

## General Maintenance Guide for RT Acrylic Reactive Floors

In general, Res-Tek MMA Acrylic floors require little in the way of routine maintenance. Although, a regular cleaning schedule will increase service life and aid in maintaining aesthetics. The following guide was developed to help answer common questions followed by detailed maintenance instructions. A proper cleaning routine begins with complete removal of solid debris and ends with thorough rinsing and drying before opening the area to traffic.

### Cleaning Q & A

#### What types of cleaners are safe for MMA floors?

Res-Tek Inc manufactures and markets **RT Acrylic Floor Cleaner**, a general purpose cleaner suitable for most cleaning requirements.

In choosing a cleaner for more specific applications, there are two considerations.

1) What type of debris is deposited on the floor?

In an oily environment, degreasers are effective. Caustic cleaners are appropriate where food acids are present, etc.

2) What cleaning chemicals can be used without damaging the floor?

MMA floors exhibit excellent resistance to dilute acids and caustics. They should not be exposed to organic solvents. Caustic cleaners, and those based on citrus (**RT Acrylic Floor Cleaner**) or other “green” cleaners are acceptable. Any cleaner that lists a solvent on the label or MSD Sheet should be avoided.

#### What cleaning procedure should be used?

In most cases, a wet mop or a soft - medium bristled brush provides sufficient mechanical action to loosen debris on smooth RT MMA Acrylic floors. Abrasive devices that are designed for cleaning concrete will damage MMA floors and should be avoided. Scrubbing machines, pressure washers, and scrub brushes are ideal for non-skid aggregate loaded floors. Brushes should be

designed for polymeric floors (soft to medium bristle).

#### How often should RT MMA Acrylic floors be cleaned?

The cleaning schedule for any floor (MMA included) relies on the flooring environment and the degree of cleanliness that is required. Hospital operating rooms, hydrotherapy areas and biological research laboratories often clean their floors using antimicrobial cleaners several times a day or “after every procedure”. Supermarkets use a scrubbing machine equipped with soft bristles every evening. Commercial or industrial environments may only require a thorough cleaning every week or two.

#### Can I wax my RT MMA Acrylic floor?

Do not use wax on RES-TEK floors. Wax will build upon the floor after repeated applications, trapping dirt, and will require periodic stripping. Wax stripping can damage floor surfaces. Waxing and stripping procedures can be totally eliminated by following this maintenance guide.

## MAINTENANCE INSTRUCTIONS

RES-TEK (MMA) acrylic seamless flooring systems will last for years and retain their satin sheen by following simple cleaning procedures to maintain the surface.

Sweeping or dry mopping the floor as required removing all loose dirt, litter, or foreign matter is highly recommended. Floor areas subject to scratching by the tracking of sand or grit from outside sources must be swept frequently.

Periodically, as necessary, scrub the floor using a solution of neutral detergent and water followed by a thorough rinsing with clear water. If the floor is being maintained by hand-mopping, care must be taken to ensure the mop water is changed often. When the cleaning solution becomes dirty, discard it and mix a fresh detergent solution. Hard to remove dirt, black marks, etc. should be rubbed gently with a non-abrasive scrubbing pad wetted with the detergent solution.

## Appropriate Cleaning Equipment:

**Power Washers** – Low to medium pressure up to 1,220 psi

**Wet Vacuums** - Provide water pick-up in areas without drains.

**Mops** – Cotton for smooth floors, Synthetic for use on profiled floors.

**Bucket** – For mixing cleaning solution.

**Bucket Wringer** – Aids in pick-up of cleaning solution and rinse water.

**Scrub Brushes** – Medium bristle Nylon brushes work best.

**Automatic Scrubbers** – Excellent for large areas, use general cleaning pads.

**Brooms** – Type of soil and surface profile of floor will determine bristle type.

## Detergents:

**General Cleaning - RT Acrylic Floor Cleaner** or similar citrus based cleaner (see caution below).

**Degreasing** – Use appropriate degreaser for animal or petroleum based fats and/or grease.

**Caution: Never use cleaners containing organic solvents or d-limonene.**

## Procedure for Cleaning Profiled Floors:

- Remove all loose soil by sweeping and/or vacuuming.
- Dilute appropriate cleaner according to manufacturer's recommendations. Too much cleaner/degreaser will only make rinsing more difficult.
- Apply solution to floor with a synthetic mop.
- Scrub floor as required with scrub brush.
- Pick-up excess cleaning solution with mop and wringer or vacuum with "wet vac" or squeegee to drains.
- Rinse thoroughly with clear water.
- Pick-up excess rinse water with mop and wringer or vacuum with "wet vac" or squeegee to drains.

## Procedure for Cleaning Smooth Floors:

- Remove all loose soil by sweeping and/or vacuuming.
- Dilute appropriate cleaner according to manufacturer's recommendations. Too much cleaner/degreaser will only make rinsing more difficult.
- Apply solution to floor with a cotton mop.
- Scrub floor as required.
- Pick-up excess cleaning solution with mop and wringer or vacuum with "wet vac" or squeegee to drains.
- Rinse thoroughly with clear water.
- Pick-up excess rinse water with mop and wringer or vacuum with "wet vac" or squeegee to drains.

## Helpful Hints:

- A mild abrasive cleaner or "Scotch-Brite" pad may be required for some scuff marks
- Swing style floor machines equipped with a non-abrasive nylon brush may aid in deep cleaning.
- Using too much detergent/cleaner may leave a residue that will attract dirt and become slippery when wet.
- Thorough rinsing with clear water is the key ingredient to a properly cleaned floor.
- Spills should be picked up immediately to help prevent slips and falls as well as staining.
- Prompt removal of loose soil, litter, or foreign matter is highly recommended and will reduce scratching by the tracking of sand or grit from outside sources.
- Automatic scrubbers are ideal for maintaining RES-TEK floors. Always follow the manufacturers operating instructions. Never use pads or brushes impregnated with abrasives.

**Always consult with a RES-TEK representative if you are unsure of a certain cleaner or procedure.**