## **Tungsten Application Guidelines**

- Tungsten Ceramic<sup>™</sup> is unlike any automotive coating in history. This coating IS NOT A WAX.
  Failure to properly adhere to these steps will result in an inadequate or non-durable finish. When applying this product, the application must be approached the same way paint application is approached.
- Tungsten Ceramic<sup>™</sup> application process begins with an immaculate paint correction process. This is because Tungsten Ceramic<sup>™</sup> will highlight/magnify any imperfections in the paint. Furthermore, if it is determined that any underlying imperfections exist after Tungsten application, Tungsten Ceramic<sup>™</sup> would need to be sanded off before the underlying paint surface may be corrected. ARDEX Labs will not warranty any corrective measures that may need to be taken due to not following this step! See Warranty information.

Remember – never perform paint correction OR apply Tungsten Ceramic<sup>™</sup> on a freshly painted vehicle – always ensure proper cure time for the paint prior to paint correcting or applying Tungsten Ceramic<sup>™</sup>. Consult paint manufacturer's documentation prior to proceeding. If contact cannot be made with paint-shop, apply a small amount of Tungsten to an inconspicuous area to see if the paint reacts negatively.

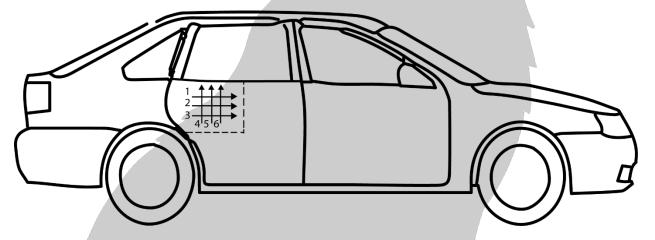
- o Paint flaws that may need to be corrected include but are not limited to:
  - Removal of deep scratches, orange peel, hairline scratches, holograms, and swirl marks. These imperfections will not be correctable after application of Tungsten Ceramic<sup>™</sup>.
  - Always inspect your work with Bond Aid to ensure complete removal of these surface imperfections
- Paint Correction steps may include but are not limited to:
  - Claying the surface
  - Wet Sanding for removal of deep scratches and/or orange peel that was not removable with traditional compounding measures
  - If compounding is needed, always use a body shop or paint-shop safe chemical.
    Ardex recommends the Ardex Plus line of chemicals
  - Remember the final product will only be as good as the preparation that was performed prior to application
- Before applying Tungsten Ceramic<sup>™</sup>, the vehicle MUST be thoroughly wiped down with Ardex Bond Aid prior to application to remove any oils or surface debris that may interfere with the bonding of the material. Continually inspect the vehicle with a Paint Correction Light while applying Tungsten
  - Tungsten Ceramic<sup>™</sup> should be applied to a paint with a surface-temperature between 55-80F. Applications towards the lower end of this range will require substantially more cure time.
  - Tungsten must be applied indoors
    - Always try to minimize any chance of surface contamination from bugs, debris, buffing dust, etc.
    - It is also recommended to keep the humidity and temperature at a constant setting – this will help insure consistent working time for each application of Tungsten Ceramic<sup>™</sup>. It is recommended to keep the humidity below 50% and the

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temperature around 72°F. A dehumidifier may be necessary to achieve this low humidity.

## Application Process

- Before applying Tungsten Ceramic<sup>TM</sup>, ensure that no fingerprints or dust are on the area you are about to apply
- Ensure that no one in the application area may inadvertently touch the vehicle or create dust around the vehicle
- Wrap the included microfiber cloth around the applicator sponge. Keep the logo away from the applicator surface
  - Ensure there are no wrinkles in the cloth
  - Note, never reuse an applicator towel once Tungsten Ceramic<sup>™</sup> has cured
- Apply a small amount of Tungsten Ceramic<sup>™</sup> directly to the application pad
  - If the applicator/towel is fresh, you may need to apply a little extra to prevent the possibility of dry-spots in the applicator surface
  - Once the applicator/cloth are saturated a small amount of tungsten will go a long way
- Always work on small section of a single panel at a time
- The application pattern should be as follows:



- Start the application process on a small and out of the way section, like a bumper corner, to "tune" to how fast the product is curing
- Start at the top of a section and work down
- Work in small sections. 2'x2', and immediately level each section before moving to the next section. You should level each section within one minute of initial application.
  - Leveling should be accomplished first with the applicator, then with a new microfiber towel.
- Always work on one panel at a time. If Tungsten Ceramic<sup>TM</sup> is accidentally applied to a nearby panel, it MUST be immediately removed. Again, application of this product needs to be considered similar to that of a paint
- Once the first section has been finished, reapply a small amount to the pad and move on to the next section, again rechecking with a Paint Correction Light before applying the product to the vehicle
- Repeat these steps until the panel is finished. Then move onto the next panel

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- Allow for 1-2hours of dry-time between coats of Tungsten Ceramic<sup>™</sup>. Warmer temperatures will cause shorter working time and allow faster curing, but higher humidity will allow longer working times but cause slower curing.
- Allow for at least a full two weeks of cure time before applying any cleaning chemicals to the surface of the car.



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