



## Case Study: Shower Coating System

Contractor Mike Price of E-Tech out of Dublin, VA has perfected the art of coating and repairing shower stalls in colleges and universities. Schools, prisons, nursing homes, and similar institutions all have problems with their shower stalls leaking to the substrate and floors below. Mike has taken the dorm shower niche and ran with it, using our coatings to permanently repair and seal the showers floors and walls. He's done dozens of shower stalls at schools like Virginia Military Institute, James Madison University, and Radford University and his work in the dorm showers has led to other coatings jobs (most noticeably outside ramps) with the universities.

Mike has found that many institutions all had the same issues with the grout between the tiles quickly deteriorating because of the shower's constant use and aggressive cleaning by the housekeeping staff. Once the showers begin to leak the threat of mold, bacteria and mildew in the porous grout and the substrate below then become a major health concern. Removal, disposal and replacing the old tile and damaged walls is very costly and still has the problem of grout failure in the future.

Mike first removes the soap scum and contaminates off the shower tile using a high pressure steam cleaning machine and a good soap scum remover. He then shot blasts the surface and removes any loose or damaged tile and repairs those areas with Milamar's ICO Gel. Next he primes with ICO Primer LV and then two coats of ICO Glaze.

Another common issue Mike sees is where they tried to use acrylic pans over the original shower base to stop the leaking. The caulk sealing around the acrylic pan inevitably fails and moisture gets between it and the original shower pan. As you can see from the picture below mold and mildew become a serious issue. Constant re-caulking of the showers proved to be an expensive and short term answer. Mike's solution is to completely remove the acrylic pan, clean all the mold and mildew build-up, and grind the original shower pan. Next he fixes any cracks with ICO Gel and then primes with ICO Primer LV and applies two coats of ICO Glaze. This has proved to be a permanent solution that has saved his customers thousands of dollars in maintenance and repairs.



