Paint Safety Checklist

Are spray finishing booths in compliance?  
- Spray booths meet all design specifications?  
- No open flames or spark-producing equipment?  
- Ventilating/exhaust systems meet standard?  
- Proper storage of flammable liquids?  
- Proper water sprinklers?  
- Electrostatic spraying equipment complies with regulations?  
- Drying, curing, fusion apparatus is to standard?  
- Required conditions are met for:  
  - powder-coating operations?  
  - operations involving organic peroxides and other dual-component coatings?  
- Respirators used as required?

Do workers understand potential hazards?  
- Rashes, swelling, etc. from short-term skin contact?  
- Eye irritation; sore throat, cough, running nose; nausea, fatigue, dizziness, flu-like symptoms from short-term inhalation?  
- Liver, kidney, lung, digestive system, central nervous system damage from long-term or massive exposure?  
- Sensitization (skin or respiratory) to any future exposure from long-term or massive exposure?  
- Fire from exposure to ignition source, especially with inadequate ventilation?  
- Explosion, especially if closed container exposed to high heat?  
- Reactivity from mixing with or exposure to other substances, including water?

Do workers know how to prevent health and safety problems?  
- Check label and SDS for ingredients, hazards, preventive procedures, and equipment?  
- Wear recommended protective clothing that fully covers skin?
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- Wear gloves that resist specific paint ingredients?
- Wear eye/face protection if recommended?
- Wear respirators when required?
- Use protective skin creams when appropriate?
- Ventilate painting area?
- Use water-based paints when possible?
- Don’t mix paints with other substances without approval?
- Keep paints away from ignition sources?
- Don’t smoke in paint use or storage areas?
- Keep paint containers closed and tightly sealed when not in use?
- Don’t use paint from an unlabeled container?
- Use ventilation and protective equipment when scraping or removing old paint to prevent lead exposure?
- Store paint in areas with moderate temperatures, away from ignition sources and incompatible materials?
- Wash up thoroughly before eating or smoking?
- Remove paint from skin according to manufacturers recommendations—never use solvents or thinners?
- Contain and clean up any spills immediately, according to SDS and company instructions?
- Dispose of empty paint cans promptly in proper receptacles?

Do workers know first-aid procedures for hazardous exposure?
- Move inhalation victim to fresh air immediately; give oxygen or artificial respiration, if needed?
- Remove contaminated clothing after skin contact and wash body with soap and water?
- After eye contact, flush eyes with warm water for at least 15 minutes and get immediate medical attention?