

Product Data Sheet

DESCRIPTION: CEM VCWB-23 is a 2-component, low odor, low VOC, fast-curing waterborne epoxy used specifically as a base coat for full broadcast Vinyl Chip systems in residential, retail and light commercial environments.

CEM VCWB-23 achieves a tenacious bond at all recommended application temperatures and cures quickly, allowing for the excess, loose chips to be removed in a few hours with subsequent layers immediately following.

RECOMMENDED USES:

As a Base Coat for Full Broadcast Vinyl Chip over properly prepared, sound & solid:

- Concrete & Lightweight Concrete
- Wood (APA Exterior or Marine grade)

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Inert to High pH levels
- Easy to Apply
- Fast Cure – remove loose Vinyl Chip within a few hours
 - May be used as part of One Day installation system
- Low Odor & VOC's – Available in all regions

STORAGE:

Indoors between 50°F (10°C) to 95°F (35°C)

SUBSTRATE SURFACE TEMPERATURE:

55°F (12.8°C) to 100°F (37.8°C) between 10% to 80% humidity

SHELF LIFE:

- 1 Year in original, unopened containers
- Opened containers may be used within 30 days if clear.
 - Once CEM Color Pack colorant is added, use kit same day

AVAILABLE KIT SIZES:

Clear 1.25 gallon kit

COLOR:

Clear – CEM Color Packs available separately in standard colors White, Buff, Black or Light Gray

*Custom colors are available special order with a color match fee

LIMITATIONS:

- Minimum of an ICRI CSP 2 to 3 profile required for mechanical preparation
- Wood substrates, including new, require sanding or grinding surface preparation
- NOT U.V Stable - Will chalk and discolor with U.V. exposure
- Do NOT Apply in direct sunlight or on a hot substrate as flash curing will yield poor adhesion and possibly bubbles in the finish
- Fisheyes are a result of surface contamination
- Once CEM Color Pack Colorant is added to CEM VCWB-23 Part B, use immediately. Excess unused product cannot be stored for later use

CURE TIMES (@ 50% Relative Humidity):

Note: Higher Humidity and/or Lower Temperatures will extend rate of cure

	60°F	72°F	85°F
Pot-Life	35 min.	30 min.	25 min.
Working Time	30 min.	25 min.	18 min.
Tack-Free	3 hrs	2 ½ hrs	2 hrs
Recoat - Remove Loose Vinyl Chip	3 to 3 ½ hrs	2 ½ to 3 hrs	2 to 2 ½ hrs
Full Traffic <i>(i.e. parked vehicles, etc.)</i>	72 hrs	48 hrs	36 hrs
Full Cure	10 days	7 days	6 days

If optional primer exceeds 24 hours, sanding to thoroughly degloss surface prior to base coat is required

CURED COATING PROPERTIES (DRY FILM):

Property	Test Method	Results
VOC's – Volatile Organic Compounds	ASTM D3960	3 g/L (Clear)
Viscosity – Mixed	ASTM D2196	715 cP ~ 2 min (Clear)
Solids Content		38% (Clear)
Adhesion to Concrete	ASTM D4541	Concrete Fails

CS-17 Taber Abrasion Wheel, 1,000 gram load, 1,000 revolutions Results are based on conditions at 77°F (25°C) 50% humidity

APPROXIMATE COVERAGE:

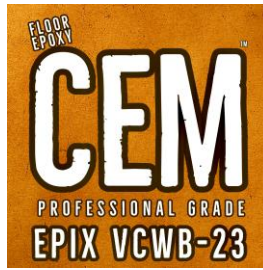
Coverage varies due to application thickness, floor profile and absorptency of concrete.

Coverage Equation: $1604 \div \text{milage} = \text{Wet Film Thickness}$

Mil Thickness Wet (DRY)	Coverage per mixed gallon
7 mils WFT (2.66 DFT)	229 sq.ft.
8 mils WFT (3.04 DFT)	200 sq.ft.
9 mils WFT (3.42 DFT)	178 sq.ft.

