Urethane Coatings Product Knowledgebase

The finish has dried with bubbles on the surface and looks like orange peel in places. What causes this?

-1. Generally bubbles, orange peel effect and brush strokes or roller marks are a result of the application process, and can be caused by several reasons.
The finish is drying too quickly. If the finish is worked too vigorously excess bubbles are created and the vigorous brushing or rolling stimulates faster drying. If the coat is rolled too thin it dries faster. Either way a quick drying finish thickens rapidly reducing the time required for the bubbles, brush or roller marks to level out and become smooth. An orange peel effect is created by a roller after a finish has become too thick to completely level out and become smooth. Apply an even coat and do not over work by brushing or rolling too many times.Applying finish when ambient and or surface temperatures are at or above 27°C are likely to encounter rapid drying, which is another cause of the above surface ‘imperfections’. Care must be taken to ensure a ‘wet edge’ is maintained and if necessary add FLOWMATE Wet Edge Extender to slow drying and to ensure an even consistent flow of the finish is maintained.Applying finish when ambient and or surface temperatures are at or below 13°C are likely to encounter rapid thickening, which is a further cause of the above surface ‘imperfections’. Care must be taken to ensure an even consistent flow of the finish is maintained and therefore if necessary at low temperatures add FLOWMATE Wet Edge Extender.Extra care must be taken when applying reduced sheen finish (MONOTHANE SEMI GLOSS, MONOTHANE SATIN, or MONOTHANE MATT), as these finishes all contain a matting agent that rises to the surface as the finish dries. Accordingly the need to maintain an even consistent flow of the finish is increased and therefore give special attention to preventing drafts flowing over the project while applying the finish. If possible filter direct sunlight from the project with curtains and make every effort to have a constant temperature in the area of the project and across the entire surface to be finished.

http://www.urethanecoatings.com.au/kb/questions.php?questionid=9