

What's New Newsletter?

Green Floor Care Products

ASPIRE™



Environmentally Responsible Metal Free Floor Finish

This is a technologically advanced "non-zinc" sealer/finish. It produces an immediate wet look gloss and is buffable with a 175-2000+ RPM equipment. This unique formulation does not cause sewage effluent problems. This product does not contain heavy metals, environmentally toxic preservatives or Nonylphenol Ethoxylate Surfactants. This extremely low odor formulation combines environmental responsibility with high performance.

LICKETY-SPLIT™

Environmentally Responsible Rinse Free SpeedStripper

This highly effective, odorless stripper immediately liquifies floor finish on most resilient surfaces. This product is super concentrated and does not contain caustics, 2-butoxyethanol, Nonylphenol Ethoxylate Surfactants or ammonia. This high performance stripper is environmentally responsible



RETAIN™

Environmentally Responsible Spray Buff / Restorer



This product is a multi-purpose spray-buff/restorer that rejuvenates the floor finish surface. This versatile formula can be used as a spray buff, a mop-on restorer or through an automatic scrubber, producing a deep wet-look gloss.

This is an environmentally responsible formulation and does not contain the following ingredients: heavy metals, Nonylphenol Ethoxylate Surfactants or environmentally toxic preservatives.

SECURE™

Environmentally Responsible pH Neutral Cleaner

A concentrated, daily use pH neutral cleaner exhibits rapid wetting and quick emulsification. This environmentally responsible formulation does not contain the following ingredients: Nonylphenol Ethoxylate Surfactants, phosphates, chelating agents, butyl or glycol ether solvents, silicates or dyes.



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Foam Counter Mount Dispensing System

Unique Refilling from Above the Counter Eliminates Messy Pumps and Crawling on the Floor!

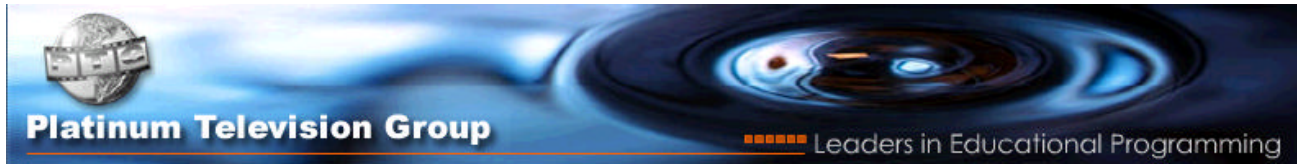
No messy pumps and no need to crawl on the floor. EZ Foam Counter Mount refills from above the counter using the self contained sealed refill bags. To refill, simply remove the foaming pump head from its locked position, insert the bag nozzle into the refill dock, turn to open the nozzle and soap will flow from the refill bag to the sealed reservoir below the counter. "Top-off" the soap whenever you like, no need to wait until the reservoir is empty.



Myers Chemical & Supplies

Get more product info at: www.MyersSupply.com

MyersSupply.com



Wausau Paper Featured in "Business & Beyond" Television Series

MOSINEE, Wis--(BUSINESS WIRE)--March 9, 2006--Wausau Paper (NYSE:WPP) today announced that it is featured in the Platinum Television Group's educational series, Business & Beyond. In programs that air in major television markets during March, Business & Beyond calls attention to Wausau Paper in a segment on "Certified Green Seal Recipients," part of its Models of Excellence feature.

Highlighted in the series is Wausau Paper's innovative and highly successful line of EcoSoft(TM) Green Seal(R) Towel & Tissue products. Made from 100% recycled paper and meeting Green Seal's strict environmental standards, EcoSoft(TM) Green Seal(R) products are sold to customers serving the expanding "away-from-home" towel and tissue market.

"We are very excited about the Platinum Television Group featuring our EcoSoft(TM) Green Seal(R) product line as part of its educational series," said Thomas J. Howatt, president and CEO. "Facility and property managers increasingly are incorporating environmental considerations in decisions about which products to buy. Through continued environmental education and awareness, we hope to further promote the use of environmentally preferable products in the business community."

