

**CALCULATION OF VOC EMISSIONS FROM  
 PLASTIC COMPOSITES MANUFACTURING**

1. Applicability

This Procedure is applicable to any facility which produces or modifies products from plastic composites manufacturing. This includes open and closed molding, fiberglass-reinforced plastics (FRP), and non-reinforced plastic products. This applies to the use of polyester (styrene) resin applications.

2. Test Methods and Procedures

- (a) In conducting the determination of VOC as prescribed in paragraph (b), the owner or operator shall determine the composition of the VOC containing materials (VCMs) by specific weight formulation data supplied by the manufacturer of the VCM or by an analysis of each VCM using Method 311, including the ASTM standard referenced therein. The Director may require the owner or operator who uses formulation data supplied by the manufacturer of the VCM to determine the VOC content of the VCM using Method 311. The owner or operator shall determine the volume of VCM and the mass of VOC solvent used for thinning purposes from company records on the same basis as the averaging period.
- (b) The styrene emissions from the plastic products manufacturing processes shall be calculated using one or more of the following:
  - (i) Unified Emission Factors (UEF) for Open Molding of Composites provided by CFA and NMMA (attached);
  - (ii) "Empirical Model to Predict Styrene Emissions from Fiber-reinforced Plastics Fabrication Processes", as published by US EPA. A computer program version of this model developed by EPA is called FRP Program Version 1.0 and can be downloaded at <http://www.epa.gov/ttn/chief/efdocs/>. For all variables other than default "baseline," sufficient documentation must be maintained. In the model, "flow coater" represents non-atomized mechanical application of resin; or
  - (iii) For operations other than those addressed in (i) and (ii) (e.g. - marble casting), use the values specified as follows:

**Emission Factors for Uncontrolled Polyester Resin Product Fabrication Processes  
 (weight percent of starting styrene monomer emitted)**

<b>Operation</b>	<b>Non-vapor suppressed resin</b>	<b>Vapor suppressed resin</b>
Continuous Lamination	7	5
Pultrusion	7	5
Filament Winding	10	7
Marble Casting	3	2
Closed Molding	3	2

Note: These factors do not include gelcoating operations that may be associated with production.

- (c) The non-styrene emissions (e.g. MEKP, MMA, DMP) from the plastic products manufacturing processes shall be calculated as follows:

- (i) Use UEF for Methyl Methacrylate (MMA);
- (ii) Use an emission factor of 0.001 for Dimethyl Phthalate (DMP); and
- (iii) Assume Methyl Ethyl Ketone Peroxide (MEKP) is consumed in reaction and/or none emitted.

## Unified Emission Factors for Open Molding of Composites

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Emission Rate in Pounds of Styrene Emitted per Ton of Resin or Gelcoat Processed

