



Mohawk Finishing Monthly Newsletter

It has been an exciting few months here at Mohawk since our last newsletter. We are always thinking ahead to create innovative products to help our customers achieve the highest quality in their finishing and touch-up needs.

Mohawk continues to meet government regulations on VOC's to protect our atmosphere. See the article in this issue for more information. Also, we are featuring a big favorite of Mohawk customers the Epoxy sticks, now available in 8 colors.

Be sure to check out the **"What's New Section"** for our newest touch-up products the No Blush (tm) Blender Flat along with Backing Fabric & Activator Kit and newer version of the Small Heat Iron.

Also, we anticipate updated versions of the Furniture Touch-Up and Repair video as well as the Leather Repair video this fall.

Thank you for subscribing. If you have comments or suggestions for our newsletter please **contact us**. If you do not have the 2005 Mohawk Product and Hardware catalog **click here** to request.

Monthly Feature

Low VOC Formulations

Contributed By: Dean Cardin
National Distribution Sales Manager

VOCs (Volatile Organic Compounds, most typically referred to as solvents), are believed to adversely affect the ozone layer of the atmosphere. For this reason the Federal government as well as local and state governments, have passed various regulations and guidelines to reduce the emission of VOCs. The primary method used for reducing VOCs is placing VOC content restrictions on products for specific use applications. For example, AIM (Architectural and Industrial Maintenance) regulations require clear wood finish coatings packaged in one-gallon containers or greater to have a maximum of 550 grams/liter of VOC. Because of our various sales channels, Mohawk must comply with this regulation. The challenge is to comply with the regulations and yet provide products that meet the needs of our customers at a competitive price.

The typical means for achieving compliance is by using a greater concentration of VOC exempt solvents and/or increasing the solid content in our formulations. Another common alternative is to move to waterborne finishes. In many instances the new formulations will provide benefits enjoyed by the customer such as faster dry and greater film build.

Mohawk's new VOC compliant clear wood coating formulations have been formulated to meet regulatory requirements and provide equivalent or improved performance relative to our existing product line. Many customers evaluating the new products note improved dry properties and noticeable improvements in film build. It may, in fact, be possible to eliminate one coat of topcoat, saving time, labor and money while providing the desired finish appearance. Mohawk's new VOC compliant clears are also ready to spray, no thinner reduction or additives required under normal circumstances. This also will help you as a finisher achieve more consistent results.

At Mohawk, our goal is simple but lofty; meet government VOC regulations that protect our atmosphere with products that meet the needs and expectations of our customers. Mohawk, a leader in low VOC formulations, is pleased to offer you our new VOC compliant clear wood finish formulations.

- ▶ **Subscribe**
- ▶ **Unsubscribe**
- ▶ **Contact Us**

Epoxy Sticks

How would you like to have a product that is versatile and easy to use? Stronger than hickory, adheres to wood, metal, glass and ceramic? Has no apparent shrinkage and can be molded into anything from a drawer pull to a broken corner or if you want to have some fun use it to make some of the smaller planets in a science project. This versatile product is our Epoxy Sticks.



Many of you have seen the epoxy sticks in the catalog or on the website. They are sometimes referred to as tootsie rolls by many people in the repair business. For over 10 years now the Mohawk Finishing Products Epoxy Sticks have revolutionized the wood repair industry.

The Epoxy Stick is a single cylinder containing epoxy resin and hardener. You just slice off the amount needed for the job and knead it until it is one color. Then the putty can be molded and shaped, just like the clay you used in art class, using your fingers or tools that are wet with water. For even better results use a mixture of **Wool-Lube(tm) Rubbing Lubricant** and water. The repair can be molded to the final desired shape rather than being made large and having to be sanded since there is no appreciable shrinkage. Remember that warming the putty will make it more pliable and slightly stickier.

Okay, here is what some consider the best and the worst feature of this product. The working time is approximately 8 - 11 minutes. This depends on the amount of putty being mixed at one time and the temperature. Remember, the higher the temperature or the larger the mass of putty being mixed the quicker the cure time. The material is well cured in 30 minutes and can be machined. Within 12 hours the ultimate properties are developed. A personal favorite feature of this product is that it adheres and cures underwater. (That's a great thing for a cracked pipe in the middle of the night and no plumber to be had until morning. It didn't look real pretty but the plumber was impressed.)

