

Flex-Shield is an epoxy based aggregate flooring system, often referred to as a resinous flooring system. Flex-Shield is known to have ease of maintenance, but should not be interpreted that no care is required. Once you understand the care requirements in the early stages of a new Flex-Shield floor, you not only avoid possible problems, you will soon recognize the economy of care and the aesthetic values of this product.

Since the matrix of the Flex-Shield systems is a nonporous surface, no penetrating-type sealer is used on this type of floor. Only use surface sealers, as mentioned in the contents of these instructions.

How often must the Flex-Shield flooring be swept or scrubbed is dictated by the amount of foot traffic that moves across this floor daily. However, it is normal that daily Sweeping is a requirement in most public buildings. Daily sweeping removes not only the dust but also the grit tracked into the building, the grit acts as an abrasive on your hard surface. As for scrubbing, normally a newly constructed building contains a considerable amount of construction air dust that will eventually deposit itself on the floors.

Initially, scrubbing should be considered twice weekly until the time when the construction dust no longer exists. Then wet mopping once a week should keep your floors in a clean state. Most owners want to see a clean surface free of trapped rime and contaminates.

Flex-Shield is a heavy duty industrial or institutional flooring system and does not require waxing or sealing with maintenance sealers. However, a sealer may be used to keep a high esthetic floor, any sealer used must be water-based and normally in the acrylic family of maintenance products designed for Flex-Shield use and have the classification by Underwriters Laboratories that it has slip resistance with a coefficient of friction rating of a minimum of 0.5 or higher.

We recommend Dex-O-Tex Floorsheen or other acrylic water-based sealers to be mopped on, in two coats, in accordance to the recommended instructions of the manufacturer. This can also be followed by an acrylic water-based finish for daily or weekly buffing if a high sheen is desired.

**IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN A CLEAN APPEARANCE ON YOUR FLOOR, IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT WATER, MOPS AND OTHER EQUIPMENT MUST BE CLEAN.**

### Cleaning Procedures

Your cleaning cycle should be regulated by the amount of foot traffic your floor receives. Neutral cleaners such as simple green, or any citric cleaner are designed to react only if solution of clean water and cleaner, mixed in accordance to the manufacturer instructions, is allowed to remain on the floor surface for 3-5 minutes. This provides the time necessary for the grime dissolving action to take place, before removing the dirt-laden solution from the surface by squeegee, vacuum, or mopping. Rinse thoroughly with clean water. It is important to keep the floor wet during this entire cleaning process so the dirt does not reabsorb into the floor.

For large industrial type areas, an alternate Method Maintaining is pressure washing with a high pressure and hot water cleaning solution.

### Custodian Guide to Proper Maintenance:

**ALWAYS KEEP RINSE WATER, MOPS AND PAILS CLEAN!**

**DAILY:** Sweep, using yarn-wick brush treated with sweeping compound. Hand work stubborn stains and scuff marks with neutral cleaner diluted in warm water.

**WEEKLY:** Damp scrubbing lightly soiled floors with neutral cleaner. Heavily soiled floors should be scrubbed with a mechanical buffing machine and neutral cleaner. Mop up residue before it dries with clean water. Allow to dry and buff with a dry brush. (For floors requiring a high luster, apply a thin coat of specially prepared finishing material and buff to bring up sheen.)

**NOTE:** Once applied to the Flex-Shield surface allow your neutral cleaner, time to react as designed to loosen foreign matters. 3 –5 minutes should be adequate, but do not allow solution to dry on the surface.

**RESEALING FLOOR:** If the floor becomes dull or unsightly do not attempt to refinish or restore it by sanding or grinding. This requires professional attention.

### Maintenance Precautions

Harsh cleaners and sealers can diminish the esthetic of your Flex-Shield floor, only materials that are known to be neutral with a pH Factor between 7 and 10 should be used when scrubbing or mopping your floors. Avoid all-purpose cleaners or soaps containing water soluble inorganic or crystallizing salts, harmful alkali or acids. These materials could prove harmful to your floors.

Sweeping compounds contain oil which is not only a fire hazard, but will penetrate and could permanently discolor your floor. Many of these compounds contain sand, which is hard to sweep and could abrade your floor if not removed.

### Do's and Don'ts for Flex-Shield Floor Care:

Good housekeeping procedures require that your floor remain clean. With proper maintenance procedures, your Flex-Shield floor should give you ease of maintenance and a lifetime of performance, not to mention the aesthetics. Before you commence with a maintenance program or purchase materials, it is best to understand this flooring system by reading this document in its entirety.

#### Do's:

Use Citric cleaners, Simple Green or other approved equal neutral cleaner.

Sweep your floors daily to pick up the dust, and the grit tracked into your building. The grit acts as an abrasive on your hard surface floor.

Scrub your floors a minimum of once a week where a new Flex-Shield floor has been installed for the initial two to three weeks, as the construction dust is still in the air and will eventually be deposited on your floor. After this period, dependent on the amount of foot traffic, scrub once per every two or three weeks, as required, to keep your floor clean in appearance. Always rinse your floors well to prevent

a build-up of cleaner residue that could become slippery.

If desired, seal your floors with Dex-O-Tex Floorsheen or other water-based acrylic sealer in accordance to the manufacturer's instructions. Normally a new floor requires two or more coats, to provide a good sheen for a period of 45 to 60 days, before it would need additional coats. Sealer should be classified by Underwriters Laboratories that is slip resistant with a rating of a minimum of 0.5 or higher.

Allow your neutral cleaner, once applied to the Flex-Shield surface, time to react as designed to loosen foreign matter. Three to five minutes should be adequate, but DO NOT allow solution to dry on surface.

#### Don'ts:

Do not use purely surface waxes, or universal sealers. Usage of such products can result in a slippery surface.

Do not use all purpose cleaners or soaps containing water soluble inorganic or crystallizing salts, harmful alkali or acids. Use of such products could prove harmful to your Flex-Shield floor.

Do not use cheap cleaners or sealers. The majority of your maintenance cost is labor.



### DEX-O-TEX PRODUCT LINE Crossfield Products Corp.

West Coast Office  
3000 E. Harcourt Street  
Rancho Dominguez, CA  
90221  
310-886-9100  
310-886-9119 fax

East Coast Office  
140 Valley Road  
Roselle Park, NJ  
07204  
908-245-2800  
908-245-0659 fax

[www.dexotex.com](http://www.dexotex.com)