

# Tert-Butyl Acetate: VOC-Exempt Solvent for Coatings



#### **Outline**

- Solvent Use in Coatings
- Solvent Regulations
- Tert-Butyl Acetate as a VOC replacement
  - TBAC properties
  - Formulating compliant products with TBAC
    - Lacquers
    - Urethanes
    - Epoxies
    - Alkyds
- Conclusions

#### Solvent Uses in Coatings and Adhesives

- Resin Synthesis
  - Acrylics, alkyds
- Formulation
  - Resin solubilization
  - Pigment grinding
- Surface Preparation
  - Parts degreasing
- Application
  - Viscosity reduction
  - Surface wetting
  - Flow and leveling
  - Hardness development and curing
- Cleanup
  - Spray gun cleanup



#### Solvent Regulations Multiply...

- International Regulations
  - Montreal protocol on ozone depleting substances (ODS)
- National Regulations
  - Control of Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs)
  - Control of Hazardous Air Pollutants (HAPs)
- State and local regulations
- Grass roots initiatives

# Grass Roots: Green Building Initiatives

- EPA lacks jurisdiction to regulate indoor air quality
- Health and environmental concerns:
  - Indoor air quality (VOCs, HAPs, ozone, PM, mold, pollen, etc...)
  - Materials safety (lead, asbestos, phthalates)
  - Efficient use of resources (energy and materials)
  - Environmental impact of products (global warming, pollution, ozone depletion)
- Leading to new product certification requirements:
  - Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED rating)
  - Green Seal product standards:
    - Commercial Adhesives (GS-36)
    - Paints and Coatings (GS-11)
    - Stains and Finishes (GS-47)

#### Benefits of "Greener" Solvents

- Protect the environment, worker and consumer
- Reduce product liability
- Avoid impact of regulations
- Extend product life
- Expand markets and sales
- Promote a positive company image



# Why Regulate VOCs in Coatings?

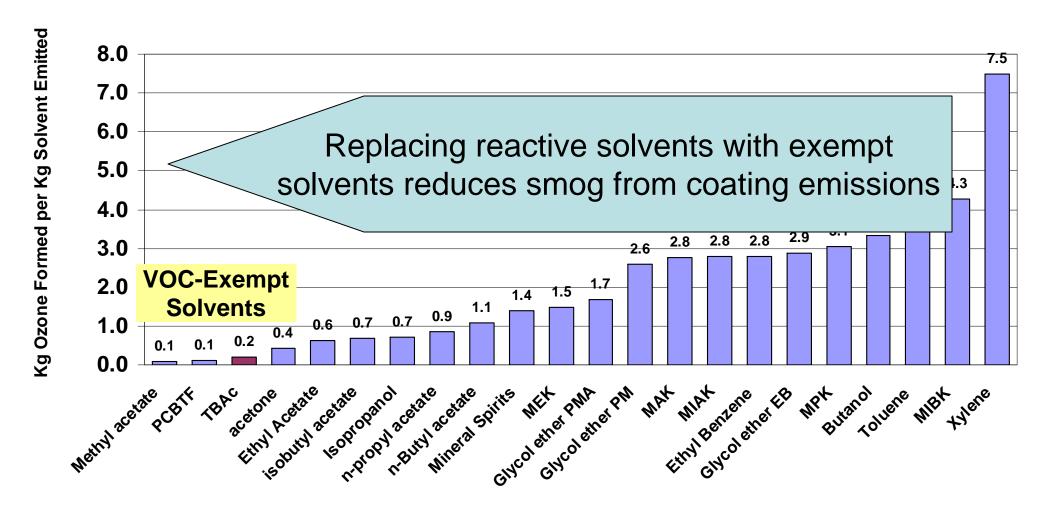
- Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) contribute to ground level ozone (smog) formation
- Ozone is a lung irritant and criteria pollutant
- Major sources (biogenic, cars and truck) are difficult to reduce
- Coating operations are a minor but visible source of VOCs
- Low-VOC coating technologies exist
  - Water-based
  - Energy curable (UV and powder)
  - High solids
  - Exempt solvents

#### VOC Regulations in the US and Canada



- US lowers ozone standard to 75 ppb in 2008
- Effective 9/30/09, TBAC is VOC-exempt in Canada for architectural and automotive coatings
- US and Canadian Regulations based on photochemical reactivity
  - Only photochemically reactive compounds are regulated
  - Negligibly reactive compounds are exempt:
    - Acetone, methyl acetate, TBAC, many halogenated solvents.
    - Many halogenated compounds are regulated under the Montreal protocol because they deplete stratospheric ozone.

