



HSIA

halogenated
solvents
industry
alliance, inc.

March 15, 2019

Contact: Faye Graul
fgraul@hsia.org

HSIA'S RESPONSE TO EPA'S FINAL RULE BANNING CONSUMER USES OF METHYLENE CHLORIDE BASED PAINT STRIPPERS

HSIA's members have always been committed to the safe and effective use of methylene chloride-based paint strippers and also have always recommended that users take the appropriate safety precautions when using the product.

We are sorry to see EPA move forward with a ban on consumer uses of methylene chloride-based paint strippers. HSIA worked with the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) to improve labeling of the product and supported a ban on its use for bathtub refinishing due to severely limited space for adequate ventilation. We hope that alternative products offered to consumers, most of which are flammable, do not result in greater fire risk.

We are pleased that EPA is considering a separate rule which would allow for a training and certification program for contractors and other workers who use these products commercially. Methylene chloride's efficacy is unmatched and it has been safely used for over sixty years.