

CrownTech™ - Technical Bulletin No. 8

Care and Maintenance

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INTRODUCTION

Crown Polymers' floor and wall products are an investment in your facility. To maximize the return of investment (ROI) and to maintain Crown Polymers' limited material warranty, it is mandatory that the following recommendations are adhered to.

Crown Polymers Care and Maintenance procedures must be performed at regular intervals, including:

- Physical Inspections
- Cleaning
- Immediate Repair of Damaged Surfaces
- Periodic Replacement of the Top Coat or Finish Coat

FLOOR and WALL CHEMISTRY

Selecting a floor and wall product or system can be difficult. As an example, polyurethane finish coats have exceptional mar, scratch and stain resistance compared to softer materials, like acrylics or harder materials, like epoxies. That is why many of Crown Polymers systems usually include a polyurethane finish coat.

Crown Polymers representatives will provide assistance in selecting the best products and systems for your needs and budget.

PHYSICAL INSPECTION

Monthly documented inspection records, as well as a maintenance written inspection log, are required for the duration of Crown Polymers' limited warranty. The inspection log must indicate the date of inspection, findings by location, and photos or videos of problems. Physical inspection provides the basis for proper care and maintenance, which will ensure the life expectancy of the floor and wall products.

Inspect all terminations, transitions, penetrations and highly abrasive areas, such as joints, to determine that they are functioning correctly.

- Inspect for evidence of substrate distress, such as reflective cracking, which may have compromised the floor or wall product.
- Inspect drains and trenches to ensure they are properly working and free of damage.
- Inspect areas of high abrasion and impact for wear, for loss of aggregates, spalling and other damage.

NOTIFICATION

If a problem is identified the inspector or other facility employee must notify the General Manager of Crown Polymers in writing with pictures or videos. Written notification must be sent to Crown Polymers within 10 working days of the discovery of the problem.

Crown Polymers representatives must be granted free and unencumbered access to all areas requiring repair.

CLEANING

The frequency of cleaning will vary based on the use:

- Immediately, for hazardous chemical spills.
- shift, at a minimum, for spills of non-hazardous chemicals to be cleaned up.
- Daily or as required, for vacuuming or sweeping of abrasives, such as dirt, debris, or other abrasives, as well as removal of greases and oils, especially to minimize slippage.

Cleaning agents, such as mild low suds detergents and cleaners, are normally recommended. They require thorough rinsing and removal of all residue, and drying to avoid slippage.

Tough stains may require power scrubbing, steam cleaning or aggressive detergents, which can reduce the gloss of the product, but usually not its functionality. Avoid the use of strong solvents, especially hydrocarbon solvent.

Cleaning products and disinfecting compounds, cleaning techniques and equipment effect color, gloss, texture and performance of the products or systems. As a precaution, before cleaning the entire surface area, always test the reagents and equipment in a small inconspicuous area. Only proceed to the entire surface after confirmation that the floor and wall products are not damaged.

CLEANING RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommended cleaning chemical and procedures based on use:

- Foot Traffic, such as, dining facilities, health care, schools, retail and other foot traffic areas, use a pH neutral slip resistant floor cleaner.
- Light to Moderate Traffic, such as, animal housing, automotive centers, commercial kitchens, light manufacturing, and other light to moderate traffic areas, use a cleaner with a degreaser.
- Moderate to Heavy Traffic, such as, factories and processing facilities, loading docks and other moderate to heavy traffic areas, use a heavy-duty cleaner with a heavy-duty degreaser.
- Food and Beverage Processing Plants, such as, breweries, wineries and beverage plants, dairy plants, meat, poultry and fish plants, vegetable, fruits, nuts and grain processing, use a heavy-duty cleaner with a heavy-duty degreaser.
- ESD and Conductive Facilities, such as, clean rooms, computer rooms, electronics production and assembly facilities, quality control labs and surgical suits and other static free facilities, use a pH neutral cleaner.

CLEANING METHODS

Cleaning methods will vary depending on the surface texture, as well as, the size of the facility to be cleaned.

1. Smooth Surfaces:

- Remove large items
- Apply cleaner
- Agitate with broom or synthetic dust mop or automated floor scrubber with soft bristle brush
- Let stand for 5 to 10 minutes, then agitate again, if necessary
- Remove with mop or wet vacuum or a combination of both

2. Textured Surfaces:

- Remove large items
- Apply cleaner
- Agitate with broom or automated floor scrubber with soft bristle brush
- Let stand for 5 to 10 minutes, then agitate again, if necessary
- Remove with squeegee or wet vacuum or a combination of both, or automatic floor scrubber with a liquid and contamination recovery system

DO'S AND DON'TS

1. Always document that the personnel assigned to clean and maintain the surfaces has been trained in the proper cleaning methods.
2. Automatic floor scrubber - never use a stiff bristle scrubbing brush - always use a soft brush
3. Rotary floor machines - never use a harsh abrasive pad, always use a 3M white, tan or red pad or similar.
4. Squeegee - avoid rigid squeegees, use a soft neoprene type squeegee.

5. Never use water for the cleaning and removal of grease and oil, always use the proper cleaner.
6. Always immediately clean up spills and abrasive debris from the surface.
7. Always protect the surface when moving or setting up equipment.
8. Avoid damaging the floor by unwarranted items, damage caused by pallet nail drag.

DISCLAIMER

The Technical Bulletin is intended to provide the most current data available to assist the Contractor in making the best decisions. All technical bulletins, installation guidelines, recommendations, statements, specifications, and technical data contained herein are based on information and tests. The accuracy and completeness of such tests are not guaranteed and are not to be construed as a warranty, expressed or implied. It is the responsibility of the user to document information and tests to determine the intent of the product for one's own use. The application, job conditions and user assume all risks and liability resulting from use of the product. We do not suggest or guarantee any hazards listed herein are the only ones, which may exist. Neither seller nor manufacturer shall be liable to the buyer or any third person for any injury, loss or damage directly or indirectly resulting from use of, or inability to use the product. Recommendations or statements, whether in written or verbal, other than those contained herein shall not be binding upon the manufacturer, unless in writing and signed by a corporate officer of the manufacturer. Technical and application information is provided for the purpose of establishing a general profile of the material and proper application procedures. Test performance results were obtained in a controlled environment and Crown Polymers makes no claim that these tests or any other tests accurately represent all environments. Not responsible for any typographical errors.

LIMITED WARRANTY

Crown Polymers warrants its products to be free of manufacturing defects and meets all Crown Polymers current published physical properties. Crown Polymers' sole responsibility shall be to replace the portion of any product proved to be defective. There are no other warranties by Crown Polymers of any nature whatsoever expressed or implied, including any warranty of merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose in connection with this product. Crown Polymers shall not be liable for damages of any sort, including remote or consequential damages resulting from any claimed breach of any warranty whether expressed or implied. Crown Polymers shall not be responsible for the use of this product in a manner to infringe on any patent held by others. In addition, no warranty or guarantee pertaining to appearance, color, fading, chalking, staining, shrinkage, peeling, normal wear and tear or improper application by the applicator will be issued. Damage caused by abuse, neglect and lack of proper maintenance, acts of nature and/or physical movement of the substrate or structural defects are also excluded from the limited warranty. Crown Polymers reserves the right to conduct performance tests on any material claimed to be defective prior to any repairs by owner, general contractor, or applicator.

