

## Lab Prepared Panels with Draw-down Lines

Coil Coating companies are sometimes asked to explain the difference between the appearance of laboratory prepared panels compared to those of the final product created at their coil coating lines. Following are few points you may wish to share with interested parties.

The small parallel lines visible on lab prepared panels that contain effect pigments are known as “draw-down” lines. These lines are created by “draw-down bars” – laboratory tools that are scientifically calibrated to control the thickness of the coating being applied to a metal panel, and required to insure accurate lab to application line correlation. (See images below)

It is a common misunderstanding that these minute parallel lines on lab prepared panels are somehow not an accurate aesthetic representation of color. Nothing could be further from the truth. The only difference is that the finished coil coated product will be perfectly smooth, (with no lines). Everything else - color, gloss, sparkle, and reflectivity – will remain unchanged.

The use of laboratory draw down bars is a time proven and necessary application method, universally accepted in the coil coating industry; and just one of many quality control procedures PPG uses to insure that our customers continue to receive the quality and reliability they’ve come to expect from PPG Coatings.