#### Reactivity of Solvents Varies Greatly



Based on Dr. William Carter's SAPRC-99 model http://pah.cert.ucr.edu/~carter/reactdat.htm

## Formulating with TBAC

- TBAC is a medium-fast evaporating solvent (2.8 times n-BuAc)
- Solvent blend must contain ~30% slow solvent for optimum flow, leveling and appearance (e.g. MAK, EEP, PMA, xylene)
- TBAC blush resistance superior to acetone and methyl acetate
- Slow solvents should be used for pigment grinding
- TBAC can be used with isocyanates and amido curatives
- TBAC is stable in acid-catalyzed varnishes
- Coating properties are unaffected because TBAC evaporates first

#### Resins Soluble in TBAC

- Acrylics and styrene acrylics
- Urethanes and isocyanates
- Alkyds and polyesters
- Modified alkyds (silicone, oil-modified urethanes, acrylic and phenolic)
- Nitrocellulose and other cellulosic resins
- Some chlorinated resins (not PVC)
- Epoxies and their amino and amido-amine curatives
- Melamine and urea-formaldehyde
- Phenolic and styrenated
- Silicones and silanes

## **Coating Applications**

- Coatings Solvent-based
  - Automotive refinish clearcoats
  - Industrial maintenance coatings
  - Wood lacquers and enamels
  - Aerospace coatings
  - Metal coatings
  - Concrete coatings
  - Traffic paints
- Resin solvent: alkyds, acrylic resins
- Spray equipment cleanup, thinners, degreasers



#### Wood Lacquer Reformulations

Components         Formulation         Formulation         Formulation         Formulation         Formulation         RS 1/2 Nitrocellulose         14.3         14.3         14.3         14.3         14.3         14.3         14.3         Replaced xylene         Replaced xylene,		Conventional	TBAc/n-BuAc	TBAc/PMAc	
Beckosol 12-035	Components	Formulation	Formulation	Formulation	
Seckosol 12-035	RS 1/2 Nitrocellulose	14.3	14.3	14.3	Replaced
xylene         30.5         0.0         0.0         MEK, and BuAc with O.0         BuAc with O.0         THAC Solvent O.0 <t< td=""><th>Beckosol 12-035</th><td>11.7</td><td>11.7</td><td>11.7</td><td>•</td></t<>	Beckosol 12-035	11.7	11.7	11.7	•
MEK         10.7         0.0         0.0           n-butyl acetate         22.7         13.9         0.0           n-butanol         7.1         7.1         7.1           PM Acetate         0.0         0.0         13.9           TBAC Solvent         0.0         50.0         100.0           Total lbs         100.0         100.0         100.0           Ibs VOC/lb solids*         3.99         Lower HAPs & VOCs         0.23           Viscosity, cps         146         185         102           Dry Time, min         20         10         10           20 degree gloss         42         47         49           60 degree gloss         86         87         89           Whiteness index         65         67         67	Diisononyl phthalate	3.0	3.0	3.0	xyiene,
MEK         10.7         0.0         0.0           n-butyl acetate         22.7         13.9         0.0           n-butanol         7.1         7.1         7.1           PM Acetate         0.0         0.0         13.9           TBAC Solvent         0.0         50.0         100.0           Total lbs         100.0         100.0         100.0           Ibs VOC/lb solids*         3.99         Lower HAPs & VOCs         0.23           Viscosity, cps         146         185         102           Dry Time, min         20         10         10           20 degree gloss         42         47         49           60 degree gloss         86         87         89           Whiteness index         65         67         67	xylene	30.5	0.0	0.0	MEK. and
Tibuty acetate   22.7   13.9	MEK	10.7	0.0	0.0	•
PM Acetate         0.0         0.0         13.9         PMA           TBAc Solvent         0.0         50.0         50.0         100.0         100.0           Total lbs         100.0         100.0         100.0         100.0         100.0         1.50<	n-butyl acetate	22.7	13.9	0.0	
TBAc Solvent 0.0 50.0 Total lbs 100.0 100.0 Ibs VOC/Ib solids* 3.99 Ibs HAP/Ib solids 2.29  Viscosity, cps 146 185 Dry Time, min 20 10 20 degree gloss 42 47 60 degree gloss 86 87 Whiteness index 65 67  FIVIA  50.0 100.0 100.0 100.0 100.0 1.50 0.23  Dry time is reduced/ coating properties	n-butanol	7.1	7.1	7.1	TBAC and
Total lbs	PM Acetate	0.0	0.0	13.9	DMA
Ibs VOC/Ib solids*         3.99         Lower HAPs & VOCs         1.50         Dry time is reduced/           Viscosity, cps         146         185         102         reduced/         reduced/         coating         60 degree gloss         42         47         49         coating         properties           Whiteness index         65         67         67         properties	TBAc Solvent	0.0	50.0	50.0	FIVIA
Dry time is reduced/	Total lbs	100.0	100.0	100.0	
Viscosity, cps	lbs VOC/lb solids*	3.99	IIAD - 0 V/	1.50	
Viscosity, cps       146       185         Dry Time, min       20       10         20 degree gloss       42       47         60 degree gloss       86       87         Whiteness index       65       67     reduced/  coating  properties	lbs HAP/lb solids	2.29	ower HAPS & VO	0.23	
Viscosity, cps       146       185         Dry Time, min       20       10         20 degree gloss       42       47         60 degree gloss       86       87         Whiteness index       65       67     reduced/  coating  properties					<b>Dry time is</b>
20 degree gloss	Viscosity, cps	146	185	102	
60 degree gloss 86 87 89 properties Whiteness index 65 67	Dry Time, min	20	10	10	l reduced/
60 degree gloss 86 87 89 properties Whiteness index 65 67	20 degree gloss	42	47	49	coating
Whitehess much	60 degree gloss	86	87	89 \	
Yellowness index 6.0 5.4 <b>5.4 unchanged</b>	Whiteness index	65	67	67	
	Yellowness index	6.0	5.4	5.4	unchanged

