



Coating Color & Consistency

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Color matching, batch color quality, and ensuring the best color for your project.

There are many factors that can affect the final color of back-painted glass. Primary glass manufacturers produce a myriad of products, both uncoated and coated with various materials other than the opacifying coating ICD produces. Understanding these limitations will ensure your success when using glass products coated with ICD's coatings.

Glass Color Difference is the Single Biggest Limiting Factor.

All primary glass manufacturers measure quality in their products via several ways. The most common being visible light transmittance and not color. It is often difficult to see, but even a single piece of clear glass manufactured at two different glass plants can have rather large differences in color when measured on a spectrophotometer. The two pieces of glass will pass the more important light transmittance tolerances but may be quite far off in color due to raw material and process differences.

The color difference between glass batches or plants may show even further color variations when other products are added to float glass. The other coatings could be mirror coatings, silkscreen coatings, spandrel coatings, low-e coatings and pyrolytic coatings. While significant efforts to standardize color or appearance may be attempted, color variation is inherent in the system.

What ICD Does to Ensure “When Color Matters.”

ICD takes these variations into account to ensure that our coatings do not contribute to the overall variable of color in the final product. Our color tolerances are extremely low when compared to that of glass or other coatings on the market. To be more exact, orders of magnitude of seven (7) to fifteen (15). Coupled with tight quality standards, on batch-to-batch reproduction, this ensures the most consistent color on the market.

Consult the AFF Portal & Contractor Portal section of the ICD website (www.icdcoatings.com) for additional Bulletins and flat glass industry reference resources.

Please call ICD Technical Services, at (360) 546-2286, regarding any questions about the information provided in this bulletin.