NECESSARY TOOLS and EQUIPMENT:

- Plastic Sheeting or Ram Board to cover floor for mix station
- Paint spiral blade mixing paddle
- Low speed ½" drill (Variable Speed <450 rpm)
- V-Notch Squeegee for [8 - 12 mil applications](#)
- Premium, Non-Shed, Solvent Resistant 3/8" Nap Paint Roller Covers (i.e. Foam, Mohair, Microfiber, etc.)
- Paint Roller Frame with Extension Pole
- Spiked shoes or Soccer Cleats
- Cloth Rags
- 2" Wide Premium Masking Tape or Stucco Vinyl Tape
- 2" to 4" Wide Chip Paint Brushes for cutting in edges
- 2" to 6" Wide 3/8" nap trim roller & frame for cutting in tight areas
- Flat blade window squeegee for seal coat & topcoat



Product Data Sheet

INSPECT THE SUBSTRATE: Ensure the substrate is structurally sound and solid as well as free of any contaminants that may act as a bond breaker, such as oil, paint, densifier/sealers, curing compounds, wax, silicone, etc.

TEMPERATURE and HUMIDITY: Substrate temperature and materials must be maintained between 55°F (12.8°C) to 100°F (37.8°C) with less than 80% Ambient Humidity for 24 hours prior to and 24 hours after installation. Do not install coatings when the Dew point is within 5° of the temperature.

TEMPORARY HEAT – During application in environments using temporary heat, make sure to exhaust emissions and toxic fumes from temporary heaters to the exterior of the building to prevent health hazards and damage to work. Many temporary heating methods emit unburned petroleum into the air which act as a bond breaker once it falls onto the surface of the substrate

- Precautions must be taken when using LP, gasoline, diesel, etc. fueled temporary heat
- Always shut off temporary heat at least 2 to 3 hours prior to coating application to reduce risk of airborne petroleum contamination
- Always clean the mechanically prepared surface with CEM Oil Stop or TSP using an auto-scrubber followed by a thorough clean water rinse when temporary heat has been in use.

**Fisheyes are a result of surface contamination*

CHECK FOR MOISTURE: Testing concrete moisture via both the Calcium Chloride (ASTM F1869) and In-situ Relative Humidity (ASTM F2170) methods is highly recommended to accurately determine both the Moisture Vapor Emission Rate (ASTM F1869) and the available Moisture Content (ASTM F2170) at the time of testing. Using only one test method will only give all of the necessary information and may not indicate other potential risks such as contaminants, etc. that may pose a risk for delamination, chemical attack, etc. which are not caused by moisture vapor emissions or high alkalinity.

A moisture mitigation coat in conjunction with proper testing and mechanical preparation will reduce the moisture vapor emission rate to a level within the tolerance of subsequent coatings and traditional floor covering needs.

Follow the testing manufacturer's instructions precisely or visit www.astm.org, see ASTM F1869 or F2170, to purchase the test methods. Testing MUST occur within an acclimated, interior environment for the results to be valid and conclusive.

CEM Coatings Group, Inc. is strictly a product manufacturer and does NOT offer any testing or analysis but may be able to offer guidance to an appropriate testing lab or third-party inspector. When in doubt, hire a qualified third-party testing firm with appropriate certifications and credentials.

CONTAMINATION OF SUBSTRATE: Concrete is porous and can become contaminated with oils, chemical from spills, etc. which act as a bond breaker. Determine if a potential bond breaker exists and a proper course of remediation. Core sample Petrographic Analysis is the best method for testing of concrete for contaminate type and depth as well as for documenting and determining if other risks exist prior to proceeding with quoting and application of a flooring system. It is the contractors' responsibility to determine the substrate suitability and the course of action for remediation.

Delamination and/or breakdown due to the following causes are examples of substrate contamination:

- [AAR \(Alkaline Aggregate Reaction\)](#)
 - [ACR \(Alkali-Carbonate Reaction\)](#)
 - [ASR \(Alkali-Silica Reaction\)](#)
- Near Surface ASR (may occur in certain environments which have been topically treated with Sodium Silicates or Potassium Metasilicates)
- Substrate contamination (i.e. Oils, Solvents, PERT, PCB's, Silicone, etc.)

CHEMICAL CONTAMINATION – Chemical contamination should be determined and may require additional testing. Once the type of contaminant is determined, contact CEM Coatings Group, Inc. for recommendations while following local regulations regarding contaminant and disposal.

OIL CONTAMINATION – *CEM's Oil Stop* may be used to remove oils, such as petroleum, synthetic, and food oils, from concrete & other mineral based substrates prior to mechanical preparation.

SILICATE CONTAMINATION – Substrates which may have been previously treated with silicates (Potassium or Sodium Silicates) such as polished or burnished concrete as well as certain surface hardeners such as Ashford Formula or similar may skew moisture testing results.