**Beckosol®** is a registered trademark of Reichhold Chemical.

#### 2K Urethane Clearcoat Formulations

		TBAC-	Conventional	TBAC-
Components	Conventional	Based	High-solids	Based
G-Cure 105 P70	100.0	100.0	50.0	50.0
JONCRYL 920	0.0	0.0	50.0	50.0
T-12 (1% in toluene)	1.9	1.9	0.3	0.3
FC 430 (10% in toluene)	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
HDI Trimer	28.3	28.3	33.9	25.4
IPDI Trimer	0.0	0.0	0.0	15.6
MAK	25.0	25.0	24.0	24.0
n-Butyl acetate	25.0	0.0	24.0	0.0
TBAc Solvent	0.0	25.0	0.0	24.0
Total lbs	205.5	205.5	206.5	213.6
% solids	46%	46%	51%	<b>51%</b>
lbs VOC/gal*	4.40	3.28	3.96	2.86

Significant VOC reductions are possible

G-Cure® is a registered trademark of the Cognis Corporation JONCRYL® is a registered trademark of Johnson Polymers (BASF)

#### 2K Urethane Clearcoat Properties

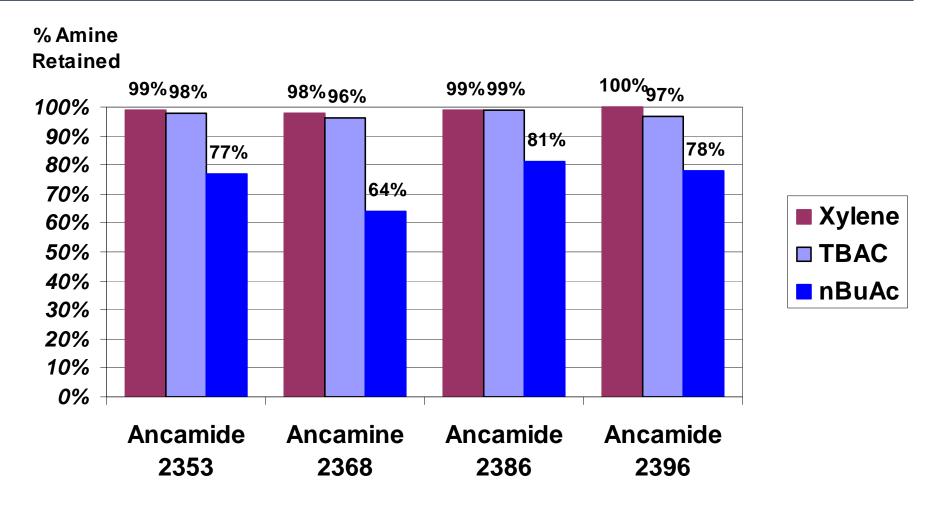
		TBAC-		TBAC-
Properties	Conventional	Based	High-solids	Based
lbs VOC/gal*	4.40	3.28	3.96	2.86
Viscosity, sec #2 Zahn	21.2	21.1	20.9	20.8
Dry Time, hours	3.2	3.5	7	4
20 degree gloss	88	88	90	90
60 degree gloss	95	95	95	95
DOI	90	90	90	90
Reverse Impact, Ibs	160	160	160	160
Direct Impact, Ibs	160	160	160	160
Cross hatch adhesion, %	100%	100%	100%	100%
10% acid resistance (30 min)	pass	pass	pass	pass
100 MEK double rubs	pass	pass	pass	pass

