



NATIONAL TERRAZZO & MOSAIC ASSOCIATION

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TECHNICAL BULLETIN #29

10/21

“Blushing”

OVERVIEW

The term “Blushing” refers a terrazzo floor that has a film or amber discoloration. Depending on the formulation, epoxy materials can and will blush under certain job site conditions due to environmental conditions.

CAUSE: The hardener used in a two-part epoxy resin reacts with the moisture and carbon dioxide in the air to form an oily, greasy film on the surface of the flooring system. The greater the humidity and or lower the temperature, the more this blush will occur.

Primers are typically prone to blushing due to the chemistry. However, epoxy grout coats can blush due to the chemistry and the very thin film in which they are applied. Epoxy terrazzo can blush, but the grinding procedure will remove this film.

FIX:

Any blush must be removed before the application of the next layer. Blush will interfere with the adhesion of the next coat. Check with suppliers for specific recoat times. Blushed epoxy can be cleaned with hot soapy water.

If removal of the blush is not practical, a broadcast of sand into the uncured epoxy can be used to provide mechanical tooth and therefore a good bonding surface.

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