

DSS-P.02.04 | Processing / Manufacturing Features

Ream / Cord / Striae (optical inhomogeneity)

Float & raw glass feature - reference; generally not “damage”

Diagnosis summary

Ream/cord/striae are optical inhomogeneities in float glass arising from localized variations in composition/temperature during forming. They present as streaks, swirls, or ribbons that deflect straight-line reflections and alter transmitted/reflected imagery, most apparent at oblique angles. These are factory optical features rather than local surface-relief defects.

Field identification cues

- Surface-catch class (MSRT):
- SC-0 (none). Perform one light, non-marring pass per VIS §5.5 to confirm absence of tactile relief; do not abrade or repeat passes. The MSRT is used only to support classification, not acceptance.
- Visual signature:
- Non-localized optical deflection (straight lines appear bent) or swirled streaks with no transition edge, no chip flanks, and no pits/craters typical of surface damage.

Classification, severity and scope

- Not field damage.
- If a similar appearance is confirmed between panes (fixed parallax in an IGU) or otherwise inaccessible, record CAT-5 and refer per project protocol.

Distinguishing criteria

- vs.
- vs. Abrasion fields (M.02): Abrasion shows directional patterning and can escalate to slight/clear catch; ream/cord remain SC-0 with no transition edge.

Documentation and inspection

- Photo set (VIS): 12 / 36 / 72 in, normal + oblique; include raking usage; capture a straight-line reflection (mullion/string line) to show optical bending.
- MSRT result: Record SC-0 (none); one pass only; non-marring.
- Forms: Pane ID; product family and surface numbering; worked surface Y/N; functional coating present on worked surface?

Safety / repairability boundary: Complete only the non-invasive reveal and inspection steps authorized by the controlling VIS guidance. Classification does not authorize restoration, establish acceptance, or override stop-work, coating, crack, integrity, access, chemical, fall-protection, or project-specific requirements.

Full DSS publication: use the catalog download. Web specification:

<https://a7df714357.nxcli.io/learning-center/resource-center/damage-specification-standards/dss-p-02-04-ream-cord-striae-optical-inhomogeneity/>