We all know about rising insurance rates and how accidents drive those rates even higher. Everyone talks about a safe shop, but how many of your paint shop technicians could pass the following test right now?

**EYE PROTECTION** – Does the technician wear OSHA approved safety goggles at all times in the shop?

**EAR PROTECTION** – Does the technician wear ear plugs or ear muffs in noisy areas or while performing noisy operations?

**GLOVES** – Does the technician wear solvent resistant gloves during painting and when handling chemicals?

**CLOTHING** – Does the technician wear snug fitting long sleeve garments without exposed buttons or zippers?

**SHOES** – Does the technician wear safety shoes in the shop at all times?

**RESPIRATORS** – Does the technician always wear a TC19C NIOSH/MSHA approved fresh air mask whenever working with hardeners or chemicals containing isocyanates? Also, does the technician always wear an approved charcoal respirator whenever working with other chemicals?
  - Are the face seals on all respirators airtight?
  - Are the respirator filters within their stated lifespan (including the time the filters are left open on the bench or in a locker)?)

If you can’t answer YES to all these questions, it may be time to follow up on your safety procedures and review them with your technicians.

For more specific information regarding paint safety for the materials used in your shop, contact your local jobber or paint manufacturers representative.