Platinum Television Group's Business & Beyond segment featuring Wausau Paper is scheduled to air nationally on CNBC and National Geographic, and also regionally in 50 local markets. Viewers can access the latest airing schedules by visiting www.platinumtelevision.com and selecting "airing schedules" for Business & Beyond.

Wausau Paper produces fine printing and writing papers, technical specialty papers, and "away-from-home" towel and tissue products. Green Seal(R) is a registered trademark of Green Seal, Inc., in Washington D.C., and is used by permission.

WAUSAUPAPER



EcoSoft™ Green Seal® towel and tissue products are made from 100% recycled wastepaper and are certified by Green Seal, Inc. The "Green Seal" means these products meet the Green Seal environmental standards for paper towels and tissue, making the EcoSoft™ Green Seal® products among the most environmentally preferable towel and tissue lines available in the away-from-home market.

Green Seal is an independent, non-profit organization, located in Washington, DC, that strives to achieve a healthier and cleaner environment by identifying and promoting products and services that cause less pollution and waste, conserve resources and habitats, and minimize global warming and ozone depletion. Green Seal provides credible and unbiased information in order to direct the purchaser to environmentally responsible products and services. For more information on Green Seal, Inc., visit www.greenseal.org

To achieve and maintain the Green Seal certification, our towel and tissue products are continually subjected to rigorous evaluation and testing, along with a quality-control audit of our papermaking processes at our mill in Middletown, Ohio.

Discovery's Green Cleaning Tip of the Month Rolling Out the Green Carpet

Most carpet cleaning chemicals are relatively safe to use. However, some carpet-cleaning products do contain toxic ingredients that are potentially harmful to cleaning workers and building occupants. When possible, cleaning managers concerned about the health of their workers, the public and cleaning's impact on the environment should incorporate environmentally responsible products and practices in their operations.

Green Seal, an independent, non-profit organization that certifies cleaning products as "green" or environmentally preferable under its GS-37 environmental standard, now certifies carpet-cleaning products. This category includes products used for routine cleaning of carpet and rugs, such as those used for extraction, shampooing, dry foam, bonnet and absorbent compound. It does not include products intended primarily for spot removal or products designed for rinsing carpet.

Since Green Seal added carpet-care products to its standard last year, only a few products, such as Discovery's Natural Solutions Crystal Clean 6-1 carpet solution, have earned certification. The GS-37 certified products have been proven to perform well in both cleaning efficiency and resoiling resistance. Each product as used when diluted with water from the cold tap at no more than 50 degrees Fahrenheit are required to clean common soils and surfaces in its category effectively, as measured by a standard test method by various sources in the industry, such as the Carpet and Rug Institute, ASTM, the International Organization for Standardization (ISO), among others.

According to GS-37, the undiluted carpet-cleaning products shall not be toxic to humans. The standard requires that the undiluted product:

- Shall not contain any ingredients that are carcinogens or that are known to cause reproductive toxicity.
- Shall not be corrosive to the skin or eyes.
- Shall not be a skin sensitizer.
- Shall not be combustible.

In addition, the product as used:

- Shall not contain substances that contribute significantly to the production of photochemical smog, atmospheric ozone or poor indoor air quality.
- Shall not be toxic to aquatic life.
- Shall not contain more than 0.5 percent by weight of total phosphorus.

Each of the organic ingredients in the product as used shall exhibit ready biodegradability except for the polymer portion of carpet cleaners. The primary package of the product must be recyclable and the product must be a concentrate, except for absorbent compound carpet cleaners. Green Seal also lists prohibited ingredients, training requirements on the proper use of the product and labeling requirements.

As the demand for environmentally safe products continues to grow, cleaning managers and business owners will be asked to provide a safer, healthier indoor environment for building occupants, including cleaning workers. As more Green Seal-certified products become available, managers and owners can be confident that their products are not only safe, but also perform well.



Put the cleaning power of mother nature to work for you!