No change in coating performance

## TBAC: Not Your Typical Ester Solvent

- Other esters react with amino and amido epoxy curatives
- Studied four types of amine and amido curatives
- Compared stability in xylene, TBAC, n-Butyl acetate
- Accelerated aging at 60°C for 30 days
  - Equivalent to one year at ambient temperature
- Measured residual amine using ASTM D2896

#### Storage Stability of Amine and Amido Curatives



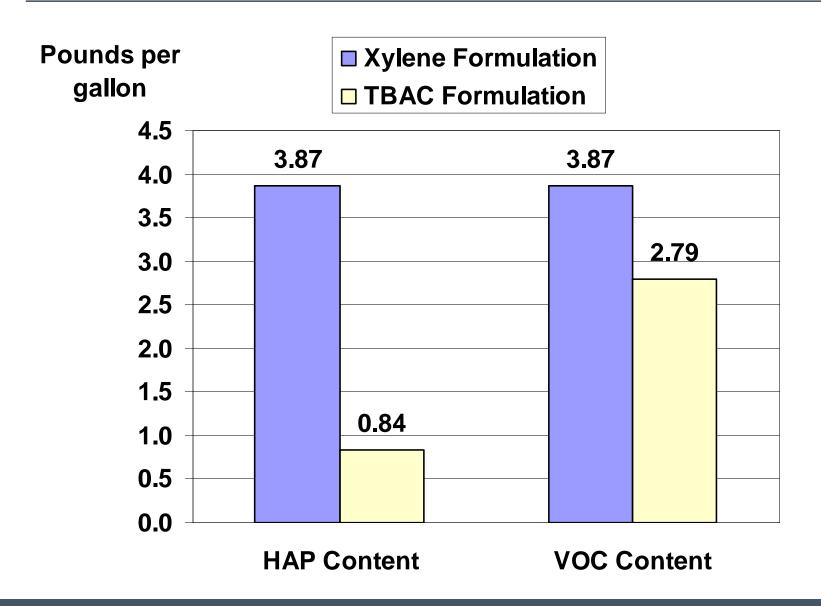
Xylene and TBAC show similar stability

Ancamide and Ancamine are trademarks of Air Products & Chemicals.

# 2K Epoxy Reformulation

	Xylene Formulation	TBAC Formulation	
Part A			
Epon 1001X75	301	301	
Pigment & fillers	260	260	
Beetle 216-8	12	12	
Xylene	221		
Aromatic 100		30	NI II A D
ARCOSOLV PM		<b>76</b>	Non-HAP
TBAc Solvent		115	Solvents
MAK		15	DOI V CITES
Part B			
Epicure 3115	131	131	
Xylene	70		
Aromatic 100		15	Non-HAP
TBAc Solvent		55	
I DAC Solveill		<b>33</b>	Solvents
<u>Formula</u>	ation constants		
Volume Ratio A/B	75/25	75/25	
Wt % Solids mixed	62	62	

#### Effect on HAP and VOC Contents



# **Epoxy Coating Properties**

	Xylene Formulation	TBAC Formulation			
Film Properties after 7 days					
Thickness, mils	1.93	1.94			
Direct Impact, in.lb	160	160			
Reverse Impact, in.lb	160	160			
Crosshatch adhesion	100%	100%			
1/8 Mandrel bend	pass	pass			
800 hours Salt Spray	<1 mm creep	<1 mm creep			
ASTM B117	7 VF blisters	7 VF blisters			

Cure speed & film properties were identical

#### Other Coating Uses for TBAC

- Alkyd coatings for general industrial and decorative coatings
- Conversion varnishes for wood
- Resin suppliers now offering alkyd resins in TBAC:
  - Reichhold, CCP, Hexion, Nuplex
- Acrylic polyols in TBAC also available from:
  - CCP, Cognis, Rohm & Haas, BASF (Johnson Polymer)

