



## Tech Tip: Know Your Conditions

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**We all love that beautiful job where everything worked out in our favor. The install was great, the sand was impeccable and your finish looks flawless. However, sometimes you can run into problems and not know what went wrong. You need to do everything you can to minimize possible problems and get the best result for your customers. At Glitsa, we tend to hear more from our customers when the seasons are changing. Knowing your conditions can help avoid unnecessary time out to call for assistance and get you back to working on that beautiful floor you strive for.**

Temperatures and humidity change throughout the year. This has an affect on your wood and the finish that you are working with. For example, during high humidity days finish will need extended dry times on coats. On hot, dry days you need to stay moving because your finish will set up on you fast and your open time is greatly reduced. Every condition will vary on how things react. You need to have a good idea of what the environmental conditions are so you have the best chance for that perfect job.

There are inexpensive and easy ways to monitor your conditions with such things as **hygrometers** and **thermometers**. Many monitors are small and can be easily carried on-site with you. *Check the moisture content of your wood with a moisture meter and measure temperature and relative humidity with a thermometer and Hygrometer* when you get to the job and before you begin applying coats of finish.

Throughout the job you can continually monitor the conditions by keeping your meter on a shelf or windowsill. Knowing this, you have a good idea of how long to wait between coats and will know how your finish will apply and abrade. As you strive for the best floor, dry times become very important. *The last stage of the floor is not a time to rush things.* If you get on a coat too soon your pads or screens can load up from the finish that wasn't ready to abrade. In the months that have high humidity you need to allow more dry time between coats. Knowing your conditions is the first step to getting that beautiful floor you strive for. ♦