Styrene content in resin/gelcoat, % <sup>(1)</sup>	<33 <sup>(2)</sup>	33	34	36	38	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	46	48	47	48	49	50	>50 <sup>(2)</sup>
Manual	$0.128 \times \% \text{styrene} \times 2000$	83	89	94	100	106	112	117	123	129	134	140	146	152	157	163	169	174	180	$((0.286 \times \% \text{styrene}) - 0.0529) \times 2000$
Manual w/ Vapor Suppressed Resin VSR <sup>(3)</sup>	Manual emission factor [listed above] $\times$ (1 - (0.50 $\times$ specific VSR reduction factor for each resin/suppressant formulation))																			
Mechanical Atomized	$0.169 \times \% \text{styrene} \times 2000$	111	126	140	154	168	183	197	211	225	240	254	268	283	297	311	325	340	354	$((0.714 \times \% \text{styrene}) - 0.18) \times 2000$
Mechanical Atomized with VSR <sup>(3)</sup>	Mechanical Atomized emission factor [listed above] $\times$ (1 - (0.45 $\times$ specific VSR reduction factor for each resin/suppressant formulation))																			
Mechanical Atomized Controlled Spray <sup>(4)</sup>	$0.130 \times \% \text{styrene} \times 2000$	86	97	108	119	130	141	152	163	174	185	196	207	218	229	240	251	262	273	$0.77 \times ((0.714 \times \% \text{styrene}) - 0.18) \times 2000$
Mechanical Controlled Spray with VSR	Mechanical Atomized Controlled Spray emission factor [listed above] $\times$ (1 - (0.45 $\times$ specific VSR reduction factor for each resin/suppressant formulation))																			
Mechanical Non-Atomized	$0.107 \times \% \text{styrene} \times 2000$	71	74	77	80	83	86	89	93	96	99	102	105	108	111	115	118	121	124	$((0.157 \times \% \text{styrene}) - 0.0166) \times 2000$
Mechanical Non-Atomized with VSR <sup>(3)</sup>	Mechanical Non-Atomized emission factor [listed above] $\times$ (1 - (0.45 $\times$ specific VSR reduction factor for each resin/suppressant formulation))																			
Filament application	$0.184 \times \% \text{styrene} \times 2000$	122	127	133	138	144	149	155	160	166	171	177	182	188	193	199	204	210	215	$((0.2746 \times \% \text{styrene}) - 0.0298) \times 2000$
Filament application with VSR <sup>(3)</sup>	$0.120 \times \% \text{styrene} \times 2000$	78	83	86	90	93	97	100	104	108	111	115	118	122	125	129	133	136	140	$0.66 \times ((0.2746 \times \% \text{styrene}) - 0.0298) \times 2000$
Gelcoat Application	$0.445 \times \% \text{styrene} \times 2000$	294	315	336	356	377	398	418	439	460	481	501	522	543	564	584	605	626	646	$((1.03848 \times \% \text{styrene}) - 0.195) \times 2000$
Gelcoat Controlled Spray Application <sup>(5)</sup>	$0.325 \times \% \text{styrene} \times 2000$	215	230	245	260	275	290	305	321	336	351	366	381	396	411	427	442	457	472	$0.73 \times ((1.03848 \times \% \text{styrene}) - 0.195) \times 2000$
Gelcoat Non-Atomized Application <sup>(6)</sup>	SEE Note 9 below	196	205	214	223	232	241	250	259	268	278	287	296	305	314	323	332	341	350	$((0.4608 \times \% \text{styrene}) - 0.0605) \times 2000$
Covered-Cure after Roll-Out	Non-VSR process emission factor [listed above] $\times$ ( 0.80 for Manual <-or> 0.65 for Mechanical)																			
Covered-Cure without Roll-Out	Non-VSR process emission factor [listed above] $\times$ ( 0.50 for Manual <-or> 0.55 for Mechanical)																			

Emission Rate in Pounds of Methyl Methacrylate Emitted per Ton of Gelcoat Processed

MMA content in gelcoat, % <sup>(6)</sup>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	$\geq 20$
Gel coat application <sup>(7)</sup>	15	30	45	60	75	90	105	120	135	150	165	180	195	210	225	240	255	270	285	$0.75 \times \% \text{MMA} \times 2000$

**Notes**

- 1 Including styrene monomer content as supplied, plus any extra styrene monomer added by the molder, but before addition of other additives such as powders, fillers, glass, ...etc.
- 2 Formulas for materials with styrene content < 33% are based on the emission rate at 33% (constant emission factor expressed as percent of available styrene), and for styrene content > 50% on the emission rate based on the extrapolated factor equations; these are not based on test data but are believed to be conservative estimates. The value for "% styrene" in the formulas should be input as a fraction. For example, use the input value 0.30 for a resin with 30% styrene content by wt.
- 3 The VSR reduction factor is determined by testing each resin/suppressant formulation according to the procedures detailed in the CFA Vapor Suppressant Effectiveness Test.
- 4 SEE the CFA Controlled Spray Handbook for a detailed description of the controlled spray procedures.
- 5 The effect of vapor suppressants on emissions from filament winding operations is based on the Dow Filament Winding Emissions Study.
- 6 Including MMA monomer content as supplied, plus any extra MMA monomer added by the molder, but before addition of other additives such as powders, fillers, glass, ...etc.
- 7 Based on gelcoat data from NMMA Emission Study.
- 8 SEE the July 17, 2001 EECs report Emission Factors for Non-Atomized Application of Gel Coats used in the Open Molding of Composites for a detailed description of the non-atomized gelcoat testing.
- 9 Use the equation  $((0.4608 \times \% \text{styrene}) - 0.0605) \times 2000$  for gelcoats with styrene contents between 19% and 32% by wt.; use the equation  $0.185 \times \% \text{styrene} \times 2000$  for gelcoats with less than 19% styrene content by wt.