

WASTE PAINT SCHEME PROPOSALS SET TO PROCEED TO THE AUSTRALIAN COMPETITION AND CONSUMER COMMISSION

Since the 2013 listing of waste architectural and decorative paints as a priority product under the Product Stewardship Act 2011, the National Paint Product Stewardship Implementation Working Group has been working to create a voluntary product stewardship program for waste paint.

Following the endorsement of the APMF Business Plan, at the recent Working Group Meeting, the APMF is now preparing to lodge an application for a Waste Paint Product Stewardship Scheme with the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC).

Once lodged, ACCC will take six months to evaluate the proposed Scheme under its "public benefits test".

The Scheme will apply to both retail and trade painters. Richard Phillips, Executive Director of the APMF, states that "the Scheme was always intended to assume industry responsibility for domestic waste paint and to fill the void for trade painters, who do not currently have an accessible avenue to dispose of their unwanted paints and containers".

The Scheme will be funded by a 15 cent/litre levy on certain retail and trade paint products, sold in container sizes above one litre.

The target commencement date is 2 May 2016.

Mr Phillips also stated that "The Scheme will be operated by a new independent organisation called PaintCare Australia. It is expected that this new body will be incorporated in the second half of the year, with a CEO appointed at around the same time".

Mr Phillips further commented "The progress we have made could not have occurred without strong partnership between manufacturers', retailers', Governments' and the Master Painters' Association".

Mr Mark Amos has said "The Master Painters' Association of Australia are proud to be supporting the APMF and the National Working Group towards developing a National Product Stewardship Program for Waste Architectural and Decorative Paint".

Over the coming 15 months, the APMF and the Master Painters' Association will continue to work together with the Commonwealth and other State Governments to launch the national program in 2016.

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