

Forte™ Opening Solutions provides Care and Handling Instructions for all doors shipped from our manufacturing facilities. This document includes the following guidelines regarding the field finishing of Forte Opening Solutions doors.

**The contractor or subcontractor has the sole responsibility to achieve an appearance acceptable to the owner for field finished doors.**

## WOOD VENEER FINISHES

- Door orders typically specify only species, grade and cut of veneer. Unless specified, no attempt is made to manufacture doors with flitches of similar color and grain appearance. Natural variations in the wood veneer can be highlighted after the stain and finish are applied to the surface. To produce the best, most durable results, use good quality finishing materials according to the product manufacturer's direction.
- When handling the doors, use clean canvas gloves. Bare hands leave finger marks and soil stains.
- When doors need to be field finished, thorough sanding is required. This must be done prior to proceeding with finishing operations as Forte™ Opening Solutions does not warrant the appearance of field finished doors. For more information, refer to WDMA I.S. 1A, Industry Standard for Architectural Wood Flush Doors.
- It is the responsibility of the field finisher to determine the proper grit sandpaper required and the duration of face preparation necessary to make the appearance of the doors acceptable to the owner. It is recommended by Forte Opening Solutions to start with applying a solution of solvent and sanding sealer to raise the wood grain uniformly. After allowing the door to dry begin sanding the door surfaces using a medium course sandpaper such as P150 grit and then progress through finer sanding grits P180, P220, and finer (if needed) to the desired surface smoothness of the face. It is important to sand out the scratches of the previous sandpaper grit and to perform the sanding operation while the door is in a horizontal position. If a dark stain is to be applied to light wood, thorough initial sanding is even more important to prevent blotching and to reduce a "barber pole" effect.
- Fillers and wiping stains are most successfully applied when the door is still in the horizontal position after sanding, prior to hanging the door. This permits easier handling of the materials and prevents the solvents from evaporating too rapidly. Rapid solvent evaporation can cause the fillers to streak. It can also cause the wiping stains to "cure" before cleanup can be completed. With the door in a horizontal position, this premature drying is slowed down. All openings and hardware edges should be double sealed with a good quality sealer.

## PRIMED OR PAINT GRADE FINISHES

For paint grade surfaces such as MDO and Hardboard (HDF), take the same precautions for handling.

Preparation of these face materials and visible surfaces should be based on the recommendations of the finish coatings supplier to achieve the desired characteristics.

## DISCLAIMER

Forte™ Opening Solutions provides the above Care and Handling brochure and its associated guidelines for informational purposes only. While we strive to provide accurate and reliable information, we do not guarantee or assume responsibility for the outcomes of field finishing, appearance, or durability of doors once they leave our manufacturing facilities. All recommendations related to door finishing, sanding, and handling are based on industry standards and best practices; however, the contractor or subcontractor remains solely responsible for ensuring the final appearance and quality of the field-finished doors.

Forte™ Opening Solutions does not warrant the final appearance of field-finished doors, and we disclaim any liability for defects, damages, or issues that may arise due to variations in natural wood characteristics, finishing materials, or methods employed during field finishing. Additionally, we are not responsible for any damages caused by improper handling, sanding, or finishing techniques, nor for any consequences resulting from the failure to adhere to the recommended procedures or guidelines.

It is recommended that contractors and subcontractors consult with professional finishers and follow the manufacturers' directions for finishing materials to achieve the best results. All responsibility for achieving a satisfactory finish rests solely with the field finisher and/or contractor.