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Maintenance

7.1.1 Required Initial Maintenance – (Flooring Surface’s Mold Release Agent Removal)

DO NOT scrub or mop the stair treads for at least 72 hours after the installation is completed to allow the adhesive, Quik-Stik Adhesive Tape and ROPECC Epoxy Caulking Compound to properly cure. Always test a small area first to ensure the desired results are achieved before proceeding. Insufficient cleaning and maintenance will reduce the wear life and appearance of the stair treads. Remove any covering that may have been used to protect the stair treads. The stair treads must be properly cleaned before it is released for normal use. First, sweep or vacuum to remove dirt and other particulates. If the stair treads are brand new there is a silicone mold release agent on the face of the stair treads from the manufacturing process which must be removed. To remove the mold release, the stair treads must be scrubbed in both directions with Spartan Chemical’s (800-537-8990) Shinline Emulsifier (high performance stripper) Plus (diluted 1:3–1:5 with water) or Green Solutions Floor Finish Remover (floor finish and wax emulsifier). Scrub the area with a single disc hand-held 175 RPM maximum scrubbing machine using a soft-bristled nylon brush (required for textured, slate and raised profiles) or a 3M 4100 White Super Polish Pad (required for smooth finish profiles). Ensure the brush or pad does not scratch or damage the stair treads and do not heel the scrubbing machine. Abrasive strips should only be dry brushed and/or vacuumed, and no sealer, finish or water of any kind is to come in contact with the abrasive strips. Do Not flood the stair treads when cleaning and do not allow the cleaning solution, sealer, finish or work to work its way beneath the stair treads which can result in either an adhesive, Quik-Stik Adhesive Tape or ROPECC Epoxy Caulking Compound failure. Remove solution with wet/dry vacuum. Then rinse stair treads with clean cool water and remove rinse water with a wet/dry vacuum and allow stair tread to dry completely. Caution: When stair treads are wet, use the appropriate warning signs to eliminate foot or other traffic.

7.1.2 Mild-Neutral PH Cleaning or Disinfectants - (Non Sealer/Finish Applications)

Insufficient cleaning will reduce the life of the stair treads. The amount of maintenance required is directly related to the amount and type of traffic and type of particulates deposited on the stair treads. Sweep, dust mop or vacuum the stair treads to remove dirt and other particulates. Use a mild, neutral (ph 7-8) cleaner such as Spartan Chemical’s Damp Mop or Green Solutions All Purpose Cleaner. If a disinfectant is required, use Spartan Chemical’s DMQ Neutral Disinfectant Cleaner or Green Solutions Neutral Disinfectant Cleaner. Follow the manufacturer’s recommendations for dilution and use. For smaller applications, apply the diluted cleaning solution to the stair tread with a soft-bristled desk brush (required for textured, slate and raised profiles) or nylon mop (required for smooth profile stair treads). Do not flood the stair tread. Allow the cleaning solution to stand for approximately 10 – 15 minutes. Do not allow solution to dry. For small applications, scrub with a soft-bristled deck brush. For large applications, scrub the are with a single disc hand-held 175 RPM maximum scrubbing machine equipped with a soft-bristled scrubbing brush (required for textured, slate and raised profiles) or 3M 4100 White Super Polish Pad (required for smooth finish profiles). Ensure brush or pad does not scratch the



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stair treads. Wet vacuum or mop up residue. Rinse with clean, cool water. Remove the rinse water with a wet/dry vacuum and allow stair treads to dry thoroughly before exposing to traffic. Ensure the brush or pad does not scratch or damage the stair treads and do not heel the scrubbing machine. Abrasive strips should only be dry brushed and/or vacuumed, and no sealer, finish or water of any kind is to come in contact with the abrasive strips. Do Not flood the stair treads when cleaning and do not allow the cleaning solution, sealer, finish or work to work its way beneath the stair treads which can result in either an adhesive, Quik-Stik Adhesive Tape or ROPECC Epoxy Caulking Compound failure. Do not use highly alkaline, highly acidic or solvent- base cleaners or products of any kind. DO NOT use sweeping or cleaning agents containing oil or solvents. Caution: When stair treads is wet, use the appropriate warning signs on the stair treads to eliminate foot or other traffic. DO NOT allow the solution to dry or work its way beneath the stair resulting in an adhesive failure.

