

First Contact™

Photonic Cleaning Technologies

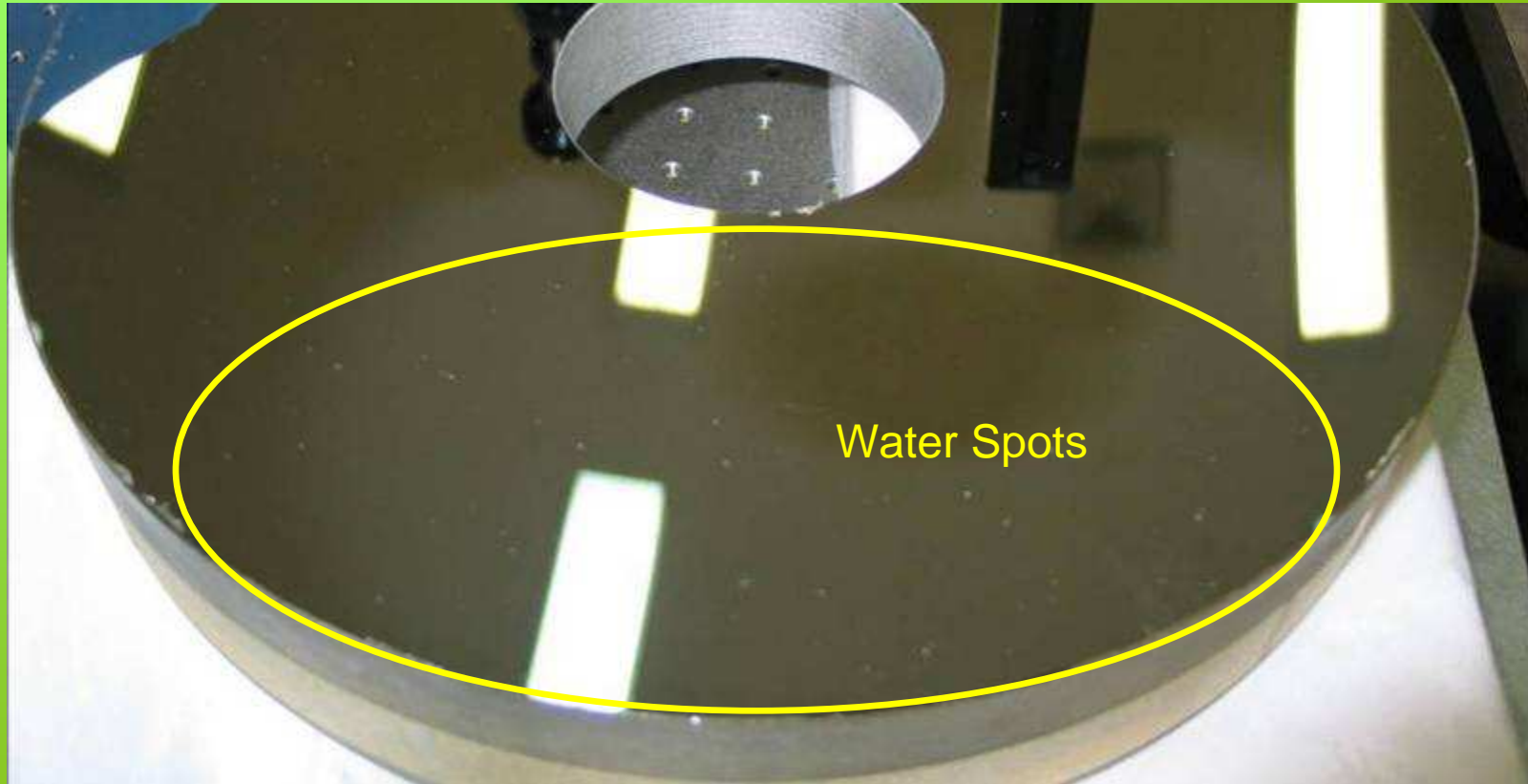
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Cleaning Water Soluble Contaminants from an Optic Surface



These images show a first surface aluminum mirror treated by the Western Range Depot Optics Group, WRDOG, at Vandenberg Air Force Base. The mirror was treated once with First Contact to remove particulates in order to focus closely on removal of the remaining water spots.

It is not necessary to remove the particulates first and then remove water spots second but both activities may be done at the same time by following the steps in remaining slides.



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The mirror was sprayed with a high quality lens cleaner, the WRDOG used Clarity as shown at the right. This water-based solution dissolved, or at least began to dissolve and loosen, the water spots from the mirror surface. First Contact was sprayed onto the mirror while it was still wet with the water solvent.

