

### Summary of Nations Improvements Year to Date

July 2024

#### **Specification Improvements:**

- Drawer guides on the standard drawer box upgraded to soft close in both Tidwell & DreamCraft.
- Upgraded full extension soft close drawers to a fully adjustable clip. Provides the installer with 360° adjustability on the cabinet drawer.
- DreamCraft box construction changed from 5/8" to 3/4". This change allows us to match more laminate, acrylic, texture melamine, echo wood, and similar finishes (if we can source them). IMPORTANT: when ordering warranty or addon items for 2023 and prior, please specify the need for 5/8" material or the items will be built with 3/4".
- Implemented 4 hinges to add stability to doors over 39" tall providing more alignment options with shelves or mullion doors. Specify 3 hinges for warranty as needed.
- Running in-house door lineals on a new molder for improved fit and finish. This improvement allows Nations to source its own lumber.
- Direct sourcing lumber allowed Nations to move from industry standard#1 material to Select and Better for cleaner more consistent wood.
- New door construction: All Shaker style doors now feature an enhanced mortise and tenon pocket. We will keep expanding to all our door profiles with completion by year end.
- Most of Nation's doors now go through a rotary door clamp that keeps the corners under pressure for over 5 minutes. This process eliminates pin holes in the back and further tightens the door fit.
- In conjunction with the rotary clamp, Nations has moved to a higher solid speed set glue that provides a significantly stronger initial bond.
- All raised panel doors have upgraded from veneer to solid wood or HDF.
- New equipment to improve overall quality: Weinig Molder; 2 x PMK Mortice/ tenon machines; four-head Timesaver wide belt sander; Doucette rotary clamp

#### Manufacturing Improvements

- Completed transition to a UV solvent topcoat supplied by Axalta and replaces
  the Sherwin Williams water-based UV topcoat. The Axalta product provides
  40% more build (verified by third party lab) and improves consistency,
  delivering better transfer efficiency with less blotch or striping. Nations
  is holding 5 gallons of each stain color in SW for color match if needed.
  IMPORTANT: the new stains will look different. The colors are very close but
  are more consistent in application, without the unevenness and color variation
  of the water based. Please get with us to update showroom samples.
- Introduced the Color Expert color match computer system with ability to read and match samples from any national paint supplier (such as Benjamin Moore, Ethan Allen, Sherwin Williams etc.).
- Added corner protectors to all our cabinets to reduce handling damage.

# New Door Styles, Wood Species and Finish availability

- Launched the highly anticipated Rift Oak wood species on Miami II and Shaker II in where all Oak stains are available and the new Cloud finish that is only available on Rift Oak door styles.
- Hickory is now available in the Tidwell line on Shaker, Shaker II and Miami II.
- In Dreamcraft, Shaker 2 and Miami 2 are now available in Hickory
- All FULL OVERLAY Tidwell doors and stains are now available in DreamCraft. Literature is in process of being updated.
- Upgraded color chip program from veneer to solid wood or HDF with an ogee edge to better show wood color. Use item code NC-CSB to order.

## Ordering Systems, Resources and Promotions

- Improved speed and efficiencies in Ufactory by upgrading our infrastructure.
- Significant improvements to the spec books with combined item/price and added images and improvements to the 2020 catalogs to be more user friendly. Current versions of the spec books and updated 2020 catalogs are available for download at nationscabinetry.com in the "Resources" section.
- Stay current on resource updates. Contact info@nationscabinetry.com to get on the list.
- Continuing the promotion for 5% off all paints in Tidwell, and on price level 3 or higher in DreamCraft.
- Continuing SPIF promotion: TC/DPO and DC/Dovetail or Metal Drawer with ASP of \$400 or greater
- Continuing \$100 Gift Card for 4-Star or better reviews on Google, Facebook or Yelp.

Thank you for your continued support!

**Nations Staff**