

# Maintaining Epoxy Resin floors

## FLOOR MAINTENANCE AND GENERAL HOUSEKEEPING

If regular care is provided and recommended guidelines observed, the decorative appearance and life of all Epoxy Products Flooring Systems will be extended.

### i) Care Immediately after Installation

The new flooring system should be allowed to fully cure before being used.  
The following perimeters apply -:

Careful Foot traffic - 24 hours at 20°C, 48 hours at 8°C

Full Mechanical and Chemical Loading - 7 days at 20°C, 14 days at 8°C

Washing with water must not occur until the curing cycle is completed i.e. not within 7 days.

### ii) Cleaning

Cleaning regularly is necessary to maintain the appearance and prolong the life of the flooring system.

Our General Purpose Cleanser is an ideal product for epoxy resin floors.

The use of Washer Scrubber Dryer machines incorporating the recommended cleaners would be the best, most effective method of cleaning the floor.

Abrasive cleansers must not be used.

Acid based cleansers must not be used.

Strong alkali based cleansers must not be used in concentration form.

Solvent cleansers must not be used although some solvent "activated" cleansers are suitable.

Scraping of the surface should be avoided. Plastic scrapers or squeegees with rounded corners are less aggressive to the floors surface.

### iii) Polishing

Having washed the floor the application of approved clear polymer glaze coats or wax polishes are recommended to protect the upper surface from minor scratches and abrasions.

Wax modified cleansers will provide improved scratch resistance.

The "metallic polishes" will provide immediate protection and we recommend three or more coats are applied following a maintenance washing. Three or more coats can easily be applied in one day. Having done so repeated applications of polish should be made every three months.

### iii) Accidental Impact Damage

We advise contacting Epoxy Products Contracts Division as soon as possible to ensure remedial measures can be effected in order to retain the performance of the Epoxy Coating system and prevent water or chemical ingress into the damaged area.

### iv) Accidental Scratch or Scoring Damage

Should the flooring surface become scratched or scored by abrasive materials then we would immediately recommend the surface is cleaned with an approved cleanser and an approved polish or glaze coat is applied to the surface. This will protect the floor from further minor scratches. Repeat applications building up the thickness of the polish or glaze coat will provide improved scratch resistance.

#### v) Spillage's and Deposits

Regular sweeping and cleaning is advised as dirt and dust are abrasive and can prematurely age the surface. Spillage of chemicals i.e., petrol or oil should be cleaned up immediately as with all good cleaning procedures.

After chemical spillage's, certain chemicals may cause some colour changes. This usually is caused by a surface reaction only and will not impair the mechanical performance of the flooring system. If in doubt, contact Epoxy Products Technical Services Department for assistance.

### **Cleaning Methods**

#### i) Hand Cleaning

The floor can be cleaned by the use of a mop and bucket using our approved cleanser.

It is important the floor is finally rinsed with clean water to avoid smearing contaminated water across the floor. The main problem associated with this cleaning method is drying the floor effectively without allowing contaminated water to puddle upon the surface and leave a dirty smear effect when dry.

This method of cleaning is normally only recommended for cleansing small areas of localised spillage.

#### ii) Washer Scrubber Dryer Machines

Technical advances in floor maintenance equipment over the past decade have provided industry with low cost, highly efficient machines applying low foam cleansers with vacuum suction drying.

The use of these machines is recommended as being the most effective method of cleaning floors with minimum disruption.

#### iii) Wet Vacuum Pick Up Machines

Having washed the floor with copious amounts of water and cleanser the floor can be dried efficiently by passing over the area with a Wet Vacuum Pick Up Machine. These machines will dry the floor extremely well leaving a clean dry surface.

To achieve best results however, final rinsing with cold clean water maybe necessary to remove and pick up any fine sediment of dirt that remains upon the surface.

#### iv) Power washing

A highly effective method of cleaning but difficult to control and to remove the large volumes of water left upon the floor. Should the floor levels be variable then water puddles maybe created and difficult to remove. If this should occur then the problem of dirt sediment as mentioned above may result.

#### v) Steam Cleaning

The use of a steam cleaner is not recommended for this particular flooring system. Excessive heat shock may cause swelling, blistering and subsequent adhesion failure to this flooring system.