

Transparent and application-specific: LABS classification to VDMA 24364

FESTO



To prevent paint defects caused by paint-wetting impairment substances (LABS) in production, car manufacturers have long been implementing their own test instructions and standards. The VDMA Specification 24364, a cross-company set of rules, is now available for the first time and describes requirements for testing, classification and identification. Festo supports this initiative with an appropriate classification of its products.

New allocation by zones and product groups

Application-specific identification

In order to restrict or rule out paint-wetting impairment substances depending on the area of application, industry experts working in cooperation with the Fraunhofer IPA and the Surface Technology department of the VDMA have created application-specific test criteria. The decisive factor is therefore where a product is used and whether it comes into contact with a paint, solvent or surfaces to be painted.



Paint defects – caused by paint-wetting impairment substances

You, too, will benefit from this: in future you will be able to select our products even more precisely for your application using the VDMA identification system.

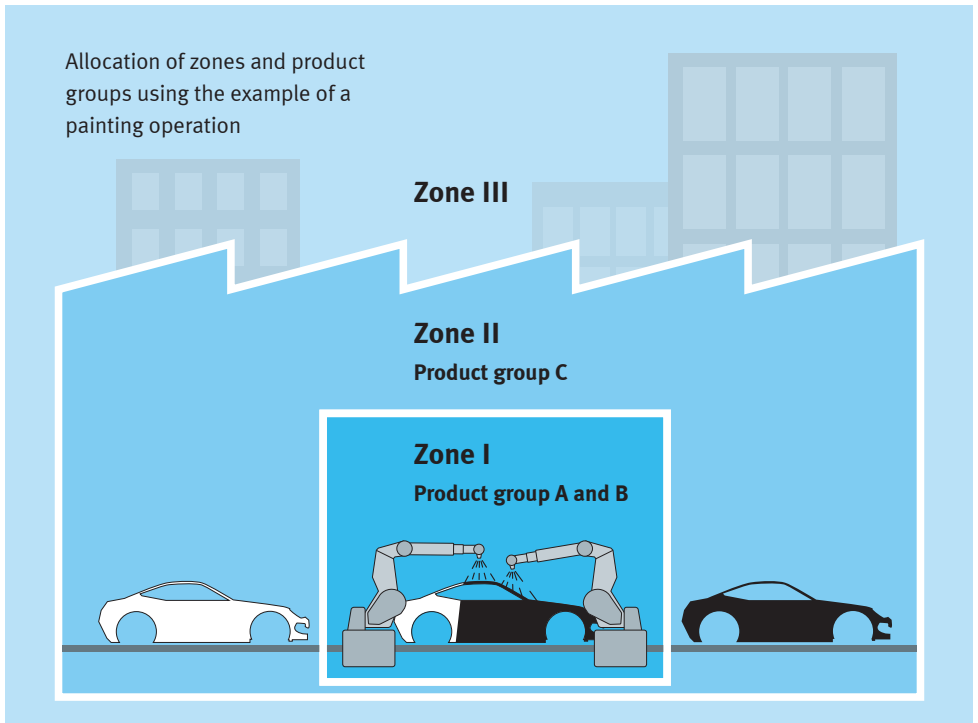
Definition of zones

Zones define areas of equivalent LABS relevance in painting operations. The following system of zones can be used to assess the LABS relevance and thus the test requirements for products according to their intended use in painting operations.

Zone	Description	LABS relevance*
I	Includes all areas of pretreatment, paint application and drying as well as surfaces that come into contact with media (e.g. paint and compressed air supply)	High
II	Is located within the painting production area, but outside zone I	Medium
III	Is located within the operational area, but outside the painting production area	None

* Groups of stationary products can generally be allocated to a zone, but this should be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. Mobile products can in principle be used in different zones.

Allocation of zones and product groups using the example of a painting operation



Allocation of product groups to zones

The product group can be selected based on where the product is used and to which zone it has been allocated. It establishes the application reference for the LABS test and thus forms the basis for selecting the test category. Product groups S and T cannot be allocated to a zone.

Product group*	Description
A	Products with direct contact with paint or solvent, including suction grippers for lifting body parts ahead of painting. Examples of Festo components: OGVM, VAS, VASB, ESG, ESH, ESS and ES
B	Products with indirect contact with paint or solvent, including compressed air components (e.g. air filters). Examples of Festo components: MS series, valve terminals MPA and VTSA, cylinders DSBC and DSNU
C	Products that do not come under A and B, including all the control components for the painting process, air ventilation components (e.g. air filters, fire shutters) as well as other products conveying air. Relevant for future product developments at Festo

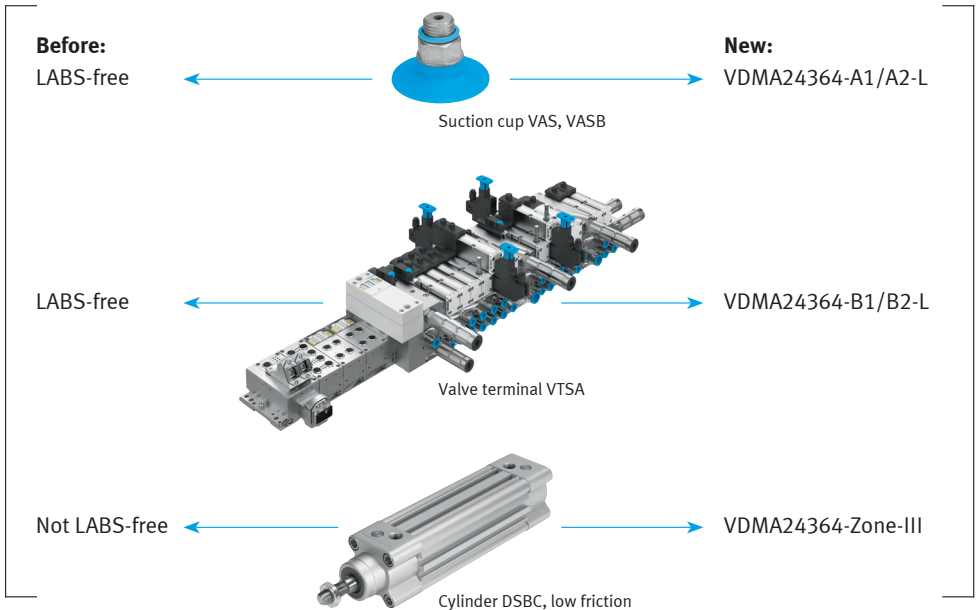
* See VDMA Specification 24364 for product groups S and T

Greater transparency for you

New classification to VDMA 24364

In future Festo will classify its products according to VDMA 24364 based on their application and intended use. The classification of the existing products will be completed by the start of 2022 and will be visible for you in all data sheets and catalogues.

Classification examples:



Further information available on request.

VDMA Specifications are available from Beuth Verlag. VDMA member companies can, however, also download them free of charge for internal use in the member area of the VDMA website. They can be found there in the Database for Technical Rules (DATeR).

The accompanying practical guide is available to download at ot.vdma.org