



Product Update

JUN 13, 2004

#P106F

Revision 01

Applies to Flush doors

OPAQUE FINISHED DOORS – MEDIUM DENSITY OVERLAY (MDO) vs. PAINT GRADE BIRCH VENEER

For the following reasons, it is recommended that MDO be approved as an alternate when paint grade birch is specified:

1. Per WDMA, page 3, under “Materials for Opaque Finishes”, MDO is the only face selection for premium grade doors receiving an opaque finish. Close grain hardwood or hardboard is considered custom grade.
2. Per AWI, page 419, under “Materials for Opaque Finishes”, MDO is the optimum paintable surface for architectural doors. Close grain hardwood requires additional field preparation as there may be grain show-through, split veneer joints and other wood characteristics in this grade.
3. MDO is readily available whereas the paint grade birch supply and price are volatile, depending upon demand.

WDMA Definition, page 44,

Medium Density Overlay: A thermosetting resin impregnated paper applied to a door face to provide the optimum surface for paint finish.