

# INDUSTRY STANDARD ONSITE FINISHING INSTRUCTIONS FOR PRIMED DOORS AND BIFOLDS

The following onsite finishing instructions are compiled from the Architectural Woodworker Institute (AWI) and the Master Painters Institute (MPI) finishing specifications manuals. This document is intended as a reference for the educated onsite finisher and the general contractor to ensure proper storage, handling and finishing best practices and a quality finished door product.

## Storage and Handling

- Doors and bifolds must be stored flat in a dry, clean environment.
- Exposure to excessive moisture will result in added costs and project delays.
- A vapor barrier must be used when storing the doors and bifolds prior to finishing.
- The finishing environment temperature must not be below 10° Celsius.
- The surface temperature of the doors and bifolds must not be below 10° Celsius.

## Finishing Instructions

**“FACTORY PRIMED DOORS ARE NOT FACTORY SEALED – ADDITIONAL SEALING IS REQUIRED”**

- 1) Check for signs of improper storage or excess moisture.
- 2) Remove all loose dust, dirt and foreign matter
- 3) Fill cracks and minor defects with appropriate filler
- 4) Lightly sand the entire surface.
- 5) Clean sanded surface.
- 6) Apply one coat of pigmented solvent based primer.
  - ✓ If using a water based sealer first make a quick drying coat (2 mil wet), then lightly sand and clean before applying a second sealer coat
  - ✓ All factory primed doors require sealing and equal finish coats on six sides.
  - ✓ Any beveled edges or raw wood must be well sealed prior to applying topcoat..
- 7) If pigmented solvent based primer was used, a single top coat may give sufficient coverage. Apply two top coats if required to give the desired finished product.
- 8) Always sand and clean between coats.
- 9) The number of top coats will be determined by the specifying authority.

### Key Points

- ✓ Always follow the paint manufacturers coating specifications which can be obtained from the manufacturer.
- ✓ Always finish one door in advance, then judge results. If unsure how to correct any problems that occur during or after finishing, stop finishing any more doors, and ask for either assistance or clarification from the paint supplier and the door supplier.

✓ **Do not finish the entire job then find out you have a problem.**

If a water based primer or paint is used as a first coat expect fiber pop and further site work to obtain a smooth finish. No back charges will be considered.