

## HOW TO ACHIEVE THE BEST FINISH USING MICRO-MESH®

The polishing of surfaces can be very exacting. Success or failure depends on the technician's knowledge of, and his ability to follow, an established sequence.

**MICRO-MESH® Can be Used by Hand.** Wrap the abrasive around a foam sanding block to give you even, uniform pressure during your sanding strokes.

**MICRO-MESH® Can be Used With an Electric or Pneumatic Random Orbital Sander.** Keep sanders to no more than 3500 rpms. Do not use with high speed die grinders or vibratory sanders. Ripples and swirls are typically caused by sanding with an uneven motion, tilting the sander, or working in one spot too long. For best results, sand smoothly with even, sweeping motions.

**Keep Belt Machines at 5500 Rpm or Less.** Adjust pressure and tension so that the contact point allows the abrasive to work without smearing. Typically durometers of 30-40 in rubber are best for a cushioned abrasive or cotton buffing wheels work well. Do not use lubricants containing solvents, alcohol or ammonia that could delaminate the MICRO-MESH®.

**Pressure Should be Light.** Remember the cushioned abrasive cuts with the abrasive crystal tips. The sharp cutting edges are floating on a resilient matrix. Extreme pressure pushes the tips back into the matrix rendering them ineffective and resulting in surface smearing, burning, and possible orange peel and distortion. If using with a belt machine, polish on the slack of the belt on using a soft contact wheel. If using a random orbital sander, polishing steps may require a soft back up pad between the MICRO-MESH® disc and the sander head.

**KEEP EVERYTHING YOU USE CLEAN.** This includes equipment, sandpapers, MICRO-MESH®, and all wiping materials. A minor scratch here or there is not a crisis situation, but picking up a piece of metal or other contaminate from the top of a work area can be a disaster. Watch where you set things down.

### **Acceptable Cleaning and Maintenance Materials:**

- 100 % cotton flannel
- Genuine chamois, not synthetic or imitation
- Biodegradable liquid detergent
- MICRO-MESH® Anti-Static cream
- MICRO-GLOSS® polish and cleaner
- WinBRIGHT Spray plastic cleaner
- Bug Blaster Spray bug remover

### **Unacceptable Cleaning and Maintenance Materials:**

- Paper towels or other paper products
- Shop towels or synthetic fiber fabrics
- Commercial window cleaners
- Any product containing ammonia or solvents or alcohol

**Clean the Work Surface** between each step, especially in cracks and crevices. Flush surface several times with clean water to remove dust and dirt before touching it with anything. Clean abraded particles from the work piece by rinsing and then dry and inspect.

**Inspect the Work Piece** between steps with a bright light to ensure you are removing the previous scratch pattern before continuing on.

**Keep the Abrasives Clean.** Keeping them clean will improve performance and extend life.

**To Avoid Scratching the Surface,** do not wear watches, rings, or bracelets. Long fingernails should be covered with gloves.

**For Superficial and Light Surface Damage,** use MICRO-GLOSS® liquid abrasive following the directions on the label of the bottle.

**For Deep Damage and Cracking,** you will be required to remove the damage firstly with sandpaper and then restore the surface to its original state using MICRO-MESH®. After damage is removed by using sandpaper in a succession of steps from coarse to fine, ie: 120 grit, 220 grit, 400 grit wet/dry, then begin the MICRO-MESH® series with MICRO-MESH® 1500 and proceed through the series to 12000 or until the original surface is matched.

**Use a Straight-line Crossing Pattern.** Do not use a circular pattern except in the final hand buffing or anti-static operations. When using a random orbital sander, use sweeping motions from left to right for one grit, then change the pattern to an up and down motion on the next.

**Using MICRO-MESH® with Water** and a few drops of detergent will generally result in a less effort having to be used and a slightly better finish. Only use enough water to provide lubricity to the surface, but not so much that poor contact is made with the work piece.

**DO NOT** wear out one of the meshes by trying to make it do too much work on your first step. If your estimated damage is not readily removed, go immediately to the next coarser mesh. Removing the initial damage with the sandpaper series will take up 85% of the restoral time. The MICRO-MESH series and the buffing procedures will take as little as 15% of the time. **DO NOT** skip steps in either the sandpaper or the MICRO-MESH® series.

**Work an area slightly larger with each step to blend.** Working one small area on a highly curved section could create flat spots or distortion.

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