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Rutgers Experts Available to Discuss How Robots Measure Chemical Exposure

New Brunswick, N.J. (Jan. XX, 2020) – Robots that apply paint can collect data on potentially harmful contaminants, according to a Rutgers-led study in the *Journal of Exposure Science & Environmental Epidemiology*.

To study human exposure to chemicals, researchers at Rutgers University and ExxonMobil Biomedical Sciences had a robot paint drywall and measure the compounds released as paint dries, which creates the "fresh-paint smell."

The findings showed that the levels of volatile organic chemicals measured by the robot were consistent with modeled estimates for painting with water-based paint.

Going forward, robots would allow industrial hygienists, exposure scientists and other health science professionals to collect data on contaminants released from consumer products during painting, welding, cleaning and other human tasks.

The study: https://www.nature.com/articles/s41370-019-0190-x

YouTube video (2017): https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qwztLRiAtfk

For interviews with the Rutgers researchers, contact Todd Bates at todd.bates@rutgers.edu

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***Broadcast interviews**: Rutgers University has broadcast-quality TV and radio studios available for remote live or taped interviews with Rutgers experts. For more information, contact Neal Buccino at neal.buccino@echo.rutgers.edu*

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Rutgers University–New Brunswick is where Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey, began more than 250 years ago. Ranked among the world's top 60 universities, Rutgers's flagship is a leading public research institution and a member of the prestigious Association of American Universities. It has an internationally acclaimed faculty, 12 degree-granting schools and the Big Ten Conference's most diverse student body.