

CCC Series: Refinish Times

As an estimator, adjuster or technician, it's not uncommon to question labor times associated with refinishing. It is becoming more and more common for partial refinishing or base coat reductions in many applications. In this video, we're going to break down the motors guide refinish times, overlap, and base coat reductions. So let's buckle up and get started.

Motors Time Premise

Motor states that all refinish times are based on color being applied to a new undamaged OEM component without any attached hardware and in one continuous process. A repaired panel must be returned to new, undamaged condition. Let's break down the motors refinish times. 47% of the standard time is dedicated to sanding operations. 27% is dedicated to cleaning and preparing the panel. 19% is dedicated to applying color or base coat, while 7% is dedicated to the primer and sealer application.

You'll notice that clear coat is not included in this time and will be referenced in a separate line with clear coat calculated at 40% for the first major panel. Each additional is calculated at 20%. Maximum clear coat will be achieved at 2.5 hours regardless of the number of panels refinished. This is important to note because the 2.5 hours only reflects a continuous operation. When a separate operation, such as selecting yes to the bumper prompt, will increase the clear coat time applied to the estimate above the 2.5 hours. Adding for the inside or underside with clear coat will also influence the clear coat hours. For a full breakdown of included and not included operations within the refinish category, make sure to review the motors guide to estimating and selecting, refinishing procedures, and selecting the appropriate category, such as basic color coat or three-stage, et cetera.

Overlap

Another common operation we see is overlap. And their deductions are applied in two ways: adjacent and non-adjacent parts. An adjacent panel is defined as an additional part that is abutted to the first major panel with base time of 1 hour or greater. Adjacent panels deduct 0.4 when the refinish times exceed one hour and 0.2 when they are less than 1 hour.

Non-adjacent panels are defined as an additional part not abutted to the first major panel and deduct 0.2 for each after the first major panel. Overlap deductions are taken as each refinish time includes redundant operations such as mixing the paint or cleaning the paint gun. These would only need to be performed once, and the deduction accounts for the duplicate operations.

Reductions

A very common deduction we see is partial refinishing of a panel. This is useful when there is damage to a small portion of the panel where color would not need to be applied to that entire panel. This should be very similar to a blend. However, CCC does not allow repair times on a blend operation. This operation would allow you to apply partial color. When applied correctly, this can be a viable cost reduction to include. However, we see a lot of pushback from the repair facilities, as in most cases, this is not applied appropriately. Let's think back to our initial breakdown of the paint application. The application process only accounts for 26% of the total refinish time, while 74% is performing the prep or sanding applications that need to be completed, regardless if it's a partial or full panel refinished. The correct reduction should only be applied to that 26%. If we apply that to the standard refinish time of 2 hours, the deduction based on one-third of the application process would only apply a deduction of 0.2 when rounded up. Not the typical 50% or more we see applied on many estimates.

Recap

Let's recap. Refinishing times and operations can be tricky. Understanding how CCC and motors work together to calculate those times is critical. It's your job as the professional to be familiar with definitions, included and not included operations, along with the appropriate applications for additions or deductions.

I sure hope this video has been helpful and I look forward to seeing you again soon. Thanks for watching.