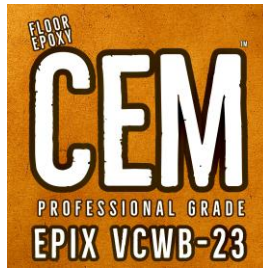
A good indication of potential silicate contamination may be seen during traditional moisture testing with abnormally high pH (above 11.5 to 14 pH) but relatively low CaCl reading (less than 6 lbs. reading) with RH readings above 85%. Testing pH levels with a pH pencil or Litmus paper along with distilled water is a very inexpensive, easy way of identifying a potential risk, in conjunction with Moisture Vapor testing methods to determine whether more in-depth testing should occur. Should further testing be necessary, concrete cores samples and Petrographic Analysis may offer the most in-depth analysis of the situation.

Concrete contaminated with silicate densifiers / hardeners of these types must be mechanically prepared followed by cleaning with an etching material 24 hours prior to moisture vapor and pH testing in order to obtain accurate readings, otherwise, all testing and subsequent moisture vapor emission warranties are null and void.

NOTE:

- **DO NOT USE MURIATIC/HYDROCHLORIC ACID TO PREPARE CONCRETE AS CHLORIDE CONTAMINATION MAY OCCUR**
- When etching, ensure all etching product has been thoroughly removed with potable water with no remaining soapy residue or cement slurry.
- **DO NOT USE** etching products on "Green" concrete (*less than 30 days old*), *Hard Trowel Finished* concrete or *previously sealed/coated/painted concrete* to include any type of curing compound.

JOINTS, CRACKS & PATCHING: Honor expansion joints at the finish floor elevation. Follow ACI 224.3R-95: Joints in Concrete



Product Data Sheet

Construction guidelines for proper filling of construction and control joints. Cut all joints and moving cracks open with a Diamond cutting blade and fill with an appropriate semi-rigid joint filler, prior to priming the substrate. Best practice is to honor the joint at the surface after the coating system is applied then fill will an appropriate joint filler can lessen joint telegraphing. Static joints may allow the coating system to bridge over joint but is NOT recommended to install a floor coating system over caulking, silicone, cement patching compounds as well as Polyurea & traditional Polyurethane flexible joint fillers.

ACI recommends allowing a concrete slab to cure for a minimum of 60 to 90 days or longer to allowing the slab to shrink and acclimate to the intended joint width thus reducing the risk of joint wall separation from the joint filler. Cooler climate applications such as freezer and coolers must be brought up to and held at a minimum of 45°F substrate temperature for no less than 10 days prior to as well as 7 to 10 days after filling with an appropriate semi-rigid joint filler.

Patching of chips, gouges, etc. may be repaired with a variety of different, compatible coating materials, to include CEM's EPIX CR-100 mixed with Silica Fume.

Ensure patching products are hard enough to walk on without the risk of damage before proceeding with subsequent sanding & coatings. Should the surface of the concrete require extensive resurfacing or repairs, please contact CEM Coatings Group, Inc. for more recommendations based on the site conditions.

Cementitious compounds must be rated for direct wheeled traffic, exterior / interior use and require additional cure times prior to coating with a high solids resinous coating system. As a rule of thumb, the average rate of cure required to apply a coating system with any layer greater than 60% solids at 72°F / 50% Humidity:

- High Strength Polymer modified cement Overlay >1/32" to any thickness = 2 to 3 days per 1/4" ave.
- Polymer-Modified Portland Cement-based Self-Leveling Overlayments & Mortars >5,000 psi = 2 to 3 days per 1/4" ave. thickness
- Calcium Alumina & CSA Cement-based Self-Leveling Overlayments & Mortars >5,000 psi = 24 hours per 1/4" ave. thickness
- Trowel Grade Cement-based Patch >5,000 psi = 24 hours per 1/4" ave. thickness

**Must be non-water soluble & rated for both interior & exterior rated use*

***Follow manufacturers recommended cure rate for moisture cured adhesive*

****NOT recommended for use over underlayment grade cement-based patching or leveling compounds*

Please contact CEM Coatings Group, Inc. with additional questions regarding crack repairs, joint wall rebuilding, etc.