Stone Care Solutions™



One must study the types of stone available in the marketplace and learn the requirements of those stone types. Also, it is essential to learn some information about grout.

There are many stone types that can be used by designers and architects for flooring, wall coverings, bath vanities, shower walls, and counter tops. Limestone, marble, travertine and granite seem to be the most popular choices, but there are many other types of stone to be aware of.

Identification of each type is important to ensure that there are no cleaning problems. Let's look at several.

Limestone

Limestone is a calcium-based sedimentary stone that is typically finished by honing — meaning it has a smooth, but dull surface. It's fairly absorbent, susceptible to stains from liquids, and sensitive to acids. This includes acid-based beverages and fruits, not just cleaning products. Acidic cleaning products can etch the limestone's surface, causing damage to the finish and dull spots that are visible in certain light. When cleaning, check the stone and the cleaning agents to ensure that there will not be any bad reactions from the products.

Marble

Marble is a calcium-based metamorphic stone, also sensitive to acidic products. Like limestone, marble can absorb liquids into the capillary structure of the stone. The capillary structure is the area inside the stone that allows liquids to penetrate. The capillaries were created when the stone was geologically formed millions of years ago. Marble is usually finished by polishing the surface with diamond abrasives to create a glass-like finish with a great reflective shine. The crystals in the marble's polished minerals cause the surface to become reflective.

Marble can also be finished by honing or tumbling, giving the marble a distressed appearance. Tumbling removes any sharp edges and gives the stone the appearance of being very old and worn. Cleaning marble can be challenging because acidic products can etch the stone surface, causing damage and dull spots that are visible in certain light.

Travertine

Travertine, like limestone, is also a calcium-based sedimentary stone and can be damaged by acidic products. Many travertine species can be absorbent and liquid spills can cause stains under the surface. Travertine is usually honed for a finish concept, but the stone contains voids or holes in the surface, and sometimes all the way through the stone. These voids can be a maintenance headache, as they will be filled with a polyester resin if the travertine is polished or with grout if the travertine is honed.

The grout will fill the voids as the travertine tile is installed. The fill used in the voids can be removed by heavy traffic, improper installation techniques or by improper cleaning techniques. If the fill is removed, it can cause real problems for the maintenance manager. The fill will be replaced by soil and it will be difficult to remove from the voids, as they will be lower than the rest of the surface.



Granite

An igneous stone of volcanic origin, granite is the hardest of all common building stones. It has minerals that will not scratch with a steel knife, making granite an excellent selection for countertop surfaces. Some species of granite, even though extremely hard, can still have a large capillary structure, which will allow liquid penetration. This can cause the granite to stain if the stone is not properly protected.

Granite can be finished by polishing with diamond abrasives, honed to a flat smooth finish with no shine, or a number of other popular finish types. Granite can also be flamed to give the surface a very rough texture, which can trap soils and make routine maintenance a nightmare.

Stone maintenance

When maintaining stone, be sure to consider its tendencies absorbent to product. An easy way to determine if the stone is absorbent is to place some water on the stone and observe it. If the minerals begin to darken in the area the water was placed, it's absorbent.

If absorbent, care must be exercised in the amount of water used in the cleaning process. Too much water can cause the stone to have some "downstream" issues, such as efflorescence. Efflorescence is a mineral salt that will appear on the stone tile or along edges of the grout. Efflorescence comes through the capillary structure of the stone, drawn by the evaporation process. As the moisture evaporates, the mineral deposit is left on the surface.

Wet cleaning with acidic products will remove the surface minerals, but the moisture used in the process will bring more to the surface. Using low-moisture cleaning techniques will minimize the potential of efflorescence.

There are issues with chemical sensitivity on some types of stone.

Most calcium-based stones are sensitive to acids and acid-based cleaning products, so be sure to use neutral or alkaline cleaning agents on these types of stone.

Granite is usually not acid-sensitive, but you should test the surface to see if there is a negative reaction (etching).