7.1.3 Dry Buffing - (Non Sealer/Finish Applications)

After wet-cleaning the stair tread, dry buffing should be performed on routing basis to maintain the stair treads natural surface luster. DO NOT dry buff the stair tread until it has been cleaned with clean, cool water. Remove rinse water with a wet/dry vacuum and allowed to dry completely. For large installations, dry polish with single disc hand-held 175-350 maximum RPM polishing machine using a soft-bristled nylon brush if the stair tread has a surface profile (required for textured, slate and raised profiles) or a 3M 4100 White Super Polish Pad if the stair tread has a smooth profile. For small installations, use a soft, clean cloth wrapped around a narrow push broom. If an optional floor finish is desired for a higher sheen, refer to section 7.1.4. Caution: When floor sealers and finishes are used, the stair tread surface will take on the slip resistance characteristics of that particular coating. Ensure the brush or pad does not scratch or damage the stair treads and do not heel the scrubbing machine. Abrasive strips should only be dry brushed and/or vacuumed, and no sealer, finish or water of any kind is to come in contact with the abrasive strips. Do Not flood the stair treads when cleaning and do not allow the cleaning solution, sealer, finish or work to work its way beneath the stair treads which can result in either an adhesive, Quik-Stik Adhesive Tape or ROPECC Epoxy Caulking Compound failure. Roppe Corporation will not be held liable for the slip resistance effects of their stair tread if it is coated with a floor sealer or finish. Caution: When stair treads is wet, use the appropriate warning signs on the stair tread to eliminate foot or other traffic. DO NOT allow the solution to dry or work its way beneath the stair treads resulting in an adhesive failure.

7.1.4 Optional Floor Sealer & Finish Application

Caution: Applying floor sealers & finishes to SafeTcork Rubber Stair Treads will reduce the corks slip resistant & cork properties etc. If a floor sealer/finish is preferred, first follow section 7.1.1. Once the mold release has been completely removed, test for proper adhesion by applying Spartan Chemical's Shinline Sealer (24% solids thermoplastic sealer) to a small area with a sponge and allow to completely dry. If the finish pulls back and does not level out, repeat step 7.1.1 until the sealer is firmly bonded. If the sealer does level and is firmly bonded, Spartan Shinline Sealer can be used to seal the stair tread by applying with a finish mop. Once



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Shineline Seal has been applied and properly dry, apply 1-2 coats of the Spartan floor finish that meets your traffic and maintenance needs. Each coat of floor finish must be applied in opposite directions to ensure proper coverage regardless of the stair treads profile (i.e.: smooth, textured, slate or raised profiles). Contact your Spartan Chemical Representative or Spartan Chemical (800-537-8990) directly for proper finish recommendations to meet specific traffic and maintenance requirements. If an environmentally preferable product is desired, apply 1-3 very thin coats of Spartan Green Solutions Floor Seal & Finish (acrylic co-polymer based floor seal and finish combination) in lieu of Shineline Sealer. Apply sealers or finishes in very thin coats to avoid puddles. Caution: When wet, stair treads will become slippery; therefore, use the appropriate warning signs on the stair treads to eliminate foot or other traffic. Caution: Applying sealers or finishes will darken the stair treads original color. When applying sealers or finishes always check first for compatibility, bonding and color darkening of the stair tread by testing on a scrap piece of stair treads to ensure the desired results and appearance is achieved. The floor care product manufacturer will assist you in determining the best maintenance program. Spartan Chemical's product selection is listed below for reference depending on frequency/infrequency of maintenance schedule to be performed on the stair treads. Caution: When floor sealers and finishes are used, the stair tread surface will take on the slip resistance characteristics of that particular coating. Roppe Corporation will not be held liable for the slip resistance effects of their stair treads if it is coated with a floor sealer or finish. DO NOT allow the solution to dry or work its way beneath the stair treads resulting in an adhesive, Quik-Stik Adhesive Tape or ROPECC Epoxy Caulking Compound failure.

