





# Tennant Floor Systems Maintenance Guide

Tennant Company | MSC Floors

The purpose of this guide is to provide you with the necessary tools and knowledge to successfully work with Tennant's Floor Care System because the more you understand our system, the more successful your program will be. Bear in mind that to properly master a floor care program, you must know the various application variables, such as traffic, frequency, type of maintenance, equipment available, etc. before deciding on the best solutions for your needs.

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## **Importance of Maintaining Your Floor**

Routine, easy-to-follow maintenance extends the life of this significant investment you have made. Clean, bright and shiny floors are a reflection of your brand and a commitment to cleanliness which is why keeping your floors well maintained is important.

- Proper maintenance will prolong the life of your floor coatings
- Frequency of maintenance will depend on your work environment and the amount of dirt and soil that accumulates on your floor
- Dirt and dust are abrasive and quickly dull the finish and decrease the life of your coating
- Harsher environments will require frequent floor cleaning
- Implementing a good floor care program will help maintain the appearance of your Tennant coated floor and also help minimize any safety hazards

# **Top Floor Maintenance Tips**

- Sweep floors daily with mechanized sweeping equipment or broom
- Scrub floors at least once a week with proper brush and detergent
- Clean chemical spills immediately before they damage coating
- Place walk off mats at entry ways to minimize dirt and moisture entering the facility
- Protect floor finish with proper mats before sliding heavy machinery, pallets or materials across floor
- Dropping heavy or sharp-edged objects on floors may cause chips/gouges in floor coating
- Use appropriate brushes on high-gloss finishes. Stiff bristles or heavily worn brushes will dull the finish
- Use a general-purpose cleaner for regular cleaning. Caustic cleaning solutions or solvents may dull your floor finish
- Watch for gouges, scratches, delamination or peeling. These need to be repaired as soon as
  possible to prevent further damage to your floor
- Call your Tennant Sales Representative right away if your floor finish is damaged





## **General Floor Cleaning Methods**

## **Sweeping**

- Sweep floors daily to prevent dust and dirt from accumulating
  - Dust and dirt act like sandpaper under feet and wheels to damage your floor
- Use a broom or a mechanized sweeper with soft nylon bristles
  - Stiff brushes may scratch the coating- causing gloss floors to dull



## **Scrubbing**

- Scrub floors weekly or as often as needed to prolongs the life of your floor coating
  - High traffic areas such as aisle ways and areas where oil and grease are frequently used may require daily scrubbing
  - Use the correct dilution rate recommended for your scrubbing equipment or detergent

TYPE OF SCRUBBER	DILUTION
Tennant automatic scrubber (National Floor Safety Institute certified - NFSI)	Tennant liquid detergents 1% - 3%
Tennant FaST automatic scrubber	See FaST Selector Guide for proper detergent
(uses >70% less water than conventional scrubbers)	guidelines
ec-H2O or Orbio® Multi-Surface Cleaner (Electrically Activated Water technology scrubber)	Do not add conventional floor cleaning chemicals
	to the EAW solution (Ensure scrubber tank should be
	free of conventional cleaning chemical residue)

- Equip your automatic floor scrubber with the correct brush or pad to protect your floor finish
  - Use soft nylon brushes and white or red pads
  - Do not use stiff brushes or pads, which will dull or scratch your coated surfaces

## **Liquid Spills**

- All liquid spills are safety hazards and should be cleaned up immediately
  - Wipe, mop or use automated equipment, depending on size of the spill
  - Mop or scrub the area to remove sticky or greasy residues as soon as possible to prevent accumulation of dust and dirt that can damage floor
- Spills of caustics, acids and solvents should be cleaned immediately and thoroughly
  - Harsh liquids that remain on the floor may soften, discolor, or remove coating or sealer
  - Always wear personal protective equipment for chemical spill clean up



#### Stain Prevention and Removal

- Stains can be prevented by cleaning spills immediately
- Most stains can be minimized or removed without further damage to your floor
  - Use mild solution, progressing to stronger removers until the stain disappears
  - Inks, dyes and stains resulting from chemical attack may never be removed
  - Wear rubber gloves and eye protection when working with cleaning chemicals
- For tough stain use your Tennant Detergent in diluted form:
  - Pour a small amount on the area and agitate with a soft nylon bristle brush
  - Tough stains may require additional time and scrubbing

#### **Rubber Marks and Burns**

- Rubber marks are deposits of rubber on or near the surface of the floor coating
  - In most cases, these can be removed by scrubbing with a strong concentration of a solvent-based detergent (orange/yellow) and water
- Rubber burns show on the surface of coating caused by heat and friction from spinning tires
  - In most cases, these cannot be removed
  - Keep floors clean to keep tires from slipping and spinning on your floor
- Tire stains (plasticizer marks) are caused by tires sitting on top of a coating and an exchange of chemical components between the non-rubber tire and the coating when they are in contact for an extended time
  - These types of markings are impossible to remove
  - Place a barrier between the tires and coatings to prevent this
  - Recoating of the area is the only way to eliminate these

## **Scratches and Gouges**

- Scratches and gouges shorten the life of floors when moisture seeps into cracks, resulting in peeling of the coating
- Avoid sliding heavy machinery, pallets, or sharp objects across the floor
- Call your Tennant Representative to discuss repair options if your floor surface is scratched or gouged

# **Tennant Company Contact Information**

**Your Tennant Representative :** Michigan Specialty Coatings / MSC Floors: 86645-EPOXY www.mscfloors.com sales@mscfloors.com

