ERA issues update regarding VOC regulations

The EPDM Roofing Association (ERA) is alerting the roofing industry to new information concerning volatile organic compound (VOC) regulation implementation dates in the Northeast and mid-Atlantic states. Specifically, VOC regulations in the District of Columbia, Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Vermont will not be made effective in time for implementation this year.

VOCs found in adhesives and sealants used in the roofing industry are regulated because high VOC emission levels may contribute to ground-level ozone formation. As part of its effort to achieve federally mandated standards in the Northeast and mid-Atlantic states, the Ozone Transport Commission developed a model rule for adhesives and sealants based on regulations used in California. However, because the conditions and practices differ significantly from those in the Northeast and mid-Atlantic states, ERA has begun an intensive campaign to inform individual state regulators about these differences and ask them to modify the regulations.

Based on ERA’s concerns, several states have incorporated a seasonal implementation schedule into draft regulations and others have drafted language to incorporate a seasonal implementation schedule into their final regulations.

For up-to-date, accurate listings of the regulations and their implementation schedules, visit www.epdmroofs.org.