

Test Summary:

NIC Industries, Inc. examined hydrographic panels that had been clear coated using industry accepted clear topcoats. The hydrographic film analyzed was manufactured by True Timber™. The clear topcoats used were: Cerakote® MC-161 Matte Ceramic Clear, PPG AUE 100 Clear, US Paint AF3096 Flat Clear and Single Source Dead Flat Clear.

In order to determine the performance of the clear top coats, each coated panel was subjected to the following ASTM tests: ASTM D3363 “Measuring Film Hardness”, ASTM D3359 “Measuring Adhesion by Tape Test” and ASTM D523 “Specular Gloss”.

Test Results:

Each test was performed according to ASTM standards. Tests results are summarized in the table below. Best performance values for the True Timber™ hydrographic film in each test are highlighted in the table below.

	MC-161	PPG AUE	AF3096	Dead Flat Clear
Coating Thickness (mils)	2.20	2.20	2.40	4.10
Gloss ASTM D523 (60-deg)	1.1	4	2	2
Scratch ASTM D3363 (Scratch Hard.)	8h	h	hb	h
Gouge ASTM D3363 (Pencil Hard.)	9h	2h	f	5h
Initial Adhesion ASTM D3359	5B	0B	1B	5B

Table 1. ASTM Results for True Timber™.

Credit: Hydrographic Film and MC-161 coating application courtesy of Dynamic Finishes in Lee’s Summit, Missouri (<http://www.dynamicfinishes.com/>).

Divisions of NIC: Prismatic Powders, Cerakote™, Prismatic Liquids, Thermo Dyne

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