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Newsletter Content

Headlines

- **Chinese Government Tightens the Control of Volatile Organic Compounds**
- **China' s Big Push on Household Waste Segregation**

Latest Standards

About Anew

Anew is a professional firm that provides consulting services in environmental health and safety along with general services in energy conservation engineering. Our team is comprised of top scientists, engineers, and consultants. We are dedicated to cultivating international and local advanced technology and management practices. Through our expertise, we are able to provide the finest services to leading multinational corporations, governments, and international organizations in China and other regions.

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Chinese Government Tightens the Control of Volatile Organic Compounds

China has historically lagged global standards on VOC emission control, however recent policy developments indicate that China is stepping-up. Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) contribute significantly to the formation of ground-level ozone and particulate matter, and thus have become a top priority of the Government's recent air pollution rectification targets.

China began to set some VOC emission controls in 2012, with more serious efforts beginning in 2017 with the release of the Work Plan for VOC Prevention and Control within the 13th Five-Year Plan. This comprehensive national plan for VOC management identifies priority regions and industries, as well as setting emission reduction goals for each of the priority industries to achieve by the end of 2020.

Developments towards stricter regulation on VOCs emission continues to the present day. In 2018, the Chinese government issued the 3-Year Action Plan titled 'Winning Back the Blue-Sky Challenge', and in 2019 the 'Comprehensive VOC Treatment Program' for Priority Industries was announced. The 2018 Blue Sky Challenge has become the leading VOC emission reduction policy under the National Air Pollution Control Strategy.



Key measures of the Blue-Sky Challenge include:

- Promote the substitution of high VOC materials with low or zero VOC materials;
- Update existing VOC standards and set new VOC standards in more industries and manufacturing processes;
- Strengthen regulatory VOC emission inspection and enforcement;
- Update and improve VOC control technologies; and,
- Improve VOC management and oversight both by industries and government agencies.

The standard for Fugitive Emission of Volatile Organic Compounds' (GB 37822-2019) was issued in May 2019. This important standard sets specific requirements for fugitive VOC emissions from storage, transfer and transportation of VOC-containing materials, manufacturing

processes, leaks from equipment and pipelines, and open liquids. The standard mandates that materials with > 10% mass ratio of VOCs must be used either in an enclosed equipment system or in an enclosed area. If it is not possible, then a VOC emission collection system must be installed where the material is used. If the initial VOC emission rate from the VOC collection system is ≥ 3 kg/h (in key areas ≥ 2 kg/h), then a VOC abatement system must be installed with a minimum of 80% treatment efficiency. VOC monitoring requirements for facility fence-lines and nearby areas remain unchanged from existing regulations. The effective date of the Standard for new businesses is July 1, 2019 and is July 1, 2020 for existing businesses.



In addition to setting more regulations on VOC emissions, the Chinese government also set strict regulations for VOCs in material in several major industries in the last few years. These include the Emission Standards of Air Pollutants for Paint, Ink and Adhesive Industry (GB 37824-2019) and four VOC content limits in the material which were

regulations are set to limit or even ban the production and use of some high VOC-containing solvent-based coatings, inks, paint, and adhesives. The four new regulations limiting VOC content in materials are having a significant impact on the electronic industry. The goal is to reduce total VOC emissions from the industry supply chains by > 10% of the 2015 industry baseline by the manufacturing companies are conducting internal assessments of all VOC-containing materials in their own facilities and in their supply chains, and are working to find material substitutions with lower VOC content, indicating a big change in material selection for many electronic products. The effective dates of the four VOC content limit standards are set in the 4th quarter of 2020. Anew has worked with several clients in conducting VOC material surveys in their supply chains.

To reach the air quality improvement goal set forth in the 13th Five-Year Plan, the Chinese government issued the 2020 Volatile Organic Compounds Governance Challenge Plan on June 24, 2020. There's no doubt that VOC source reduction and emission control will remain a hot environmental topic in China for a long time and the government will continue to set more stringent regulations in an effort to fight air pollution in China.

highlighted in our previous newsletters. These

China's Big Push on Household Waste Segregation



Household Waste Segregation has been all over the news and social media channels across China since Shanghai 'canned' their old waste management laws last July in favor of a new sorting system. The city's 24 million permanent residents are now required to sort their garbage into four designated categories and can only dispose of their sorted garbage at designated times every day.

