



## Managing Air Quality

Air pollutants in the automotive industry, including fumes, gases, dust and smoke can have a detrimental effect on the environment and health of employees.

Air pollutants from a vehicle are regarded as excessive if visible smoke or exhaust is emitted continuously for longer than 10 seconds.

### REDUCING AIR POLLUTANTS

Air pollutants and associated health and environmental risks can be reduced by:

- Ensuring good ventilation in the workshop.
- Limiting engine operating times.
- Ensuring volatile liquids (such as solvents, paints and thinners) are stored correctly.
- Using water based cleaning fluids where possible.
- Ensuring dust extraction systems are in place and used in accordance with operating procedures.
- Using a damp cloth or mist spray vacuum cleaner to clean brakes instead of compressed air.
- Ensuring any dust that has been picked up is stored in a sealed container (e.g. bag or box) to prevent dust escaping.

Consult with your employees to make them aware of these practices and seek their input for further ways to reduce air pollutants.

### PENALTIES

It is an offence to cause environmental harm, which can include air pollution related to dusts and odours through the inefficient operation or maintenance of equipment or handling of materials.

Depending on the degree of pollution, there are significant penalties that may apply to a business or individual who causes environmental harm.

### FURTHER INFORMATION

The MTA is dedicated to assisting with all your environmental needs including which business may be able to assist you with your environmental requirements. If you have any queries, please contact the MTA on [environmental@mta-sa.asn.au](mailto:environmental@mta-sa.asn.au).

To further improve your business's environmental performance, the Green Stamp accreditation has been specifically developed for the automotive industry, for more information contact the WR team on 8291 2000.