Grout

The fill in the space between the stone tiles is made up of grout, a cement mixture with color pigment. A cement mixture hardens through a hydraulic process, not moisture loss. Once the grout hardens and cures, it becomes concrete. Concrete is extremely absorbent and liquid spills can cause discoloration and stains. Grout also has a capillary structure from the curing process, making it very porous.

Cleaning concrete is a difficult task in its own right, but the fact that most grout channels are lower than the tile surface gives soils a channel or groove to settle in.

Routine cleaning procedures designed for flat floor surfaces simply do not work in this instance.

Dust mops leave soil in the grout channel and, if we have added dust mop oil to the mop, we will also leave traces of oil in the concrete channel.

Damp mopping also will leave soil behind in the grout joint, leaving behind both protein-based (organic) soils and inorganic soils.

Organic soils are displaced or emulsified with alkaline-based cleaning agents, but inorganic soils are best removed with an acidic cleaning agent.

The acidic agent will not emulsify the inorganic soils, but etch the concrete on a microscopic level, causing the soils to be flushed away from the surface of the grout.

Obviously, this is not a cleaning technique that should be used as a routine cleaning procedure, but dirty grout is a unique problem that many cleaning professionals face every day.

Knowing the basics of the stone and grout is the most important information a cleaning professional can use to make good decisions on cleaning procedures, techniques and detergents.



Wood floor care dos and don'ts

Using the wrong procedures and products to clean wood floors can cost time and labor and can permanently damage floors.

Consider the following dos and don'ts when caring for wood floors:

Do dust mop daily.

Dirt can scratch and grind into the finish. Keep dirt off floors to protect the appearance.

Don't use oil-based dust-mop treatments.

An oil-based treatment will leave behind a residue, which can be slippery, cause problems when re-coating, and can attract more dirt. Treat dust mops with water-based solutions and carefully follow manufacturer instructions.

Do damp mop or tack with a neutral cleaner.

Use neutral cleaner that is approved for wood so it doesn't dull or ruin the floor's finish.

Don't wet mop or flood the floor with water.

Use as little water as possible because water can seep down into cracks and damage the wood, causing it to swell and buckle.

Do always use a urethane-based finish.

Urethane finishes are strong and durable and are designed specifically for wood floors so they don't require a lot of additional maintenance, like burnishing. Each coat of urethane also bonds with others, so there is less build-up. After 15 to 20 years, the coating can be sanded down instead of being chemically removed.

Don't use conventional finishes, waxes or products that aren't formulated for use on wood surfaces.

Traditional finishes require stripping over time to remove them, which usually requires flooding the floor, leading to damage over time.

Do take the time to prepare the floor before recoating.

Follow the "80/20" code when cleaning wood floors, spending 80 percent of cleaning time prepping floors.

Preparing the floor takes two steps.

First, clean the floor to avoid coating in any dirt.

Second, properly abrade the floor in order to get good adhesion.

Don't recoat if the floor has poor adhesion.

A floor with poor adhesion may require deep screening or sanding. If the surface is poor already, don't add more coating because it will only make it worse.

Do screen or abrade the floor with 100-grit screens or red pads.

Screening is not sanding. 100-grit screens or red pads prevent swell marks but still provide a surface with good finish adhesion. If the floor is in bad condition and requires a heavier grit, follow up with the 120s or red pads after cleaning.

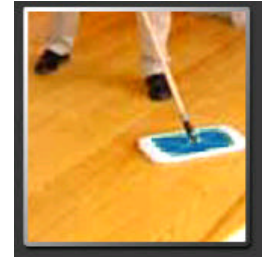
Don't sand the floor to bare wood unless needed (every 15 to 20 years).

A properly maintained floor should only need to be sanded to bare wood every 15 to 20 years. The exception to that is if the floor is excessively damaged.

Every time you sand down to bare wood, you remove the top layer of the floor, which can only be done about three times in a floor's lifetime. Always use the screening process first before resorting to sanding.

Do allow for proper drying time between coats.

Similar to any other floor finish, always allow proper dry time and take into account humidity and temperature.



Myers Chemical & Supplies

Get more product info at: www.MyersSupply.com