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Standard Terminology Relating to Polishes and Related Materials[1]

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GENERAL

buffable—the ability to improve the gloss or general appearance, or both, of a polish film by a mechanical action.

build-up—the condition resulting from a lack of self-sensitivity in an existing polish, whereby new film deposits over old, with little or no self-cleaning action.

burnishing—the enhancement of the existing polish appearance is accomplished by dry mechanical abrasion using a suitable machine and accessories.

cleaning—removal of visible marks, dust, and other extraneous materials from the surface.

coagulum—an agglomerate of particles grouped together by relatively weak mechanical or chemical affinities; usually designates the densest phase of a separated emulsion.

creaming—the separation of a layer of an emulsion into separate, and discrete layers, with the less dense component of the emulsions migrating to the uppermost layer.

depth of gloss—the optical phenomenon of relative depth perceived when viewing reflective surfaces.

detergent resistance—the degree to which a polish film exhibits no apparent deterioration when spotted or cleaned with a solution of a nonabrasive, nonammoniacal detergent.

distinctness of image—degree of clarity exhibited by images reflected from a surface.

drag—physical resistance to mechanical spreading of a liquid polish.

dry bright polish—a polish that dries to a gloss without buffing.

ease of use—a subjective assessment of polish application properties, which includes variable elements of polish application drag, dry time, time between coat applications, gloss build on multicoat applications, dry time before exposure to traffic, polish, soil resistance, ease of cleaning, and ease of removal.

film clarity—characteristic of a deposited film, which permits an unobstructed view of the color and inherent design of the substrate.

gloss retention—maintenance of the gloss of a film under normal use conditions.

haze—film whose clarity is impaired with varying degrees of opacity; this denigration of film clarity is sometimes only evident with multi-coat applications of polish.

leveling—the property of a freshly spread polish to dry to a uniform and streak-free appearance.

mar—mutilation of polish film, reparable only by recoating.

nonvolatiles—materials remaining after the loss of volatile components.

polish—a temporary coating that enhances the appearance and may protect the substrate to which it is applied.

recoatability—the application characteristics of a polish and the appearance of the film after successive coatings to a surface.

soil—solid foreign matter, resulting from traffic embedded in or adhered on the surface.

speed relating to rotary disc floor machines—low speed: up to 800 r/min, high speed: more then 800 but less than 1500 r/min, and ultra high speed: 1500 r/min or more.

NOTE 1—Effectiveness of the floor machine depends upon machine weight and pad diameter as well as r/min.

spreading—the action of flowing out over a surface during application.

stain—discoloration by foreign matter.

streaking—nonuniform deposition of a polish film.

volatile solvent—a nonaqueous liquid that evaporates readily at room temperature and atmospheric pressure.

water beading—surface property that causes the formation of discrete water droplets on the dried polish surface.

[1] This terminology is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D21 on Polishes and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D21.91 on Terminology and Editorial Review

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