This putty is a great replacement material for most substrates in the furniture industry such as MDF, particleboard, OSB, plastic and wood. It is fully machinable; it can be sawed, drilled, tapped, routed, sanded, shaved, planed and carved. You can even use it to make handles, knobs, pulls and other hardware items. The Epoxy Stick may have no grain structure but is stronger than hickory. The micro balloons used to make the Epoxy Stick make it less dense, somewhat more porous and stiffer. For you that means it sands easier, accepts stains better and is easier to shape since it doesn't sag the way a pure epoxy resin would.

Mohawk Finishing Products offers the Epoxy Sticks in 8 colors that can be intermixed to achieve 50 + colors. You can check out the color-mixing guide by clicking [here](#).

Ordering

You can order the featured products or any of our products by contacting your account representative, customer service or on our web site www.mohawk-finishing.com. To ensure your correct pricing level please be sure to use your account number.

Technical Tips

Ultra Penetrating(tm) Stain
Ultra Penetrating(tm) Stain Reducer
Ultra Penetrating(tm) Stain Retarder
Wool-Lube(tm) Rubbing Lubricant
Epoxy Stick
Ask the expert

Let Mohawk Finishing Products Train You

We have highlighted our Finishing workshop many times in the past newsletters. We are doing it again because we are so excited and have had a great response. Below is an example of one of the step panels that you will create. The step panels you create can be used to show your customers an assortment of different finishes from which they can choose. If you are interested in the next Professional Finishing System Workshop you can either call your account representative, customer service or register over the web site for the next workshop that will be held in August.

<p style="text-align: center;">Left Side "</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Finish sand with 150A garnet paper 2. Cut Ultra Penetrating™ Stain M520-2063 (Yellow) 1:1 with Ultra Penetrating™ Reducer M650-5207 3. Spray apply yellow stain 4. Dry 5 minutes 5. Rag apply Wiping Wood Stain M545-0486 (Cherry) 6. Dry 30 minutes 7. Spary EZ-Vinyl™ Sealer 8. Dry 30-45 minutes 9. Scuff sand with P280A stearate paper 10. Add 1 bottle VersaLac™ Catalyst M610-26408 - 40 sheen, if not previously catalyzed 11. Stir material while adding catalyst and for 1 minute after 12. Allow Catalyst to permeate (sweat in) VersaLac™ Post Catalyzed Lacquer for 15 minutes 13. Spray VersaLac™ Post Catalyzed Lacquer M610-26408 - 40 sheen 14. Dry 30-45 minutes 		<p style="text-align: center;">Right Side "</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Finish sand with 150A garnet paper 2. Spray apply Ultra Penetrating™ Stain (Cherry) 3. Dry 5 minutes 4. Rag apply Wiping Wood Stain M545-0486 (Cherry) 5. Dry 30 minutes 6. Spray EZ-Vinyl™ Sealer 7. Dry 30-45 minutes 8. Scuff sand with P280A stearate paper 9. Add 1 bottle VersaLac™ Catalyst M610-ULCAT per 5-gallon pail of VersLac™ Post-catalyzed Lacquer M610-26408 - 40 sheen, if not previously catalyzed 10. Stir material while adding catalyst and for 1 minute after 11. Allow Catalyst to permeate (sweat in) VersaLac™ Post Catalyzed Lacquer for 15 minutes 12. Spray VersaLac™ Post Catalyzed Lacquer M610-26408 - 40 sheen 13. Dry 30-45 minutes "
--	---	--

To find a workshop near you check out the **2005 Workshop Schedule** on the website. The Mohawk **Professional Leather Workshop** is designed for the novice and professional alike, in just 2-1/2 days all aspects of leather touch-up and repair will be demonstrated, and you will gain hands-on experience. Mohawk's **Wood Workshop** instructors work with students to insure they have achieved the repair techniques needed to enhance your business. Our latest **Professional Finishing Workshop** is designed to teach you today's most popular finishes using our new Professional Finishing System products. To find a workshop that fits your needs and your schedule click [here](#).

Either you or your sales representative have requested that you be contacted via email. To request removal from this newsletter, please unsubscribe. We are committed to protecting your privacy as provided in our Privacy Policy accessed by clicking the link below.

You can contact Mohawk Finishing by mail at: 22 South Center Street, Hickory, NC 28602.

[Privacy Policy](#) | [Web Site Terms and Conditions](#)

©1995-2005 Mohawk Finishing. All rights reserved worldwide.