

PCA P21

Designation of Stain and Clear Coating on New Interior Wood

1. Scope

- 1.1 This Standard establishes consistent procedures for the specification of stain and clear coating on new interior wood surfaces.
- 1.2 The purpose of this Standard is to prevent misunderstandings and conflicts when the application of stain and clear coating to interior wood surfaces is required.

2. Significance and Use

- 2.1 An inadequately written specification can create confusion in both the bidding and the application of stain and clear coatings to interior wood surfaces. The specific appearance, wood species, grain, grade, and color should be assessed and specified in the bid documents in accordance with this Standard.
- 2.2 This Standard establishes systems of stain and clear coating on interior wood surfaces.
- 2.3 This Standard establishes the responsibilities of various parties when stain and clear coatings are applied to new interior wood.

3. Definitions and Trade Terms

- 3.1 Definitions and Trade Terms see P9.

4. Reference Documents and Standards

- 4.1 Reference Documents and Standards see P9.

5. Standard Specification

- 5.1 Wood is a natural material with variations in color, texture, and grain which are a result of the natural growing process. The color of wood within a particular tree varies between the outer layers of the tree and the inner layers. There will be variations of grain patterns within any selected species. When the applied finishes are transparent or semi-transparent, some visual differences between and within individual wood members are to be expected.
- 5.2 Interior wood specified to receive stain and clear coating shall have the following characteristics:

- 5.2.1 The wood shall be free of finger joints.
- 5.2.2 The wood shall be made essentially finish-ready by others including sanding and the removal of blemishes, scuff marks, water stains, mill marks, and other surface imperfections.
- 5.2.3 The Painting Contractor shall be required to perform light hand sanding only as preparation for finishes.
- 5.3 This Standard establishes the following systems of stain and clear coating to be assumed when the specifications do not define the number and coats or types of clear finishes:
 - 5.3.1 On rough sawn wood – One coat of stain only.
 - 5.3.2 On smooth wood – One coat of stain and two coats of clear finish.
- 5.4 Stained wood shall have differences in appearance due to natural variations of wood, including hard wood, soft wood, veneers, composites, and coloration of wood species.
- 5.5 All wood members should be previously unfinished.
- 5.6 Wood samples used for color matching purposes shall be made from the same wood to be utilized on the project.
- 5.7 The Painting Contractor shall perform light hand sanding prior to application of finishes and between coats, as required, with appropriate sandpaper.
- 5.8 On smooth wood, the Painting Contractor shall putty nail holes with colored putty or stainable filler that approximates the color of the finished wood. Putty shall be applied before the final coat of clear finish. Nail holes may also be filled using colored wax sticks after the wood is finished.
- 5.9 The acceptability of finish on smooth wood shall be determined when viewed without magnification, at a distance of no less than thirty-nine (39) inches or one (1) meter under finished lighting conditions and from a normal viewing position. The surface shall be smooth in appearance and feel, with only minimal evidence of brush strokes or orange peel.

6. Comments

- 6.1 Since the level of stain and clear coating impact the Painting Contractor, the project specification should incorporate the appropriate system(s) of stain and clear coating as defined by this Standard.
- 6.2 It is recommended that Benchmark Samples be employed in accordance with PCA Standard P5, Benchmark Sample Procedures for Paint and Other Decorative Coating Systems. Multiple samples of the same finish could indicate the range of appearance differences to be expected. Approval of samples should be in accordance with the provisions of that Standard.
- 6.3 This Standard clarifies areas of responsibility. Improved communication reduces misunderstandings.
- 6.4 This Standard is a nationally recognized consensus document for the painting and coating industry's work practices.

7. Disclaimer of Liability

- 7.1 PCA does not warrant or assume any legal liability or responsibility for the accuracy, completeness, or usefulness of any of the information contained herein.