

**Panel on Environmental Affairs**

**Reply to the follow-up action raised in the meeting of**  
**28 November 2016**

**In the meeting of 28 November 2016 discussing the “Proposal to control volatile organic compounds ("VOC") in fountain solutions and printing machine cleansing agents”, the Administration raised the follow-up action and replies as follows:**

**The Panel requested the Administration to supplement information on the prescribed VOC content limits respectively for fountain solutions and printing machine cleansing agents under the existing regulatory regime of the Mainland, comparing to the proposed limits of 80 grams per litre ("g/l") and 500 g/l respectively for the said sources in Hong Kong.**

The Guangdong Provincial Government issued the "Emission standard of volatile organic compounds for printing industry" (DB44 / 815-2010) in 2010, which stipulates VOC content limits for printing inks and the VOC emission limits for the printing processes, the management requirements for controlling VOC emissions from the printing industry, as well as the associated monitoring methods. The standard however does not prescribe the VOC content limits for fountain solutions and printing machine cleansing agents.

Apart from enforcing the mandatory requirements, the Ministry of Environmental Protection of China has implemented a voluntary environmental labeling products scheme for printing since 2011 to encourage the use of more environmental friendly printing techniques and materials including low VOC fountain solutions and printing machine cleansing agents.

**Environmental Protection Department**  
**10 January 2017**