

## **Festool USA Statement on HEPA Vacuums and EPA RRP**

In April 2008 the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) enacted a rule regarding Lead paint know as Renovation, Repair, and Painting (RRP), 40 CFR Part 745. This rule covers the practices of renovation such as sanding, cutting, and demolition that may disturb surfaces containing lead-based paint, which has been found to be harmful to adults and children. Any firm performing renovation, repair, or painting projects that disturbs lead-based paint in pre-1978 homes, child care facilities, and schools must be trained and certified by EPA-approved training providers.

The EPA RRP guidelines outline many practices related to the above activities. Some of those practices require the use of "HEPA exhaust control" and "HEPA vacuums". The specific guidance of the RRP defines a "HEPA vacuum" with this verbiage:

'HEPA vacuum means a vacuum cleaner which has been designed with a high-efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filter as the last filtration stage. A HEPA filter is a filter that is capable of capturing particles of 0.3 microns with 99.97% efficiency. The vacuum cleaner must be designed so that all the air drawn into the machine is expelled through the HEPA filter with none of the air leaking past it'.

Festool has exhaustively tested its CT Dust Extractors to the strictest standards (IES RP-CC-002, IES-RP-CC-0034.1) to ensure that our units not only filter particles to 0.3 microns with 99.97% efficiency, but also that the seal between the filter and the vacuum does not allow for bypass leakage. We feel that this measure was important, not only to follow the letter of the definition but also to ensure the highest level of protection for the user. Effective October 2011, all Festool CT Dust Extractors (CT MINI, CT MIDI, CT 26, CT 36, & CT 48) will be shipped as Certified Full Unit HEPA Dust Extractors, in accordance with these standards.

**To maintain Full Unit Certification on any Festool CT Dust Extractor (CT MINI, CT MIDI, CT 26, CT 36, & CT 48), the customer must use a Festool branded HEPA filter, following manufacturer guidelines on service and replacement.**

For more information, please visit <http://rrphepavac.com> or call 1-888-337-8600.