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Standard Practice for Labeling Cans of Consumer Spray Paint¹

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^{ε1} NOTE—Section 8 was added editorially in June 1991.

1. Scope

1.1 The purpose of this practice is to standardize a few terms and to provide a guide for stating warnings and directions on labels of consumer spray paints.

1.2 *This standard does not purport to address all of the safety problems, if any, associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user of this standard to establish appropriate safety and health practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.*

2. Referenced Document

2.1 ASTM Standard:

D 3064 Definitions of Terms and Nomenclature Relating to Aerosol Products²

3. Significance and Use

3.1 Information on the proper way to use spray paint will help ensure product satisfaction through safe use and proper application. This information can be imparted most effectively by use on the labels of the same terms and directions for use (where possible) by all manufacturers.

4. Terminology

4.1 *Definitions*—For definitions related to aerosol products refer to Definitions D 3064.

5. Requirements

5.1 Spray paint products are subject to mandatory labeling requirements under the Federal Hazardous Substances Act and certain other laws and regulations.

6. Recommendations

6.1 In addition to the warnings and net weight statements required, emphasis should be given to warning statements on the back panel in a simplified sequence and in paragraph format, such as shown in the following sample:

WARNING: KEEP FROM HEAT, SPARKS AND OPEN FLAME. Contents under pressure. DO NOT PUNCTURE, INCINERATE (BURN), OR STORE ABOVE 120°F. Exposure to heat or prolonged exposure to sun may cause bursting. Contains (solvent). Use only with adequate ventilation. Avoid contact with eyes, pro-

longed or repeated contact with skin, or continuous breathing of vapors or spray mist. In case of eye contact, immediately flush thoroughly with water and get medical attention. **INTENTIONAL MISUSE BY DELIBERATELY CONCENTRATING AND INHALING THE CONTENTS CAN BE HARMFUL OR FATAL.**

KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN.

6.2 The following terms are recommended in place of the traditional ones:

Traditional	Recommended
actuator	spray button
agitator(s)	mixing ball(s)
invert	turn upside down
incinerate	always use the word "burn" after the word "incinerate"
orifice	opening

6.3 It is recommended that the following terms not be used on spray paint labels: (1) valve, (2) dip tube, and (3) siphon tube.

7. Directions (or Instructions) for Safe Use and Proper Application

7.1 The following directions (or instructions) are recommended and should be presented in the numerical sequence shown, rather than in block paragraph form:

7.1.1 Make sure surface is free of dirt, grease, etc.

7.1.2 Use drop cloth or newspapers to protect surrounding areas from spray mist.

7.1.3 For best results, use only when can temperature is between 65°F and 90°F.

NOTE—Specific numbers may change slightly depending on manufacturer's formulation.

7.1.4 SHAKE CAN vigorously for at least one minute after mixing ball rattles to ensure color uniformity and prevent clogging.

NOTE—Omit this statement when product does not contain a mixing ball. As an alternative to changing the copy of some labels, a mixing ball may be used in all products.

7.1.5 Point opening of spray button toward object, holding can 12 to 14 inches from surface to be painted.

NOTE—Specific numbers may change slightly depending on manufacturer's formulation.

7.1.6 Press spray button firmly. Use steady, even strokes while spraying.

7.1.7 Several thin coats give a better finish than one heavy coat.

NOTE—Manufacturer may add recoat directions at his discretion.

¹ This practice is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D-10 on Packaging and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D10.32 on Consumer Packages.

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² Annual Book of ASTM Standards, Vol 15.09.