

beautiful, quality, recommended,
creative, tasteful, the tough,
excellent, resistant

Swedish edition

**Glitsa American's newsletter
for flooring professionals**

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Remodel

We're remodeling! Glitsa's remodeled website at www.glitsa.com will be ready in December. New navigational tools have been added for easier access to the information you all have been requesting.

The Glitsa website is intended to be a useful resource for both the contractor and homeowner alike. Material Safety Data Sheets, Specification Sheets, Newsletter articles, maintenance tips

and much more are all available with a simple click of the mouse.

We also have a convenient listing of our wholesale distributors and retail Safeglidex® dealers. Another feature our new site offers is a shopping cart where consumers can purchase Glitsa Clean, Glitsa Aerosol and Safeglidex® felt floor protectors. We have these consumer products at suggested retail prices to help you service your customer's needs.

Please visit our site at www.glitsa.com, and give us your feedback in our "Comment" section.



Technical Tips for the Gold Seal System

Q When can I recoat Gold Seal using Gold Seal?

A 90 days

Why? Because the aggressiveness of the solvents in the second coat of Gold Seal may cause wrinkling.

Q When can I recoat Gold Seal using Lite Scent?

A 24 hours with good ventilation and heat in winter months.

Why not 90 days? Because the solvent in the Lite Scent is not as aggressive as the solvent in Gold Seal. The performance of Lite Scent and Gold Seal are equal.

Q Can I mix the Gold Seal and Lite Scent?

A Yes. Treat the mixture as if it were Gold Seal.

Q If I need Semi-Gloss, can I mix Gloss and Matte together?

A Yes, 2 parts Gloss to 1 part Matte.

Q What happens if I accidentally put hardener in Gold Seal or Lite Scent?

A Gold Seal and Lite Scent are pre-catalyzed coatings, by adding additional hardener, the finish will be over catalyzed. As a result the appearance and final wear properties of Gold Seal or Lite Scent could be compromised. The over catalyzed material should be disposed of according to state and local regulations.

Q When can I recoat with Glitsa Sealer, Bacca or Satin Sealer over Gold Seal or Lite Scent?

A After one week.

Why? Gold Seal and Lite Scent are sufficiently cured after one week (with good ventilation – and heat in winter months) for Glitsa Sealer, Bacca or Satin Sealer to be applied. Prepare the surface according to instructions (well used 100-120 grit screen).

Q Why do you only recommend one coat of Gold Seal or Lite Scent?

A Film build is obtained with seal coats that have higher solids content. Gold Seal and Lite Scent provide the durability, scuff and scratch resistance, desired sheen, etc., which is attained with one coat. Additional finish coats will not improve scratch and scuff resistance.

Q The floor looked great until I put down the Glitsa Gold Seal or Lite Scent and then it wrinkled. Did I get a bad batch of Gold Seal or Lite Scent?

A Probably not.

Why? A lack of dry time on a stain or seal coat can cause the whole



system to fail. If the seal coat has not fully dried, its ability to resist solvents has not fully developed. In the case when a coat of Gold Seal or Lite Scent is applied over the partially dried seal coat, the solvents in the Gold Seal or Lite Scent easily penetrate through the seal coat, softening the film to the point where its integrity is diminished. Consequently, wrinkling occurs.

Q What if I forgot to add hardener to my seal coat?

A In most cases this can be remedied by applying a second seal coat with the correct amount of hardener (no more and no less) and extend the normal dry time an additional 24 hours.

Q Can I add more or less hardener to Glitsa Sealer, Bacca or Satin Sealer to make them dry faster or slower?

A No



Why? The amount of hardener recommended for each product is engineered to chemically react a certain way with each product. Any variation in the amount of hardener added may compromise the integrity of the products.

Q How much Retarder do I need?

A Usually none.

Why? In most situations, Retarder is not necessary. However, in the event of hot, dry weather, or due to a difficult layout where additional open time is needed, Retarder may be added. A good

starting point is 4 oz. per gallon, with a maximum of 8 oz. per gallon. Keep in mind when Retarder is used, that dry times may be extended.

