



TECHNICAL BULLETIN CP-17

MAINTENANCE OF EUCLID CHEMICAL EPOXY & URETHANE FLOOR COATING SYSTEMS

Euclid Chemical supplies high performance epoxy and urethane floor coating systems that are capable of withstanding abrasion, impact, chemical spills, and thermal shock. In order to maintain a floor coating system, the following procedures are recommended.

PROTECTING YOUR NEW FLOOR

On new construction and major renovation projects it is important to recognize that the floor must be protected from other trades during the remainder of the construction process. Steps that should be taken to provide this protection are:

1. Protect the newly installed system during the initial curing by restricting all access to the floor.
2. Allow for sufficient cure time, typically 24 to 72 hours, depending upon the system.
3. When open to traffic, cover the newly applied floor with a suitable protection material such as construction paper, plywood, plastic sheeting, drop cloths, or cardboard to minimize abuse from other construction trades that may be operating in the area.
4. Begin a quality maintenance program as soon as possible.

By following these steps problems associated with premature damage, the introduction of dirt, dust and foreign debris to the floor system will be minimized. This will result in a flooring system that will be easier to clean and maintain.

DEVELOPING A MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE

The texture of the floor system, frequency of contamination to the floor from chemicals and/or dirt, intended usage, and unexpected circumstances will all play a part in determining how often the floor must be cleaned and maintained. A floor exposed to only dirt and debris may need an occasional sweeping whereas a floor exposed to chemical spills may require immediate cleaning to minimize staining and degradation.

Often a combination of the following procedures will be utilized in developing a maintenance schedule. A schedule based on the individual floor and its usage needs to be established. Once a schedule is developed it should be strictly followed. The following recommendations are based upon testing and experience of both cleaning products and methods by Euclid Chemical. Although a particular facility needs a specific floor cleaning guideline, the following recommendations should help establish a maintenance schedule.

MAINTENANCE / CLEANING EQUIPMENT

To properly maintain and clean a Euclid Chemical flooring system you will need some or all of the following tools and equipment.

- Mop
- Pressure Washer
- Squeegees
- Wet/Dry Vacuum
- Industrial Scrubbers
- Stiff Bristle Nylon Scrub Brush
- Rubber Gloves
- Cleaning Solutions
- Buckets and Rags



MOP CLEANING

Mop cleaning is the most often used method of cleaning of smooth floors. For textured floor systems use a nylon scrub brush or broom instead of a mop. A step by step procedure is listed below.

1. Sweep all loose debris from the floor.
2. Dilute a suitable cleaner to the manufacturers recommended concentration.
3. Dip and ring the mop as needed to properly remove the dirt or contamination from the floor.
4. Using clean, warm water, mop the floor again. Ring the mop frequently in order to prevent detergent build up.
5. Use a wet/dry vacuum to remove excess water.

POWER SCRUBBING

Some floor systems can tolerate, and will require, power scrubbing. A cleaning procedure is listed below.

1. Dilute a suitable cleaner to the manufacturers recommended concentration.
2. A rotating drum type power scrubber works best. Use a softer nylon bristle brush to achieve the desired abrasiveness without damaging the floor finish. A test area should be cleaned to evaluate any effects on the finish prior to cleaning the entire floor.
3. Let the cleaning solution do most of the work. Let it stand for five minutes and re-scrub if necessary. Do not allow the detergent to dry or build up on the floor.
4. Remove excess detergent from the floor with a wet/dry vacuum.
5. Rinse thoroughly using warm water.
6. Remove excess water.

PRESSURE WASHING

Pressure washing is another option for cleaning your flooring system. Use of low water pressure not to exceed 1000 psi with a wide spray fan tip is recommended for most applications.

1. Sweep all loose debris from the floor.
2. Dilute a suitable cleaner to the manufacturers recommended concentration.
3. Place diluted cleaner in pressure washer system.
4. Pressure wash floor to clean floor.
5. Use clean water in pressure washer to rinse floor.
6. Remove water with squeegees or wet/dry vacuum.

INSPECTION

Visual inspections should be made periodically of the entire surface to assess system performance. If the floor has sustained any damage corrective action should be taken promptly to assure a long lasting, durable floor.



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REPAIR OF COATING SYSTEMS

In the event that the coating system is damaged, plans should be made to repair the area(s) promptly. Follow the basic steps below to achieve a permanent repair.

1. Determine the cause of the damage and remove the source so that it will not happen again.
2. Remove all loose, damaged, or poorly bonded coating. Depending on the severity of the damage this can be done using grinding wheel, power blasting, sanding or any mechanical means that are appropriate. The area should be squared off to create a neat patch.
3. Use the same coating system to make repairs as were initially used to coat the surface.
4. Mix coating materials in accordance to the product technical data sheet.
5. Apply the coating system to the patch in the same manner as the initial installation.
6. Allow repaired area to fully cure before opening to traffic or loads of any nature that could damage the repair area.