- A. Frequent Maintenance Schedule: Described as "at least twice a week or as often as every day".
- Notice: Finishes listed below must be burnished (polished until shinny) in order to maintain gloss levels.
 - Burnish frequency will depend on several factors including but not limited to the following: Type of finish, traffic, equipment, internal/external conditions, type of stair tread, labor/budget available, and end user expectations.
 - Spartan Chemical Product Selections for Frequent Maintenance Schedules:
 - High Frontier
 - Upper Limit's
 - TriLinc
 - Trendsetter Sealer/Finish
 - Pro-Shine
 - Heavy Duty Wax 16%
 - Glacier
- B. Infrequent Maintenance Schedule: Described as "once a week to never".
- Notice: The products listed below are considered Dry-Bright Finishes which dry to a particular gloss and remain that way. Gloss loss with these finishes is due to superficial wear and tear. When burnishing, spray buffing and/or



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using a finish restorer, surface imperfections are repaired to restore gloss - there is no real "polishing", as there is with burnishable finishes.

- Spartan Chemical Product Selections for Infrequent Maintenance Schedules:
 - Millennia Bright Dura Gloss Laminate
 - Sheen 17
 - White Sun
 - Sunny-Side
 - iShine
 - On an' On
 - Green Solutions Floor Seal & Finish
 - Terra Glaze

7.1.5 Existing Floor Sealer/Finish Removal

To remove existing floor finishes/sealers, first the stair treads must be properly cleaned by first sweeping or vacuuming to remove dirt and other particulates. Strip with either Spartan Chemical's Rinse Free Stripper or Green Solutions Floor Finish Remover utilizing a single disc hand-held 175 RPM maximum scrubbing machine with a soft-bristled nylon brush (required for textured, slate and raised profiles) or a 3M 4100 White Super Polish Pad (required for smooth finish profiles). Ensure the brush or pad does not scratch or damage the stair treads. Rinse with clean, cool water and remove rinse water with wet/dry vacuum and allow floor to dry completely. Refer to Section 7.1.4 regarding reapplying the recommended Spartan Chemical's floor sealer and finish. Caution: When stair treads are is wet, use the appropriate warning signs to eliminate foot or other traffic. Remove solution with a wet/dry vacuum. DO NOT allow the solution to dry or work its way beneath the stair treads resulting in an adhesive failure. Caution: Applying sealers or finishes will darken the stair treads original color. When applying sealers or finishes always check first for compatibility, bonding and color darkening of the stair treads by testing on a scrap piece of stair tread to ensure the desired results and appearance is achieved. Ensure the brush or pad does not scratch or damage the stair treads and do not heel the scrubbing machine. Abrasive strips should only be dry brushed and/or vacuumed, and no sealer, finish or water of any kind is to come in contact with the abrasive strips. Do Not flood the stair treads when cleaning and do not allow the cleaning solution, sealer, finish or work to works its way beneath the stair treads which can result in either an adhesive, Quik-Stik Adhesive Tape or ROPECC Epoxy Caulking Compound failure. Caution: When floor sealers and finishes are used, the stair tread surface will take on the slip resistance characteristics of that particular coating. Roppe Corporation will not be held liable for the slip resistance effects of their stair treads if it is coated with a floor sealer or finish

7.1.6 Routine Maintenance for Optional Sealer/Finish Applications

Insufficient cleaning will reduce the wear life and the appearance of the flooring, stair treads or optional sealers/finishes. The amount of maintenance required is directly related to the amount and type of traffic and type of particulates deposited on the stair tread. There are several