SUBSTRATE PREPARATION: Achieve a CSP 2 to 3 (Concrete Surface Profile in accordance with ICR1 Guideline 310.2R2013, as published by the International Concrete Repair Institute) yielding a surface texture similar to 80 grit sand paper or more course in order to maintain long term adhesion to the substrate.

NOTE: Should verification of proper adhesion be desired or when applying CEM VCWB-23 over an existing coating, follow ASTM D4541 using an Elcometer to determine a direct tensile pull-off strength greater than 250 psi (1.7 MPa) to pass the test. It is highly recommended that a 10 foot by 10 foot test area be applied of the entire desired coating system and allowed to cure for no less than 1 month prior to performing an in-situ direct tensile bond test to determine adhesion strength values.

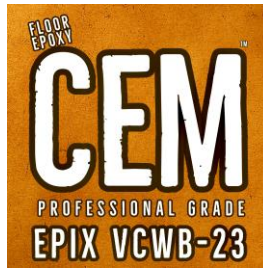
Recommended preparation methods below:

- **Steel Shot Blast (Shot size S-230 to S-330 grit recommended)** – Ideal preparation method for weak concrete surfaces. Uniformly profile and clean concrete substrates overlapping each pass until white, clean concrete exists. Use magnetic broom to remove excess shot, sweep to remove large debris and vacuum to remove fine dust. Avoid stationary blasting as micro-cracking the concrete surface may potentially causing future coating delamination. Use a vacuumized edge grinder with a diamond cup wheel to prepare hard to reach areas, against transitions, etc.
- **Diamond Grind** – Use 16 to 70 grit metal bond diamonds with an appropriate industrial, weighted head planetary floor grinder to thoroughly profile and remove the substrates surface until uniformly dull. Sweep to remove large debris then vacuum to remove fine dust.
- **Scarify** – Ideal preparation method for weak concrete surfaces, previously coated floors, or adhesive residues. Sweep to remove large debris and vacuum to remove fine dust. Scarify to uniformly remove the concrete surface until white. Thoroughly vacuum all dust / debris
- ***Silicate Contaminate Removal** – A buffered etching compound may be used ONLY as follows:
 - Remediation method for removing densifiers/silicates after one of the above-mentioned mechanical preparation methods

Key in all termination points using a diamond cutting blade prior to any above preparation method.

Sanding & Priming Wooden Substrates – Wood substrates must yield the correct deflection criteria of L / 360 per ASTM C 627 (i.e. Deflection from 300 lbs. concentrated load standard test method).

Sand wooden substrates using an appropriate wood floor sander to clean as well as remove existing sealers, paints, wax, etc. until the wood surface is thoroughly clean and absorbent. Vacuum the entire surface, paying close attention to voids, knots and seams between boards to remove all sanding dust and debris. Skim coat the joint seams as well as any holes to seal off voids that could potentially leak. Once cured, sand all patching relatively flush to the surrounding surface, vacuum the entire floor thoroughly then wipe the substrate with a clean microfiber mop to loosen any remaining dust prior to priming with CEM's EPIX QCWB-60. **DO NOT INSTALL over oil contaminated, dry-rotten, insect damaged or unsound substrates.*



Product Data Sheet

PRIMING HIGHLY ABSORBANT SUBSTRATES: After mechanically preparing the substrate, pour some water on the surface approximately 4" in diameter. Wait 30 to 60 seconds to ensure the surface darkens uniformly and the water has begun to soak in but doesn't completely absorb into the surface.

If the surface doesn't darken, preparation isn't sufficient and needs to be mechanically prepared more thoroughly or the concrete may be contaminated (see Page 2 for details).

If the water soaks with very little puddling on the surface and the surface has darkened uniformly, priming with CEM's EPIX QCWB-60 is recommended. Once CEM's EPIX QCWB-60 primer has become tack free, application of CEM's EPIX QCWB-60 may proceed.

MIXING: Premix each component separately for 2 minutes to redistribute the components prior to combining. Add 1 bottle of CEM's Color Pack to Part B of CEM's EPIX QCWB-60 then premix for 2 minutes then pour Part A into Part B pail while continuing to mix for an additional 3 minutes using a paint mixing paddle attached to a low speed 1/2" drill (<450 rpm).

