

Pioneer Millworks sought out the best technology and most experienced team available to apply a factory finish to our wide selection of floors. As luck would have it, of the half dozen or so prefinish lines in the U.S., the very best one for our products is located in the next county. Our floors are finished on the most modern equipment in one continuous line using a patented process which unbelievably takes less than ten minutes to finish a board and repackage it.

Each prefinished floor starts out in our shop in Farmington, New York where it is milled to our usual exacting standards. We then cut a very slight bevel on the edge of the boards to allow the finish to wrap completely over the face.

Before any finish is applied the flooring passes through a 4-head belt sander which sands in stages from 80 grit to 150 grit. As soon as the board is sanded it passes through a 2 head counter-rotating de-nibbing machine to remove the loose surface fibers which are deliberately raised during sanding. This process creates a surface that has less grain raise as the coatings are applied. Forced air then removes any debris from the face.

A resin-based tie coat becomes the foundation for perfect adhesion between the flooring and the finish. A 90% ultra violet cure allows the flooring to move right to the next step, without sanding, which fills any open pores. Another blast of intense UV light cures this layer to 90%.

Next, the floor is coated with a mixture of ceramic and aluminum oxide, a fluid compound made up almost entirely of solid materials. This extremely hard compound hardens under the ultra violet cure in 1/1000th of a second.

Another sealer coat is now applied and cured to allow for one more sanding before the final coat; the previous coat of material is too hard to sand even with this unconventional technology.

The final sanding takes place in a custom built wide belt sander utilizing a 320 grit silicon carbide abrasive which cuts the surface level preparing it for the top coat. The boards then pass through another cleaning in a 2 head counter rotating machine with blowers to remove anything loose on the surface.

A final coat of the ceramic aluminum oxide mixture is applied and fully cured before the floor is carefully bundled and prepped for shipment.

The industry average finish has 85 grams of material per square meter of flooring, while this process nets us 105-110 grams of coating per square meter, 25% more than the industry average.

If you have any questions, you can always send us an email or give us a call:

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