sweeping or vacuuming after you have completed your work will also prevent antifouling paint dust leaving the work area.

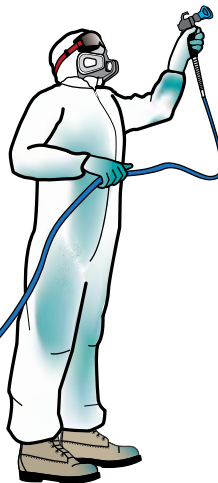
If you are wet sanding the hull of your boat, placing booms around your work area will contain any paint residue and waste. Once the area is dry you must collect the paint residue and dispose of it in a way that will not harm the environment.

Many marinas have waste treatment facilities on site, but if you don't have access to such facilities you still need to dispose of antifouling paint waste appropriately. Disposing of waste in a hazardous waste landfill is one way to do

this. Contact your regional council for information on hazardous waste landfills in your area. A hazardous waste treatment operator may also be able to dispose of your collected waste.

REMEMBER

SPRAY PAINTING AND ANTIFOUL MAINTENANCE SHOULD BE DONE IN CALM WEATHER. THIS WILL REDUCE THE CHANCE OF YOUR ACTIVITY IMPACTING OTHER PEOPLE AND THE ENVIRONMENT.



Posting signs

When spray painting you must post signs at every entrance to your controlled work area to warn people.

Signs must be in place from the time you start the work until you have finished. They need to be large enough that they can be read from a distance of at least 10 metres. A sign must:

- warn that a spray paint application is being carried out with paint that is toxic to humans
- identify the person in charge of the application
- state that you cannot enter the controlled work area unless you are wearing the right personal protective equipment.



Following a reassessment under the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms (HSNO) Act, the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) changed the rules for using antifouling paints. To check what rules apply to your antifouling product you will need to check its HSNO approval on the EPA's website at www.epa.govt.nz, but note that some rules come into force on **1 July 2015**. There are new rules for applying antifouling paint and for the collection and disposal of antifouling paint waste.



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