

## 40 CFR 63 Subpart N- Chromium Electroplating and Anodizing Processes: Revised NESHAP Emission Limits

The Federal National Emission Standard for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP) affects all facilities that use chromium electroplating or anodizing tanks, regardless of size. What your facility must do to comply with the NESAHP depends on the size of your operation and what type of process you use (hard, decorative, or anodizing).

This fact sheet provides a general overview of the federal emission limits that chromium electroplating and anodizing operations must comply with by the effective date of September 19, 2014. State and local regulatory agencies may have additional requirements. If you require additional technical information, the Small Business Environmental Assistance Program (SBEAP) provides free and confidential assistance and can be contacted at the toll-free number listed below.

### Emission Limits

The NESHAP specifies emission limits, expressed as a concentration of chromium, that are based on the use of certain control techniques. Facilities may employ various control techniques, provided the level of control equals or exceeds that of the specified technique. All affected facilities are regulated by applying maximum achievable control technology (MACT). If you wish to use a substitute control technique, you must obtain approval from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for the proposed test methods and monitoring practices you will use to demonstrate compliance. Contact the EPA at the following location:

U.S. EPA Region II- DECA  
290 Broadway  
New York, NY, 10007-1866

The table below defines the total chromium emission limits that were recently promulgated and finalized in 2012, by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The effective date of the new emission limits is September 19, 2014.

Table 1- NESHAP Emission Limits (Effective 09/19/2014)

| Affected Tanks  | Control Level*                                   | Chemical Fume Suppressant Containing Wetting Agent             |
|---|--|--|
| <b>Open &amp; Enclosed Hard Chromium Plating Tanks</b>  |  |  |
| Small, existing tanks <sup>b</sup>  | 0.015 mg/dscm<br>(6.6 x 10 <sup>-6</sup> g/dscf) | 40 dynes/cm (stalagmometer)<br>Or<br>33 dynes/cm (tensiometer) |
| Large, existing tanks   | 0.011 mg/dscm<br>(4.8 x 10 <sup>-6</sup> g/dscf) |  |
| New tanks <sup>c</sup> - large & small  | 0.006 mg/dscm<br>(2.6 x10 <sup>-6</sup> g/dscf)  |  |
| <b>Decorative Chromium Plating Tanks Using a Chromic Acid Bath &amp; Chromium Anodizing Tanks</b> |  |  |
| Existing sources  | 0.007 mg/dscm<br>(3.1 x 10 <sup>-6</sup> g/dscf) | 40 dynes/cm (stalagmometer)<br>Or<br>33 dynes/cm (tensiometer) |
| New/Reconstructed Sources   | 0.006 mg/dscm<br>(2.6 x 10 <sup>-6</sup> g/dscf) |  |
| <b>Decorative Chromium Plating Tanks Using a Trivalent Chromium Bath with a Wetting Agent</b>     |  |  |
| All tanks   | Only subject to recordkeeping and reporting      |  |

<sup>a</sup> mg/dscm = milligrams per dry standard cubic meter of exhaust air  
gr/dscf = grains per dry standard cubic feet of exhaust air  
dynes/cm = dynes per centimeter

<sup>b</sup> **Small:** means a facility having a maximum potential rectifier capacity of less than 60 million ampere-hours per year (assuming an operating schedule of 8,400 hours per year and 70% tank utilization) or an actual rectifier capacity of less than 60 million ampere-hours per year demonstrated through the use of non-resettable meters.

<sup>c</sup> **New:** affected hard chromium electroplating tank, decorative chromium electroplating tank, or chromium anodizing tank, the construction or reconstruction of which commenced after February 8, 2012.

**Since there is a new compliance date (September 19, 2014), a new Notification of Compliance Status Report must be submitted by October 19, 2014.**

**Small Business Environmental Assistance Program**  
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