

## SOURCES OF COMMON FINISHING PROBLEMS

### Wood

- Improper moisture content
- Extreme room temperature
- Extreme color variations in the wood

### Assembly

- Glue joints
- Access for sanding and finishing

### Sanding - Hand

- Proper paper – weight, mineral and grit
- Skipping grits
- Over using paper
- Sanding with too fine of a grit
- Waiting too long between sanding and finishing
- Inadequately maintained tool
- Improper or damaged pad
- Poor sanding technique
  - Bearing down too hard on the machine
  - Sanding with the edge of the pad
  - Sanding too fast
  - Inconsistent sanding
- Inadequate air volume to pneumatic tools

### Sanding – Machine

- Improper feed speed
- Poor quality belt splices
- Improper roller pressure
- Inadequate dust collection

### Compressed Air Systems

- Under-powered compressor
- Poorly maintained compressor
- Plastic pipe used for compressed air system
- Improper piping layout
- Improperly sized piping
- Piping reducers used at inappropriate places
- Undersized air hoses
- Excessively long air hoses
- Inadequate or undersized water and oil filters
- Filters improperly located

### Spray Equipment

- Improper needle / nozzle / air cap or material being sprayed
- Gun not adequately maintained
- Improper air and/or fluid settings on gun
- Improper fan size

### Staining

- Doesn't make stepped samples
- Applying finish before stain is dry
- Misting on wiping stain on to wood and then not wiping them off
- Mixing wiping stains into clear coat to use as toner

### Painting and Clear Coating

- Doesn't use primer
- Incorrect reduction of finish - especially primers
- Insufficient sanding of primer or sealer
- Does not apply two topcoats of paint or clear coat.
- Not boxing / intermixing all the gallons of paint before spraying to insure consistent color
- Improper use of putty under finish

### Spray Technique

- Improper gun technique
  - Improper gun to target distance
  - Inconsistent gun to target distance – “wind milling”
  - Improper gun angle - heel & toe
  - Improper or inconsistent gun travel speed
  - Doesn't throttle fluid on/off at beginning and end of each stroke
  - Improper spray pattern overlap
  - Inside surfaces – spraying technique
  - Doesn't spray towards the booth
- Improper material reduction
- Using wrong solvent for current temperature
- Room / finish / wood too cold
- Improper wet mil application
- Improper number of coats
- Waiting too long between scuff sanding and re-coating

### Spray Area

- Housekeeping
  - Dirty or missing booth filters
  - Overspray build-up on booth and lights
  - Un-necessary objects in spray room – dust catchers
  - Dust generating operations too close to spray area
  - Lack of housekeeping
- Lack of intake air
- Furnace or booth filters used as air intake filters
- Area too cold for finishes
- Improper material storage
- Improper containers for liquid waste
- Improper storage and/or disposal of used rags
- Improper or inadequate lighting
- Not enough drying racks or carts

### Miscellaneous

- Underestimate finish times in pricing
- Scheduling
  - Breaking up workflow
  - Unreasonable delivery times