Controlled Spray – Laser Touch®

Laser Touch® is a tool that can improve spray technique, increasing the efficiency of material use and reducing waste, assuming a thorough controlled spray training program is in place. Mounted on a spray gun, the Laser Touch® unit has two laser beams that converge into one beam when the gun is properly positioned. Improved accuracy and consistency ensures material placement, maximizing transfer efficiency, and resulting in less waste produced. Fiberglas Fabricators found that they could reduce solid waste from open molding by nearly 28% if the tool was used in conjunction with controlled spray training. This translated to a potential savings of $23,700 in materials and decrease in landfill wastes of 20%.

Non-Atomized Application—Magnum Venus Fluid Impingement Technology (FIT)

FIT is a non-atomized application method that can reduce styrene emissions by 50% or more compared to conventional equipment. The resin or gelcoat exits the gun in two low-pressure streams which cross each other, creating a fan pattern. The application equipment can employ either internal or external mix, and chopped glass can be mixed into the fan pattern as it is applied. Coupled with the use of low styrene resins, Sunrise Fiberglass has reduced emissions by 16,000 pounds per year, down 43 percent from 1999 levels of 36,000.

At Fiberglas Fabricators, FIT was demonstrated to be effective in reducing styrene emissions in gelcoating applications. Reduced overspray led to a significant material savings of 5%, and styrene emissions during gelcoating were reduced by 35% as a result of nonatomized spray.