

Application Note:

# Non-destructive Coating Thickness Measurement on Natural Wood

# **Key Parameters**



Measurement Method Imaging-based



**Device** coatmaster 3D Atline



**Substrate** Natural wood



Substrate Thickness Typically 68 mm to 92 mm



**Coating Thickness Range** 80µm - 130µm



**Measuring Area** Up to 2 m<sup>2</sup>



### Objective

This application note demonstrates the use of the coatmaster 3D Technology for fast, non-destructive, and accurate coating thickness measurement on porous, non-uniform substrates like natural wood. The example used is a coated spruce window frame.



# The Challenge

Conventional, destructive testing methods are often impractical for quality assurance on natural wood as they damage the material and provide unreliable results. The coatmaster offers a non-destructive solution that precisely measures coating thickness immediately after application–or even before curing.

Substrate Variability

#### Destructive methods are unsuitable

Traditional methods like cross-sections damage the final product, making them usable only for spot-checks on discarded samples, not for 100% quality control. Natural wood, such as spruce, has significant local variations in density (350-470 kg/ m<sup>3</sup>) and high porosity (60-70%). This makes punctual (single-point) measurement techniques unreliable, as a single point is not representative of the surrounding area.

#### **Process Control**

To optimize the coating process and reduce waste, measurements must be taken immediately after application, often before the coating is fully cured.

### The coatmaster Solution

The coatmaster provides a comprehensive solution that overcomes these challenges. By utilizing advanced imaging technology, it measures the entire surface topography and coating thickness in a single, rapid process.

For the spruce window frame, the coatmaster was configured to measure the coating thickness over a large surface area. The system instantly delivers a high-resolution thickness map, providing far more insight than a few isolated point measurements.

### Measurement setup

Parameter	Value
Measurement distance	
Energy	
Measurement area	
Reference device	
Measurement speed	500 ms
Repeatability	1-2%
Local resolution	< 0.1 mm
Tested measurement range	80-130 µm



# Conclusion

The coatmaster is an ideal solution for measuring coating thickness on natural wood. Its imaging-based, non-destructive approach provides a complete and reliable quality overview that is impossible to achieve with conventional methods. This enables manufacturers to improve product quality, optimize coating material consumption, and increase production efficiency.