- **Mix:1A to 4 B**
- **Pre Mix Part B**
Add Color
- **Add Part A to B Pail Next**
- **300-400 RPM**
- **3-4 Min Mix Time**



Mix combined components of CEM's EPIX QCWB-60 for 3 to 4 minutes using a low speed (≤450 RPM) 1/2" drill using a paint mixing paddle in a plastic 5-gallon pail. **DO NOT MIX MORE MATERIAL**

THAN CAN BE USED WITHIN 25 MINUTES AT 72°F. Once Part B is pigmented with CEM's Color Pack, it must be used within the same day.

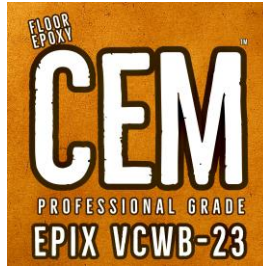
If combined mixture is allowed to sit for more than 20 minutes, stir using drill with mixing paddle slowly for 30 to 45 seconds prior to continuing use.

APPLICATION: Once mixed, pour out CEM's EPIX QCWB-60 in a straight bead onto the area to be coated or dip and roll with a 3/8" nap paint roller attached to an extension pole at 200 sq.ft. per mixed gallon (approximately 250 sq.ft. per 1.25-gallon kit) or spread with a 8 mil V-notched squeegee then back roll with a 3/8" nap paint roller and evenly distribute the epoxy area. Walk in the freshly placed epoxy wearing spiked cleats to full broadcast Vinyl Chip to rejection within 40 minutes at 72°F. Allow to hard set then sweep off the loose, excess Vinyl Chip, scrap as necessary, then thoroughly vacuum the entire surface.

NOTE: Do NOT Mix more CEM VCWB-23 than can be mixed, placed, finished and tied into with the next batches within a 45-minute window at 72°F and 50% Humidity. Higher temperatures will reduce this time frame.

INSTALLATION: Cure times based on 72°F / 50% RH

- 1) **PRIMER** (OPTIONAL but best practice) – Apply EPIX QCWB-60 with CEM's Color Pack at 5 to 7 mils ≈ 229 to 321 sq.ft. per gallon using either the dip & roll method with a 3/8" non-shed solvent resistant roller or a Flat Squeegee then back roll with 3/8" non-shed solvent resistant roller. Allow to dry until clear & hard set, typically 2 to 3 hours (dependent on temperature, air circulation & humidity)
 - a) Should primer cure exceed 24 hours, sand thoroughly to degloss surface prior to base coat
- 2) **BASE BROADCAST COAT** – Apply CEM VCWB-23 with WSC Color Pack at 8 ≈ 200 sq.ft. per gallon using a V-Notched 8 to 12 mil Squeegee then back roll with 3/8" non-shed solvent resistant roller.
 - a) Immediately broadcast CEM Flake Vinyl Chip into the fresh 100% solids epoxy at a rate of 0.2 lbs. per sq.ft. (333 sq.ft. per 40 lbs. box)
 - b) Allow to cure until hard set, typically 2 1/2 to 3 hours @ 72°F (22.2°C)
- 3) **REMOVE & RECLAIM LOOSE CHIP** – Broom sweep with an exploded tip, soft bristle nylon push broom to remove the excess, loose Vinyl Chip and reclaim for repairs or future projects then scrape using a flat blade scraping tool (as necessary) then thoroughly vacuum entire surface to remove any remaining loose chip.
 - a) Should any bare areas occur requiring touch-ups, apply CEM's URECEM WBSG-900 with a paint brush or trim roller and sprinkle Vinyl Chip into the wet liquid then allow to dry for 30 to 60 minutes.
- 4) **SEAL COAT** – Apply CEM's URECEM WBSG-at 5 to 7 mils ≈ 229 to 321 sq.ft. per gallon using either the dip & roll method with a 3/8" non-shed solvent resistant roller or a Flat Squeegee then back roll with 3/8" non-shed solvent resistant roller
 - a) Allow to dry until clear & tack-free, typically 45 minutes to 3 hours or overnight (dependent on temperature, air circulation and humidity)



Product Data Sheet

5) **TOP COAT** – CEM's URECEM WBSG- at 5 to 8 mils ≈ 200 to 321 sq.ft. per gallon using either the dip & roll method with a 3/8" non-shed solvent resistant roller or a *Flat Squeegee* then back roll with 3/8" non-shed solvent resistant roller

6) **FULL TRAFFIC / PARKED VEHICLES** – Allow a minimum of 48 hour cure at room temperatures prior to placing any cardboard, rubber or plastic items on the surface, to include vehicle tires, walk off mats, etc. *(dependent on temperature, air circulation and humidity. Cooler temperatures will extend the cure rate necessary for traffic exposure)*

* Angular traction additive, such as CEM's Resin Sand, may be added to this layer if desired.