#### Clear Catalyzed Conversion Varnish

- Used on kitchen cabinets, furniture and flooring
- Resin System:
  - Coconut alkyd: Beckosol® 12035-E2 (65% NV in 32/4 TBAC/A100)
  - Polyol: SAA-100 (100% NV)
  - Crosslinker: Cymel U80 (98% NV)
- Solvents used:
  - TBAC, n-butanol, MAK
  - Small amounts of Aromatic 100 and Isopropanol
- Varnish formulation
  - 209 grams VOC/L
  - 50wt% solids
  - Viscosity = 75 Cps
- Varnish applied to unprimed oak boards

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#### White Alkyd Enamel Paint\*

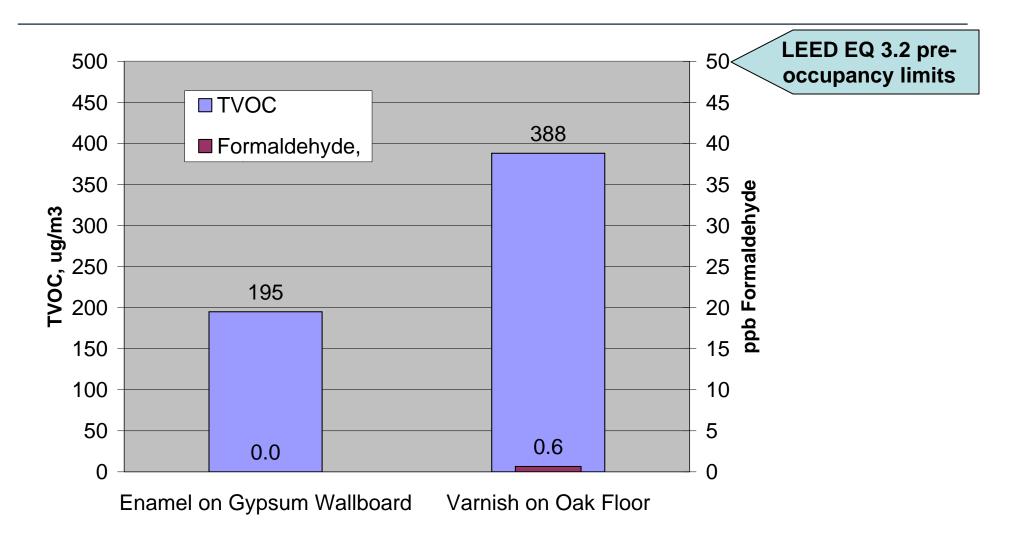
- Used on wood trim, cabinets, walls
- Resin System:
  - Soy alkyd: Beckosol® 11081-E2 (70% NV in 26/4 TBAC/A100)
- White pigment: TiO<sub>2</sub>
- Solvents used:
  - TBAC/mineral spirits 26/10, 2% methanol
- Enamel properties
  - 250 grams VOC/L
  - 62 wt% solids
  - Viscosity = 68 KU
  - PVC: 21%
  - Pigment to binder weight ratio: 0.93
- Enamel applied to unprimed gypsum wallboard

\*Enamel paint prepared by Jeff Danneman, Reichhold Chemical.

#### TBAC Indoor Air Concentrations After Painting

- Model classroom parameters:
  - Room volume 231 m3
  - Area painted: walls = 94.6 m2; flooring = 89.2 m2
  - Air exchange rate = 0.9 hr-1
- Conversion varnish on floor (960 sf)
  - TBAC concentration safe (below acute RfC) after 24 hours
  - TBAC below odor detection threshold after 200 hours (8.3 days)
- White enamel on walls (1,018 sf)
  - TBAC concentration safe (below acute RfC) after 5 hours
  - TBAC below odor detection threshold within a week

## TVOCs and Formaldehyde in Classroom @14 Days



Both paints qualify for LEED credits EQ 3.2 and EQ 4.2

#### Conclusions

- Coating VOC regulations are spreading and becoming stricter
- VOC-exempt solvents like TBAC are useful formulating tools for costeffective, high performance coatings
- TBAC is suitable for a wide range of coating technologies
- Solvent-based coatings require less energy to produce, apply, and cure than other low-VOC coatings
- Solvent-based coatings with TBAC can meet stringent VOC-content limits as well as qualify for green building environmental credits

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supersedes 3385-V1-0908