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alternative maintenance systems available from Spartan Chemical (800/537-8990). The stair treads must be properly cleaned by first sweeping or vacuuming to remove dirt and other particulates from both smooth and profiled stair treads. Dust mop smooth profile stair treads with Spartan's Dust Mop/Dust Cloth Treatment. Stair Tread can also be damp mopped with Spartan's Damp Mop Detergent Concentrate or Spartan DMQ Neutral Disinfectant Cleaner. If an environmentally preferable product is desired, damp mop with Spartan Green Solutions All Purpose Cleaner. An auto-scrubber with a scrubbing brush (required for textured, slate and raised profiles) or 3M White Super Polish Pad (required for smooth finish profiles) may also be used for cleaning. Caution: Ensure the scrubbing brush or pad does not scratch or damage the stair treads. Caution: When stair treads are wet, use the appropriate warning signs to eliminate foot or other traffic. Ensure the brush or pad does not scratch or damage the stair treads and do not heel the scrubbing machine. Abrasive strips should only be dry brushed and/or vacuumed, and no sealer, finish or water of any kind is to come in contact with the abrasive strips. Do Not flood the stair treads when cleaning and do not allow the cleaning solution, sealer, finish or work to works its way beneath the stair treads which can result in either an adhesive, Quik-Stik Adhesive Tape or ROPECC Epoxy Caulking Compound failure. Caution: When floor sealers and finishes are used, the stair tread surface will take on the slip resistance characteristics of that particular coating. Roppe Corporation will not be held liable for the slip resistance effects of their stair treads if it is coated with a floor sealer or finish.

7.1.7 Maintenance Warnings and Cautions (Initial Maintenance, Optional Floor Sealer/Finish, Dry Buffing, Routing Maintenance and Floor Stripping)

Caution: Applying sealers or finishes will darken the stair treads original color. When applying sealers or finishes always check first for compatibility, bonding and color darkening of the stair treads by testing on a scrap piece of stair tread to ensure the desired results and appearance is achieved. The floor care product manufacturer will assist you in determining the best maintenance program. Caution: When floor sealers and finishes are used, the stair tread surface will take on the slip resistance characteristics of that particular coating. Roppe Corporation will not be held liable for the slip resistance effects of their stair treads if it is coated with a floor sealer or finish. Caution: When flooring is wet, use the appropriate warning signs to eliminate foot or other traffic. Caution: Contact Spartan Chemical before applying products to verify recommendations for stripping stair treads. Some strippers may have an adverse effect on the stair treads. Ensure the brush or pad does not scratch or damage the stair treads and do not heel the scrubbing machine. Abrasive strips should only be dry brushed and/or vacuumed, and no sealer, finish or water of any kind is to come in contact with the abrasive strips. Do Not flood the stair treads when cleaning and do not allow the cleaning solution, sealer, finish or work to works its way beneath the stair treads which can result in either an adhesive, Quik-Stik Adhesive Tape or ROPECC Epoxy Caulking Compound failure. Always test first to ensure the stair tread is not affected and the desired results can be achieved prior to applying strippers of any kind. DO NOT use highly alkaline, highly acidic, or solvent-based cleaners of any kind. Caution: Some germicides, disinfectants, cleaning agents, floor maintenance products, and pesticides may stain or damage the surface of rubber stair tread; therefore, test the products to ensure they will not stain or damage the tile. Spills of any type must be removed immediately to



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help prevent staining or permanent damage. Contact Roppe's Customer Service to obtain information concerning stain resistance to various chemicals and products. DO NOT use sweeping or cleaning agents containing oil or solvents. DO NOT use treated mops and thoroughly clean new mops before use. DO NOT use kerosene, gasoline, naphtha, or other solvents on rubber stair treads. DO NOT use varnish, shellac, paste wax, paint, or other substances that could discolor or damage the stair treads. DO NOT allow the solution to dry or work its way beneath the stair treads resulting in an adhesive, Quik-Stik Adhesive Tape or ROPECC Epoxy Caulking Compound failure.

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