Q Can I use Glitsa Sealer over Bacca or Satin Sealer and vice versa?

A Yes, allow appropriate dry time.

Q Can I mix Glitsa Sealer with Bacca or Satin Sealer?

A No. They have separate resin systems as well as different hardeners.

Q What do I use to lighten or darken Glitsa stains?

A Glitsa Neutral stain or a darker Glitsa stain. Any color combination utilizing a pigmented stain such as Cordovan, Sable Black, White, Whisper Gray, Golden Harvest, or Taupe requires 48-72 hours of dry time. ■



IN THE FIELD

It's That Time of Year – Seasonal Cracks



By Richard Bean, Northwest Sales/
Technical Representative

A flooring contractor's job is difficult enough without unreasonable customer expectations. Customer education about proper maintenance and normal expectations for their wood flooring should be part of the contractor's early discussions with the customer.

The homeowner should be aware of how wood reacts to changing temperature and humidity conditions and what naturally occurring seasonal expansion and contraction happens.

Almost every wood floor experiences some separation between boards. During the winter, wood floors give up some moisture and shrink when homes are heated and the air is dry. It is normal for thin cracks to appear between the boards, commonly around heat vents and wood stoves, but the homeowner may not be aware of this. If the contractor has forewarned the homeowner that this is normal during the winter months, many service calls can be avoided at the first sign of cracks. These cracks could develop to the thickness of a dime. Once spring rolls around and the heat goes off, the house regains moisture and most of the cracks should close.

The contractor may offer a choice to homeowner, to add humidity to the dry air in their homes by using humidifiers, or they could live with the cracks until spring. A consistent environment will minimize board movement.

The flooring contractor knows that wood is a product of Mother Nature and her rules are inescapable...the successful flooring contractor makes sure that the homeowner also knows what to expect. ■

CONTRACTOR SPOTLIGHT

Architectural Woodworking Specialties

Todd Irvine, Architectural Woodworking Specialties (AWS), Provo, Utah has been in business since 1949. Todd's reputation has helped him develop a customer base in the higher end markets where the customer's main concern is quality not cost. AWS has been using the Glitsa Gold Seal system of two coats Glitsa Sealer under one coat of Gold Seal Lite Scent Semi-Gloss or Satin for the past eight years.

AWS's most interesting job was a 9,000 sq. ft. bamboo floor in Alpha Graphics headquarters and their biggest celebrity floor was a 3-1/4" plank oak floor for Donny Osmond.

AWS uses Glitsa products because of their consistency, ease of application and durability. Todd says, "Glitsa products are "bullet proof" that work every time and dries consistently compared to oil modifieds."

Todd's tip to other contractors using the Gold Seal system is, "Use Retarder in hot dry climates such as Utah at 4500 ft. elevation and sell your customers on a maintenance program." Trends noticed are more distressed woods, darker stains, glazing, wide planks and Heart Pine. ■



A Tip Worth Repeating

Acclimatizing your finish to the jobsite is easy to do and can greatly influence the performance of your finish. Ideally the finish and the sub-strate in which you are coating should be nearly equal in temperature. When radical differences exist between the finish and the floor, this opens the door for poor finish performance.

The easiest way to accomplish this is to get the finish to the jobsite when you begin the job. Keep the finish stored on the floor in an open place. This will keep the finish container exposed to the same or near the same temperature conditions as the floor.

If the finish is cold in relation to the floor being coated, poor flow and leveling can occur as well as a finish that is thicker in viscosity. This translates into a coating that is difficult to apply.

If the finish is considerably warmer than the floor, a loss in open time can be observed, as well as a finish that is thinner than normal. Puddles, drips, and flyers are more likely to occur with thinner finish.

Following this simple advice will greatly reduce performance inconsistencies with your coating applications and also costly call backs. ■



We want to hear from you!



Please feel free to contact us
327 South Kenyon Street
Seattle, Washington, 98108
800-527-8111
e-mail: swedish@glitsa.com

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U.S. Postage
PAID
Seattle, WA
Permit No. 588



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