In the lead up to the new regulations, thousands of instructors conducted training sessions to help prepare Shanghai to take out the trash in a way they never had before. Although the new laws created many challenges as residents adapt, cities across the country have caught the scent of Shanghai's new rules, promulgating and enforcing household waste management systems of their own. Changsha and Tianjin are two cities that recently amended their own household waste

Changsha and Tianjin are just the beginning, with the national plan from the Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development proposing the establishment of similar household waste sorting systems in 46 pilot cities by the end of 2020. Furthermore, all 300 cities at or above the prefecture-level are expected to implement similar systems by 2025.

The 2020 revision of the regulation responsible for these cities' swift changes to their waste management systems (Prevention and Control of Environment Pollution Caused by Solid Wastes 2020 Revision) has been touted as the strictest environmental rule in China's history. Beyond urban residents, all businesses and institutions in these cities must also comply with the municipal waste sorting regulations within their business boundaries. Those who fail to adequately segregate their household waste and refuse to correct it will face fines and tickets up to 500,000 yuan (73,500 US dollars).

China's latest push toward sorting household waste puts it at the forefront of the global waste-recycling race. Germany currently holds the title for the country with the most detailed and stringent method for sorting household waste, with no less than 7 separate bins. South Korea has

regulations in June.

including the neighborhood-watch reporting system for people to report on those who do not comply, facing fines up to one million won. These comparisons may make China' s incoming rules seem simple in comparison, but they have the potential to change the way the world looks at China' s waste management. Whether Chinese citizens embrace or reject the new regulations will be the key to its future success.

also set a global example for waste sorting,



Latest Standards

[Back to Top](#)






Standard No.	Standard Name	Release Date	Effective Date
National Standard			
GB 21148-2020	Foot protection — Safety footwear	2020-07-23	2021-08-01
GB 20653-2020	Protective clothing—High visibility warning clothing for professional use	2020-07-23	2021-08-01
GB 8965.1-2020	Protective clothing — Flame retardant protective clothing	2020-07-23	2021-08-01
GB/T 38923-2020	Classification and code of textile waste	2020-06-02	2021-01-01
GB/T 38966-2020	Assessment requirements for water stewardship	2020-06-02	2021-01-01
GB/T 38696.1-2020	Eye and face protection—Intense light sources(non-laser) protector—Part 1: Technical requirements	2020-06-02	2021-01-01
GB/T 38696.2-2020	Eye and face protection—Intense light sources(non-laser) protector—Part 2: Guidance for use	2020-06-02	2021-01-01
GB/T 12624-2020	Hand protection—General test methods	2020-07-21	2021-05-01
GB/T 31009-2020	Foot protection—Critical substance requirements and test methods for footwear	2020-07-21	2021-02-01
Industry Standard			

WS/T 699-2020		Hand Hygiene Standards in Crowd Gathering Places	2020-07-20	2020-07-20
Local Standard				
Hebei	DB13/T 5215-2020	General Technical Guidelines for the Magnetic Degradation of Organic Solid Waste	2020-06-28	2020-07-28
Jiangsu	DB32/T 3846-2020	Technical Specifications for the Safe Operation of Lead-Acid Batteries in Enterprises and Institutions	2020-07-29	2020-08-29
Jiangsu	DB32/T 3847-2020	Technical Specifications for the Smart Safety Monitoring System of Power Use Places	2020-07-29	2020-08-29
Jiangsu	DB32/T 3848-2020	Safety Operation Specification in Limited Space	2020-07-29	2020-08-29
Jiangsu	DB32/ 3814-2020	Emission Standard of Air Pollutants for Automobile Maintenance Industry	2020-07-03	2021-02-01
Tianjin	DB12/T 949-2020	Technical Standards for the Internet of Things Monitoring System for Fire Fighting Facilities	2020-06-29	2020-08-01
Zhejiang	DB33/ 2260-2020	Electroplating Water Pollutant Discharge Standard	2020-06-10	2020-07-01






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Compliance Audit

Due Diligence

IPE Record Removal

Environmental Site
Assessment

VOCs Treatment

Green Supply Chain

Energy Conservation

EHS Management

EHS Regulatory Service

Water Conservation and
Wastewater Treatment

