

Savogran:

The Savogran Company is a major manufacturer of removers, cleaners, solvents, and repair products for the DIY (do it yourself) retail trade. Savogran's manufacturing facility is located in Norwood, Massachusetts. Savogran uses methylene chloride as the active ingredient for two of their paint/varnish removers: Original Strypeeze® and Heavy duty SuperStrip®. Strypeeze® can be used for stripping paint, varnish, lacquer, and shellacs. SuperStrip® has a higher concentration of methylene chloride and can be used for stripping these as well as epoxy, polyurethanes, and marine finishes. Savogran is seeking assistance from UMass faculty to conduct research on alternative formulations to the traditional methylene chloride containing formulations for use in their paint/varnish removers. The alternative formulation would need to meet the following requirements:

1. Nonflammable
2. VOC content less than 50%
3. Efficacy across a wide range of coatings:
 - a. First priority for paint (oil, latex), varnish, lacquer, and shellacs
 - b. Second priority for above coatings plus epoxy, polyurethanes, and marine finishes
4. Effective on the following substrates: wood, metal, and masonry
5. Raw material cost less than \$0.70 per pound or less than \$5.00 per gallon
6. Will not stain wood or raise the wood grain
7. Adequate viscosity to cling to vertical surfaces

The results of this research will be of value to other companies also using methylene chloride for material stripping purposes. For further information about the research needs for this project, please contact Mark Monique the President of Savogran at: mmonique@savogran.com or (781) 762-5400.