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## Maintenance Suggestions: Epoxy & Urethane Floor Coatings

### GENERAL

Strong chemicals, fuels, hydraulic fluid and oil should be removed from the floor immediately. Immediate removal prevents discoloration or chemical damage to the floor coating and reduces dangerous, slippery conditions.

Whenever a mechanical scrubber, buffer or sweeper is used, make sure the brushes are soft bristle. Don't use bristles or pads that may scratch or abrade the surface as that would lead to premature wear of the coating or overlayment.

Abrasive dirt, such as sand or metal chips should be dry-swept from the surface at least daily. Scrub the floors at least once a week and take care to remove all dirty cleaning solutions.

Minimize or eliminate scraping and sliding of heavy machinery or sharp objects as well as pallets across the floor. Repair or touch up gouges and scratches on a regular basis to minimize spreading of damaged areas, especially in wet environments. Use only the correct Impax materials for any touch-ups or repairs.

### SMOOTH OR LIGHTLY TEXTURED FLOORS

For smooth or lightly textured floors, normal housekeeping and preventive maintenance should include sweeping (daily) and mopping to remove loose dirt and spills. This can be done by hand or with a mechanical scrubber. In either case, use hot water with detergent, allow the detergent solution to sit on the floor long enough to loosen up the dirt. Then scrub the area and remove the dirty water, or squeegee into the drains, before rinsing the area with clean water.

If the cleaning is done by hand, the use of a hose and nozzle can greatly help in getting into corners and other tight areas and can also make it much easier to perform a clear water rinse after the dirt has been removed.

### TEXTURED FLOORS

If the floor is heavily textured or subject to heavy dirt accumulations, the use of a mechanical scrubber is highly recommended for wet cleaning. Use hot water with detergent, change water often, and make sure to remove all the dirty water from the surface. If dirty water is left to evaporate on the surface, a light haze will develop which will detract from the gloss. For dry cleaning, a mechanical sweeping machine is recommended for areas subject to a lot of dirt and loose, abrasive items, such as sand and metal chips.

It is not necessary to wax Epoxy or Urethane Floors, but if desired, a no-strip wax can be applied.

Some difficult-to-remove dirt, such as grease, rubber heel marks and tire marks may be removed with a solvent such as Xylene. It is, however, extremely important to test the use of such chemicals in a hidden area first to determine if the particular product installed in your facility will withstand the solvent.

In any case, use solvents only to the extent absolutely necessary and use extreme caution.



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TECHNICAL BULLETIN

**NOTE:**

When using any of the procedures outlined in this article, follow all safety precautions on labels of cleaning products, solvents and mechanical equipment.

ErgonArmor assumes no liability for any injury caused by use, misuse or negligence by the user of these methods.

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