

# Automotive body repair & paint shop energy usage/tips

## Energy use at a glance

- The biggest energy users for are:
  - Process uses - 40%
  - Lighting - 37%
  - VOC control - 13%
  - HVAC - 9%
- About 40% of the electricity used by auto body shops powers equipment – primarily motors – that drive compressors, fans and electric dryers.
- Electricity demand for a spray booth can be upwards of 18 kilowatts (kW).

## Tips and strategies to help you save

- Avoid wasting energy and improve performance by sealing all line leads or replacing high-pressure hoses.
- Consider staggered start-up every 15 minutes for equipment that uses significant amounts of electricity.
- Technologies that have the potential to reduce a operating costs in the future include electrostatic spray guns and ultraviolet curing.
- Spray Booths: Consider a single-stage compressor. Turn off other booths that are not in use and, when possible, stagger operation.
- Size compressors, as specified in the operation manual, appropriately and run only when needed. Be sure to put low-flow tips on air hoses and air guns before using to blow dust off after sanding.

Actual savings may vary and will depend on various factors, including geographic location, weather conditions, equipment installed, usage rates and similar factors.

