

# CLEANING GUIDE – PROCESSING FLOORS



**Puma-Crete** urethane concrete floors are hard, impervious, non-absorbent and non-dusting. This ensures not only their durability, but ease of cleaning when a suitable cleaning program is used. **The cleaning and maintenance of a Puma-Crete floor must be considered a vital and integral part of an overall hygiene program covering all parts of a processing plant.** All Puma-Crete floors have proved to be both cleanable and sanitizable with regard to micro-organisms, and do not support the growth of bacteria.

## DESCRIPTION OF PUMA-CRETE URETHANE CONCRETE FLOORING

**401-HF/ECO (SINGLE PASS)** This flooring is applied as a one-pass system; these floors are the “work horse” of our product line, and are designed for maximum durability. These floors may have either a light sand texture, medium, or aggressive sand texture. If a silica sand is applied, it will provide a temporary non-slip, until the floor “wears-in”. Once the floor “wears-in”, the large stone aggregate within the floor matrix is exposed. This results in a permanent non-slip surface, which cannot wear off.

**301-SLB and 401-HFB (2 Layer Systems):** These floors are designed for higher aesthetics and stain resistance, as opposed to the 401-HF/ECO. There is a base layer with broadcasted silica, and a lock-coat/sealer. This lock-coat seals/locks the sand, and provides a more cleanable texture. This system exhibits a slip-resistant surface, along with a glossy, easy to clean finish. This generally has a rougher texture in areas with oil/grease or detergent usage.

**CURING TIME (at 70 deg F)** *Note: The lower the room/floor temperature, the longer the cure time.*

Full cure foot traffic: 8-12 hrs

Full cure for forklifts: 24 hrs **LOWER TEMPS:** 48 hours is advised at temperatures < 70 deg F, before hvy traffic.

**OPTIONAL:** Faster curing PumaSpartic lockcoat/ topcoat: 4-6 hours cure cure for forklifts at 70 deg F.

## POST INSTALLATION

**Use of non-marking lift truck tires are highly recommended, in order to prevent black tire marks, embedded into the new floor. Black tire marks may be removed with a good cleaner; however, they require a great deal of cleaning to remove, once embedded into the finish.**

**Immediately following new floor installation, your new floor may be subjected to types of usage, which are very different from those expected during normal service, such as:**

- Heavy lifting equipment (forklifts, pallet jacks etc.)
- Movement of heavy, cumbersome equipment.
- Spillage of paints, mastics, and sealants from other contractors/maintenance.

**Because of this, it is important to consider using one of the following:**

- The installation of temporary covers of a plastic material; for example, polyethylene sheeting and 3/16” hardboard (Masonite). if other trades are to work in the area, tape the seams.
- Covering the area to be subjected to traffic and additional trades with plywood sheets with heavy duty tape at the seams.
- **The avoidance of early heavy usage**, particularly with rubber-wheeled vehicles. This will minimize the risk of dirt being embedded into the surface of the floor, before it reaches full hardness.

## INITIAL CLEANING

When cleaning the floor prior to its being put into its intended service, more aggressive cleaning chemicals than normal may be used. New flooring typically reaches its full chemical cure after approximately 3-5 days. After this period, these should not damage the floor, but the use of strippers or cleaners containing **caustic alkalis, chlorinated hydrocarbon solvents, and CIP (clean in place) sanitizing chemicals** **SHOULD BE AVOIDED**, as they can bleach and discolor the floor surface.

## IN-USE CLEANING

Specialized floor cleaning equipment is widely available, as the variety of cleaning chemicals and bactericides/sterilants used with it. Both **400-HF/ECO** and **401-HFB** urethane concrete systems have good all around chemical resistance. However, if additional stain resistance is required, a lock-coat/top-coat of

**pumaSPARTIC or pumaLAC (novolac) epoxy** may improve stain resistance for specific chemicals, and especially if **CIP** (clean in place) sanitizing chemicals are used. Check with our technical support team for further advice.

## **FLOOR CLEANING EQUIPMENT**

*\*Preferred for medium to rough texture floors*

- **\* Rotary Floor Machine (17" buffer) or Auto Floor Scrubber:** *Brush should be nylon, medium flex ( non abrasive) bristles.*
- **\* Hi Pressure Water Hose:** rinse down
- **Broom or dust mop** (for general debris cleaning).
- **Mop/Bucket** (for smooth or very light texture floors) (*note: never use a mop to clean a floor that is greasy or oily*).
- **Soft Neoprene Rubber Squeegee** (for removing water from smooth or very light texture floors)
- **Deck Brush:** medium to firm plastic bristles (for small areas, cleaning medium to rough texture floors).

### ***When selecting equipment consider the following criteria:***

- Relate the method to the "soil" type; what is suitable for wet "soil" in a meat preparation area may not be suitable for dry "soil" in a bakery.
- Relate the method, and frequency, of cleaning to the *risk status* of the area; all methods may be suitable in a finished goods warehouse but not in a high risk area such as chilled-food preparation.
- Methods suitable **outside of production hours may not** be appropriate **during production**; be aware of the risk of aerosol generation.

### **Cleaning-equipment manufacturers**

They have specialized knowledge, and offer practical demonstrations of equipment. You are advised to consult them. The list below is not exhaustive but it's provided as a guide:

**Advance/Nilfisk, Tennant Co., Hoover, Henkel, Ecolab, Electrolux Equipment Supplies.**

*(Similar equipment from other manufacturers may be equally suitable).*

## **CLEANERS** ( *including bactericides* )

The variety of cleaning chemicals and bactericides/sterilants available is extensive, and making the appropriate selections can be confusing. The correct choice of chemicals is important and you are strongly advised to seek specialist advice. The following companies will be able to offer advice on the selection of appropriate cleaning chemicals in relation to "soil" types including the removal of black rubber tire marking. This listing is by no means complete and consultation with other reputable suppliers is recommended.

- **CLEANING CHEMICALS:** Simple Green; (**Industrial Suppliers:** ECOLAB, ZEP, DELTA, TENANT CO)
- **EXTRA HEAVY CLEANER for STUBBORN STAIN REMOVAL and CLEANING:** [SIMONIZ 969](#)

*If you have trouble finding appropriate cleaning supplies, contact us, to help find a representative in your area.*

## **MAINTENANCE & REPAIR**

Even the most meticulously-cleaned PUMA-CRETE urethane concrete floors may suffer damage to its integrity by some unforeseen incident in the workplace, which could result in a consequential risk of bacteriological build-up in cracks etc. If this situation arises, the damaged floor should be repaired without delay. You may consult our technical support department, which has the in-depth knowledge of the remedial techniques that will restore the integrity of the floor.

## **REPAIR KITS**

We stock repair kits, if needed, which may be used to easily perform minor repairs such as cracks, chips, holes, and small areas.

## **SAFETY & SLIP RESISTANCE**

**No matter how aggressive the texture of your floor, if it is not cleaned properly, it can present a slip hazard. Emulsifying and rinsing your floor properly will reduce the risk of a slip and fall incident.**