

## MAINTENANCE GUIDELINES

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Sikagard® Duroplast Wall Systems

# Sikagard® Duroplast Wall Systems

## Protection, Cleaning, Repair and Maintenance Guidelines for Wall Coatings

To ensure that your Sikagard® Duroplast wall coating systems remain as attractive as possible, maintain their properties, such as abrasion, chemical and water resistance, and provide years of satisfaction, the correct cleaning and maintenance regime should be scheduled.

When first installed and once cured, your walls should be temporarily protected to guard against damage caused by ongoing construction traffic or atypical operations within the facility. Once these activities are completed, and before the walls are exposed to normal service, they should be cleaned with a recommended detergent, using the most appropriate equipment and techniques suitable for the area concerned.

### Temporary Protective Measures

If equipment, racking, furniture, cabinets or goods, etc., are to be placed against or come into contact with the coated walls, every precaution should be taken to minimize surface scratching and marking during the positioning of such. Construction trades or facilities personnel should be asked to take care when building or undertaking their duties in close proximity to freshly coated surfaces. Until such time as all construction and uncommon activities are completed, the recently installed coatings should be temporarily protected. A covering, consisting of a clean, heavy-gauge, polythene sheet is recommended, as is any other measure to provide a temporary shield against dust, dirt, abrasives and impact damage.

### Initial Cleaning Following Installation

Once all construction work and unusual activities are concluded, and the temporary protection has been removed, coated surfaces should be brushed clean of any accumulated dust, dirt or loose debris.

A close visual inspection should then be undertaken to identify the need for any localized treatments required to remove spills or scuff marks.

To remove these types of stains, the use of PROFI, FLOOR CLEANER AND GREASE REMOVER from Diversey or BLUE THUNDER from Wood Wyant is recommended. Employing either product, scrub the spot as required, using a suitably effective, non-abrasive cloth or brush. Remove the cleaning solution with clean water afterwards.

The entire wall finish should then be cleaned using a mild detergent in solution or an alkaline cleaner, such as EASY PAKS NEUTRAL CLEANER from Diversey or Wood Wyant PRO-FRESH neutral cleaner. The method and equipment used to clean the area will depend upon the size of the area and the manpower available. For best results, apply cleaning products onto wall with a Foaming Sprayer.

Following application of the cleaner, wash away the resultant solution, changing the water frequently and allowing the wall to dry.

### Pre-Use Inspection

The coated walls should now be inspected to ensure that they have been cleaned to your satisfaction and that all dirt and stains have been removed.

### Preventative Measures

It is strongly advised that in order to maximise the visual and performance characteristics of an installed wall coating system, suitably sympathetic practices are employed.

For example, personnel should be instructed to avoid exposing the walls to impact from heavy equipment or barriers should be erected to prevent such. Similarly and wherever possible, the striking of surfaces with sharp and/or heavy implements should be discouraged or prevented.

When cleaning coated walls: do not employ strong chemicals which have not been approved; do not employ abrasive pads or brushes; and be aware that abrasive cleaning tools will dull or scratch surfaces. When using a power washer, keep nozzle at least 1 m away from wall and maintain a minimum 30 cm wide fan at less than 1000 psi .

Harsh, aggressive or demanding environments will tend to require more frequent cleaning. The removal of dust, dirt and debris from the surface on a regular basis will serve to prevent dulling of the finish and will serve to maintain the original protective and decorative characteristics.

### Attending to Spills

Spills of any chemical liquids or powders should be wiped off, absorbed or removed as soon as possible. Not only is this a matter of health and safety, but it will also assist in maintaining the good condition of your walls. Once the spill is removed, the area should be cleaned as usual with the recommended detergents. The wall should then be inspected to check if the coating remains intact and will function to your satisfaction. If this is not the case a localised repair can be undertaken, whereby the coating is reapplied as promptly as possible.

**Wall Maintenance** If the correct cleaning and maintenance schedule is used, the frequency of which should be prescribed by the building owner, operator or management, the appearance of your walls will easily be maintained.

Once initial cleaning has been carried out or the decision to leave the walls as supplied has been taken, the coated surfaces will require regular cleaning with a mild detergent in clean water, depending upon the type and level of soiling encountered.

In kitchen areas or locations where a high build-up of grease is likely, PROF1, FLOOR CLEANER AND GREASE REMOVER from Diversey can be used, or Wood Wyant BLUE THUNDER CLEANER/DEGREASER. Wipe off the resultant solution to remove, and rinse with clean water as necessary.

Before use, always refer to cleaning product information and application instructions published by the manufacturer. Always follow Diversey's or Wood Wyant's most current data.

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**Localised Repairs & Refresher Coat** Where scheduled inspection or response to chemicals spills and impact damage has determined that either a localised repair or a general refresher coat is required, this should be carried out on a timely basis. Especially in hygienic, humid or wet environments, damage that is not attended to can result in increased deterioration and possible closure of facilities.

Ensure that repair area to be reinstated or the surface to be recoated is clean, sound and free from loose friable material and peeling or blistering coating.

Cut around and scrape back any locations of damaged coating, producing a well bonded perimeter to the repair area for overlap. Lightly abrade the existing coating in the area to be recoated using a mechanical tool or sand paper to remove all gloss and produce a finely textured gripping surface. Remove all preparation dust a suitable Sika® Duochem solvent or simply wash off and allow to dry. Where undertaking localised recoating, it is recommended to work to straight edges using temporary masking tape to define the location.

Where substrate defects exist beneath the existing coating, such as cracks or dents, they must be broken out and repaired accordingly, using Sikagard® Duroplast VA or EE on concrete masonry or PS on gypsum board.

Protect adjacent areas and windows from overspray or splatter and ensure that an appropriate method of coating is employed for the scope and nature of the work. Apply by brush, roller or spray one or two coats of the originally installed Sikagard® Duroplast coating, following instructions and limitations according to specific product data. Protect applied coating from dirt, dust and debris until thoroughly dry.

**Points to Remember**

- Temporary protection after initial installation will safeguard against early damage.
- An initial cleaning is recommended to attain maximum aesthetic values.
- Extra care taken when installing equipment, etc., will prevent damage to walls.
- Regular cleaning with the appropriate product will prolong the original appearance of the wall.
- Spills should be cleaned-off as soon as possible to avoid damaging the wall finish.
- Prevention of damage through best practice in use and maintenance, periodic inspection and cleaning, plus timely and proper attention to any damage or deterioration, will serve to prolong the performance, durability and attractiveness of coated walls.
- For more information on cleaning procedures and products, contact the local Wood Wyant representative.

With care, your Sikagard® Duroplast wall system will provide you with years of hard wear while retaining its beautiful appearance.

For more information, consult your Sika Representative and where necessary, refer to the Sika Product Data Sheets and Safety Data Sheets ([www.sika.ca](http://www.sika.ca)).

The information contained herein and any other advice are given in good faith based on Sika's current knowledge and experience of the products when properly stored, handled and applied under normal conditions in accordance with Sika's recommendations. The information only applies to the application(s) and product(s) expressly referred to herein and is based on laboratory tests which do not replace practical tests. In case of changes in the parameters of the application, such as changes in substrates etc., or in case of a different application, consult Sika's Technical Service prior to using Sika products. The information contained herein does not relieve the user of the products from testing them for the intended application and purpose. All orders are accepted subject to our current terms of sale and delivery. Users must always refer to the most recent issue of the local Product Data Sheet for the product concerned, copies of which will be supplied on request or may be downloaded from our website at: [www.sika.ca](http://www.sika.ca).

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