

WHAT IS A BODY SHOP ENVIRONMENTAL MITIGATION ORDER AND WHY YOU DON'T WANT ONE

January 14, 2011

On October 20, 2010, the Ontario Ministry of Environment issued an environmental mitigation order against a banner collision repair shop in Central Ontario. The order was published publicly on December 20, 2010, but the shop did not read the order when it was sent to them, nor did their environmental consultant advise them.

Every shop must apply for a mandatory Certificate of Approval for their spray booth activities, especially now that waterborne paints are in use. However, the Ministry does have the right to add additional requirements to your operating standards, in this case to identify, manage, report and reduce coatings products that contain hexavalent chromium, down to a level of .0022 micrograms per cubic meter.

That was the order this shop received and was unaware of until the trade association, HARA and ciia.com noticed the order and advised the shop.

This shop was faced with an order that would have cost them over \$5000 in order to comply and force significant changes in their spray-painting activity.

The association found that no products containing the identified chemicals had been in use for at least the last three years and their paint company confirmed.

The association will work with this shop to amend their Approval process to eliminate the mitigation order now that no chemicals are present.

If your shop receives a Mitigation Order from the Ministry for hexavalent chromium or chromium 6 in their paints, then please call us at 1-866-309-4272 and we can help you remove this financial and environmental threat to your business.