

Printing

Trade Waste Guideline No. 31

INTRODUCTION

Trade waste discharges from Printers have the potential to adversely affect the sewerage system. Appropriate management practices at each site are therefore necessary. For the purpose of this Guideline, printing refers to the transfer of ink or similar pigment onto a surface such as paper, cardboard, cloth, metal or glass.

KEY TRADE WASTE QUALITY REQUIREMENTS

PARAMETER	GENERALLY ACCEPTED LEVEL
Suspended Solids	<500 mg/L average
Total Dissolved Solids	<1500 mg/L
pH	Between 6-10 units
Temperature	<38°C
Flow rate to sewer	Dependant on capacity of receiving sewer
Heavy Metals (e.g. Cd, Cu, Cr, Ni, Pb)	<10 mg/L

Note: Discharge limits may be varied under certain circumstances for individual dischargers.

BEST PRACTICE MANAGEMENT ASPECTS

- A register is maintained of all chemicals stored on site with their respective volumes.
- Incompatible reagents or waste products are segregated when stored.
- All worksite staff are familiar with Standard Operating Procedures for treatment of liquid wastes and spillages of all products and reactants.
- All chemical/solvent stores, process and waste tanks are bunded in accordance with [Trade Waste Bunding Guideline No. 4](#).
- All processing sinks have a raised edge to prevent bench-top chemical spills from flowing to sewer.

TYPICAL PRETREATMENT

- Only waste waters complying with [SA Water's Standards of Acceptance of Liquid Wastes](#) are discharged to sewer.
- Waste waters containing suspended solids discharge via a 225mm silt trap fitted with a mesh basket or perforated bucket having a hole/mesh size of 3mm or a channel fitted with removable screen(s) having a hole size of 3mm to an appropriately sized settling pit or other approved device.
- Where the metals concentration of waste waters exceeds SA Water's Standards of Acceptance, an approved metal precipitation or metal removal system is installed prior to discharge to sewer. See [Trade Waste Metal Finishing Guideline No. 8](#).
- Where waste waters are coloured, appropriate pre-treatment systems are installed to reduce the colour of waste water discharges to a level acceptable to the Trade Waste Branch.
- Waste waters from photographic processing are treated in accordance with [Trade Waste Photographic Guideline No. 1](#).

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- Where the pH of waste waters is outside the range of pH 6-10, an approved pH adjusting system is incorporated. This may be in association with heavy metal precipitation steps.
- Those waste waters, solvents, inks, process liquors and sludges not permitted to be discharged to sewer are stored in approved containers and/or blind tanks for removal by a licensed liquid waste contractor in accordance with [Trade Waste Blind Tank Guideline No. 3](#).

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Mains Water Protection (AS/NZS3500-2003 Part 1), [Trade Waste Batch Treatment Guideline No.17](#), [Trade Waste General Policy](#),

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