

Risborough & District Model Railway Club

Founded 1971 President – Tim Peacock
Registered Charity No. 1173659
Clubroom - Princes Risborough Community Centre

www.rdmrc.org.uk / www.railex.org.uk

Affiliated to The Model Railway Club
Member of the Chiltern Model Railway Association



Risk Assessment – Organic Solvents

During construction of plastic models, we use organic solvents for assembly, painting and cleaning: The substances we use include:

Butanone (Methyl Ethyl Ketone)

Plastic Weld (Methylene Chloride, dichloromethane)

Liquid Poly (Butyl Acetate)

MEK PAK (mixed Chlorinated solvents)

Limonene

White Spirit

Propan-2-ol (Iso Propyl Alcohol, IPA)

Cellulose Thinners

Etc

Users should only use solvents that are currently allowed for general use and must avoid the more aggressive or toxic substances that may have been permitted in the past. This would include solvents such as Carbon Tetrachloride, Chloroform, etc.

These solvents should be kept in suitable bottles which are correctly labelled, ideally the manufacturers bottles. The manufacturers bottles for assembly solvents are typically 28ml to 60ml, while white spirit and similar are up to 1l.

Keeping the solvent bottle in a stand to prevent spillage during use is recommended.

Material Safety Data Sheets should be kept on the club website and in the club folder in the clubroom.

If organic solvent based paints are to be sprayed, ventilation or extraction should be provided.

Due to the small quantities we use, these solvents are unlikely to pose a significant risk. The only issue would be if a bottle is spilt. In this case the room should be well ventilated and the solvent absorbed onto paper towels. These should then be placed outside so the solvent can evaporate or sealed in plastic bags and put in the waste skip not in the kitchen bin.

14/11/17

Paul Wright

Revision 1