

**Ireland has regulations governing installations and activities using organic solvents (including vehicle refinishers and dry cleaners), these are:**

European Union (Paints, Varnishes, Vehicle Refinishing Products and Activities) Regulations 2012, S.I. No. 564 of 2012, commonly referred to as the Deco-Paint Regulations, & (Amendment) Regulations 2024, S.I. No. 356 of 2024

European Union (Installations and Activities Using Organic Solvents) Regulations 2012, S.I. No. 565 of 2012, Commonly referred to as the Solvents Regulations, & (Amendment) Regulations 2024, S.I. No. 357 of 2024

These regulations are relevant to operators in the Dry Cleaning and Vehicle Refinishing sectors using organic solvents and for certain Industrial solvent use activities, which are not licenced by the Environmental Protection Agency, but fall within the scope of the Solvent Regulations.

The Regulations aim to prevent or reduce direct and indirect effects of emissions of volatile organic compounds (VOC's) into the environment and the potential risks to human health by providing measures and procedures to be implemented for specified activities.

Operators who come under the scope of *the Regulations* must hold an up-to-date Certificate of compliance from the Local Authority.

Instances of non-compliance with this legislation may result in a fixed payment notice (on-the-spot fine) of up to €1000. To avoid a fixed payment notice, you must be registered with your local authority for a valid Certificate of Compliance. Please refer to the above legislation for a list of activities that require a certificate.

**To acquire a Certificate of Compliance:**

- ▶ The business/trader shall secure the service of an Approved Assessor (AA) and pay for the inspection and report. The AA shall determine the compliance of the operator with the requirements of the regulations and will issue a compliance report to the operator.
- ▶ The report shall be forwarded to Wexford County Council by the owner/operator with a completed application form and the appropriate fee.
- ▶ An application for a renewal of a certificate of compliance must be made at least 28 days prior to its expiry date.
- ▶ Certificates of compliance may be issued for a period of up to 3 years. However, certificates of a shorter duration may be issued if Wexford County Council has concerns about a specific installation (including failure to renew certificates in time).

**The only approved assessor currently operating in Ireland is:**

**Synergy Environmental Ltd t/a DNV**

**Address:** Block 71, The Plaza, Park West, Dublin 12, D12F9TN, Ireland

**Telephone:** +353 1 565 4730

**Email:** [bes.aa@dnv.com](mailto:bes.aa@dnv.com) (Dedicated approved assessor e-mail)

**Web:** <https://www.dnv.com/energy/services/biodiversity-and-environment/>

**Certificate of Compliance Fee Information**

- 1. New applications: €70**
- 2. Renewal applications: €50**

Where a renewal application is not submitted prior to the expiration of the Certificate of Compliance, the subsequent application will be considered as a 'New' application and therefore, is subject to the higher fee.

Further information is available from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) website at the links below:

- [Decorative Paints Information](#)
- [Solvents Information](#)
- [Best Practice Guide – Dry Cleaners 2013](#)
- [Best Practice Guide – Vehicle Refinishers 2013](#)