

# Information for Contractors

## Preventing the misuse of volatile substances

In Western Australia, there is ongoing concern about the misuse of volatile substances – particularly when they are used by young people. Sniffing volatile substances is a dangerous practice and can be fatal.

As a business consumer of volatile substance products, you may be an unintended source of supply for people who use these products for the purposes of intoxication. Volatile substances used for inhaling are often stolen from worksites, vehicles and local tips, so it is important that these substances are stored and transported securely, and disposed of in a responsible manner.

You can provide a great service to the community by limiting access to the following volatile substances:

### AEROSOLS

- Spray paint aerosol cans
- Other aerosols

### SOLVENTS

- Glues and adhesives – super glues, rubber cement
- Other solvents – toluene, paint strippers, degreasers and cleaning products
- Petrol

### GASES

- Butane – portable butane/propane cartridges used for camping stoves, soldering irons and flame torches.

Here are some things you can do to minimise volatile substance misuse:

<b>Use</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Where possible, use non-solvent based products and aerosols with alternative propellants</li> <li>• Use Opal fuel (where available). If you usually use unleaded fuel, top up your tank with Opal when you arrive at a community/town</li> <li>• Use diesel-powered equipment where Opal is not available</li> <li>• Make sure you know what volatile substance products are in your possession and check them before you leave a community/town</li> </ul>
<b>Store</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keep all volatile substance products and petrol powered equipment locked up and out of sight</li> </ul>
<b>Transport</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure your vehicle is locked at all times, especially when unattended</li> </ul>
<b>Disposal</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Take all used and unused volatile substance products with you when you leave a community/town</li> <li>• Ensure all volatile substance products are disposed of at secure sites not accessible to the general public</li> </ul>

### For more information:

- Alcohol and Drug Information Service (ADIS), a 24-hour drug and alcohol counselling and information service..... (toll free) **1800 198 024**
- FaHCSIA, South Hedland: Regional Coordinator Petrol Sniffing Strategy ..... **(08) 9138 3114**

### For police assistance:

- Police ..... **131 444**

### For emergencies:

- Ambulance or police ..... **000**



Australian Government



Government of Western Australia  
Drug and Alcohol Office

