

## Schubert Article 'Surface Finishing Magazine' 2004

### Kill and Cure.

The attributes of the Schubox System for drying and curing lacquers and paints are well known. With installations at home and abroad, ranging from the simple standard trolley-fed box to sophisticated high-capacity lines with auto-spray machines and robots, the Schubox System with Catalytic I.R. is the acknowledged market leader.

The system works equally well with solvent or water borne materials. With the latter, there is often reluctance by the end-user to switch over even though the EPA discourages the use of solvents to cut down harmful emissions.

Schuberts have announced a major break through in VOC abatement with an optional 'add-on' to new and existing catalytic installations which 'kills off' VOC emissions prior to extraction to atmosphere. This treatment can occur in the Schubox during drying, but most importantly, can be applied in a flash-off chamber prior to going into the box. At this stage the largest amount of VOC can be treated. During the process, the harmful VOC's are converted to water vapour and a small amount of carbon dioxide, very similar to the catalytic converter in a motorcar.

For the record, the catalytic emitters used in all Schubox systems are the only units to fully comply with the new ATEX safety rules and regulations for potentially explosive atmospheres.

It is worth noting that the use of 'green' systems can warrant financial incentives from various government agencies. For example, a recent conversion of an existing electric IR line to Schubox gas catalytic IR warranted an interest-free loan from the 'Carbon Trust' based upon clean emittences and much reduced energy consumption. The line speed also increased by 40% and full cure 'ready to stack' was also achieved. Truly kill and cure.

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