

What does it cost?

The charge for member shops is \$500.00 (plus taxes) and non-members are charged \$750.00 (plus taxes) for completion of a CofA.

If the shop does not qualify for the simplified screening approval the ES&DM process must be used and cost is an additional \$800.00 - \$900.00

The province will charge a fee of \$400.00 for each emission source stack and an additional \$200.00 administrative charge for each application. Shops using more than 8 litres an hour (truck shops) have a higher fee. Incomplete or complex applications may need additional work and costs applied. Less than 2% of our files need a sound analysis, if their fans are within 5 metres of a school or institutional building and that needs to be handled by an audio specialist .



What's your experience?

The association has successfully worked on over 500 applications since 2001 and has piloted this new screening model for over 2 years before presenting the workshops across Ontario in 2009 explaining the new process.

See www.autobodyhelp.ca for more information.

Are there some cautions I should beware of?

Government inspectors will or may issue an order against you. Do not panic. Call us at 1-866-309-4272 for help. Do not ignore the order- it is a warning that you must get a CofA within a specific time frame. If you have legitimate delays or problems we can request an extension of the order date and have always received it.

Do not get misled into thinking that you must pay thousands of dollars to obtain this Certificate of Approval from private consultants.

Your association has more experience and is much less expensive. Be careful. A number of consultants do not even know that an inexpensive screening tool for autobody shop applications is now available.

Your Guide to Waterborne or Other Paints and New Rules in Ontario

Your Auto Refinish Paints and Staying Paint "Legal" in Ontario For Less.

Shops across Ontario are being issued officer and offense orders from Ministry of Environment inspectors.

Usually the problem for the shop and the reason for the provincial order being issued is the failure of the collision repair, auto body or auto refinishing shop to possess an up-to-date Certificate of Approval.

- A Certificate of Approval (CofA) is required for the air emissions from autobody shops as per Section 9 of the Environmental Protection Act
- An amended CofA is required when autobody shops make modifications (such as switching to new lower VOC coatings, installing new fans, or adding new booths)
- Until April 15, 2009 the application process required every applicant to perform emission calculations and dispersion modelling to assess compliance of facility emissions against MOE requirements.

For almost two years, your association has been working with the Ministry in the piloting of a more simplified and cheaper application process and the applications are now available for most shops in Ontario, starting mid-April, 2009.

This new application process can be done by the shop online or they can use the association to handle the Certificate of Approval processing.

If you are changing paints to a water-base paint product you MUST have a Certificate of Approval or an amended Certificate of Approval for the use of those paints.

Shops are reporting being called by consultants urging them to pay as much as \$1200 or more for the application processing. (Your association charges one third of that fee)

DO NOT be misled by this attempt to get you to pay more. Full details and the data form and online package are available at www.autobodyhelp.ca as is the Ministry of Environment Powerpoint explanation of the new easier process.

What do I need to do?

If you do not have a CofA for your spraybooth or possess an older CofA that is for solvent paints only and you plan or have changed to waterborne paint use, you need to obtain an Ontario Ministry of Environment CofA.

How do I get a CofA?

You can access www.autobodyhelp.ca and read the sections on the new process including a Powerpoint presentation from the Ministry. Most shops in Ontario will be eligible for this new process. Many shops simply let their trade association handle the work by calling 1 866 309 4272 or info@autobodyhelp.ca. Once the shop has supplied the data that is required is inputted into the screening tool, the application can be forwarded online to the Ministry, however within 5 days that completed signed copy of the CofA along with documentation must be mailed to the Ministry.

What if I don't qualify for the simplified screening tool process?

About 70% of shops will qualify to use the screening tool as it is designed for a medium sized shop, with normal neighbours. If there is unusual data from your shop, for instance, using too much paint, too close to your lot line or distance separation problems from your neighbours then you may need to use the old process, called ES&DM.

This does not mean you can not obtain a CofA- it means the process is more elaborate and time consuming. It also costs more and the association office can help you with this as an engineer needs to be retained and a series of measurements are required for each chemical in the products you are using or planning to use.

How long does it take?

Generally a complete data list from a shop can be screened within few days and the results reported back to the shop. An application can be submitted once documentation is received (usually two weeks) and then the application is publicly posted on the government's web site for 30 days and a Certificate issued 2-3 weeks later.

What if the shop name or ownership changes?

The Certificate is issued for the physical facility. An ownership or name of shop change is a small administrative matter that your association can perform for you.

However, if the physical activity in the shop changes (i.e. another or new booth or wall extension for instance) then an amended Certificate is required.

Does the City require a CofA?

Technically the CofA is a provincial requirement, however, a number of cities (i.e. - Toronto) will not issue a business license to operate a shop unless you first have obtained the Certificate .