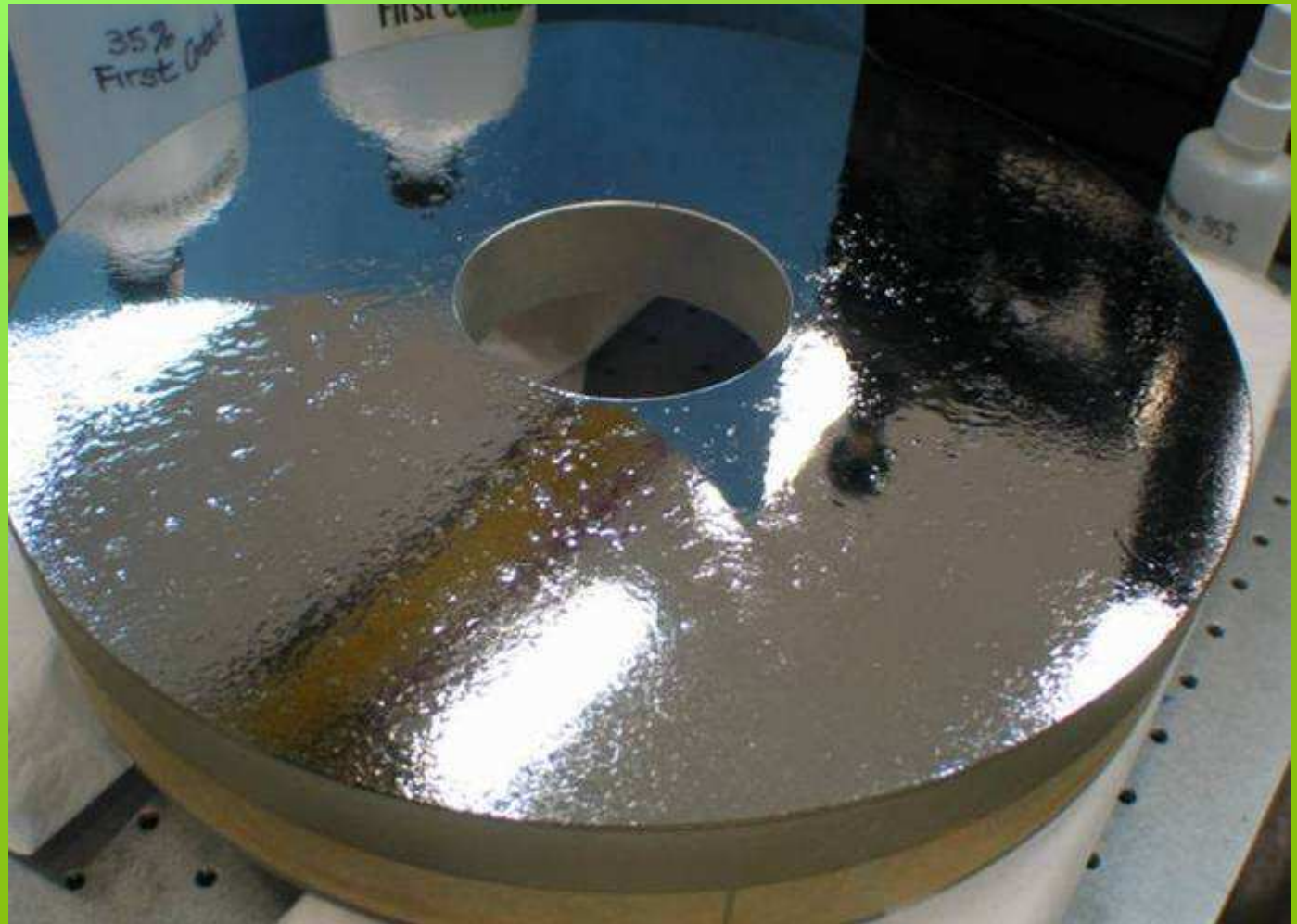
The solution turned cloudy, so more First Contact was applied until the cloudiness disappeared. Only a few additional milliliters of First Contact are needed, in most cases, to eliminate cloudiness. Go slowly, give the additional First Contact 1 - 2 minutes to absorb the water before spraying on more First Contact.



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The Gone After Spraying Again With Polymer
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With the right amount of Spray First Contact Solution the coating is clear, not cloudy. Allow the solution to dry. This may take a while because of the water used, so plan on a couple of hours for this step.



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When the polymer solution dries to a film it can be removed in a single sheet. The polymer film can be discarded in a waste receptacle – There is NO Hazardous Waste when using First Contact!





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The Water Spots Are Gone!



Photonic Cleaning Technologies thanks the WRDOG-Vandenberg AFB for the images in this presentation.