Cure Time @ 72°F prior to	Full Traffic:	Foot Traffic:
▪ CEM URECEM WBSG-900	≥48 hours	24 hours
▪ CEM's SPAR RC-200	≥36 hours	8 hours
▪ CEM's SPAR FC-100	≥24 hours	4 hours
▪ CEM's SPAR RO-500	≥36 hours	18 hours

* Mil and sq. ft. coverage are theoretical. Substrate porosity will affect coverage rates.

SLIP RESISTANCE: CEM Coatings Group, Inc. recommends the use of angular slip-resistant aggregate in all coatings that may be exposed to wet, oily or greasy conditions as well as any condition where increased traction may be necessary. It is the contractor and end users' responsibility to determine the appropriate traction needs and footwear necessary for the conditions as well as setting performance parameters prior to beginning the application, testing to determine parameters have been met upon completion to achieve the end users documented safety standards.

Mock-ups are highly recommended as part of the evaluation process to determine the appropriate amount of slip-coefficient necessary for the environment.

Use CEM's Resin Sand or similar 20 to 40 mesh when using a traction additive.

MAINTENANCE: *The coating system must be allowed to cure for no less than one week before using any mechanical cleaning equipment on the surface & no less than 48 hours before neutral cleaner or water exposure. This includes auto-scrubbers, swing buffers, sweepers, etc. Only dust & wet mopping may occur the first week.*

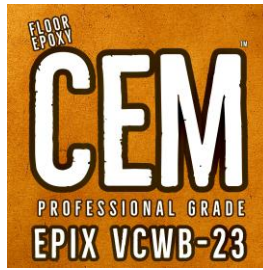
Dust mopping, removal of debris & regular cleaning are crucial to maintaining the aesthetics of the coating & maximizing the life span of the floor coating system. Cleaning cannot occur too often & inefficient cleaning will cause the floor to wear out prematurely & possibly stain or discolor depending on what comes in contact with the floor. Spills should be removed quickly. Avoid Polypropylene or abrasive bristle (Tynex®) brushes as these brushes will cause the development of scratch patterns & lessen the sheen.

To maximum your investment with proper floor care & maintenance, remove all particles that may scratch and/or dull the floor coating using the least aggressive method necessary to clean the floor.

It is good practice to develop a floor maintenance schedule to be performed at the end of each shift & a set day per week or month for heavy cleaning:

- Daily = Sweep & dust mop or water only mopping/auto-scrubbing; spot clean spills & oils
- Weekly or Monthly = Scrubbed once per week or month depending on the amount & type of soils present.

Health Department or DEA regulations may necessitate more frequent & stringent cleaning practices as will areas exposed to oils, inks, chemicals, etc. on the floor surface.



Product Data Sheet

DETERGENT: Always use the least aggressive detergent necessary to remove the residue. A *Neutral Detergent*, or similar, may be used for general purpose cleaning. Use *CEM's Oil Stop*, or similar degreaser, for more degreasing & heavy duty weekly or monthly cleaning.

Caution: *Do not drag or drop heavy objects across any floor, including coatings as scratching, gouging or chipping may occur to the concrete or the coating itself. This includes the tip of the forks on a forklift, nails protruding from a pallet, etc.*

Avoid spinning tires on a coated floor surface as the heat created from the friction of a spinning tire will quickly soften the coating causing permanent damage.

Should a gouge, chip or scratch occur, touch-up the damaged areas immediately to avoid chemical or water intrusion to the concrete which could create additional damage. A thin layer of clear nail polish to the damaged area will provide some minimal protection until the area can be properly repaired.

Rubber tires are prone to plasticizer migration, especially aviation tires & high-performance car tires. Plasticizer will stain coatings & commercial flooring leaving an amber to yellow-like stain that may be permanent. This can be more noticeable where aircraft or vehicles are stationary for longer periods of time, more so in non-climate-controlled environments such as aircraft hangars with lighter colored floors. To avoid plasticizer staining, use a piece of Plexiglas® or LEXAN® panels, cut a few inches in diameter larger than the tires that will rest on the panels, between the floor & the contact point of the tire when storing rubber-tired vehicles on any floor, including floor coating systems. Some tire stains can be removed if cleaned before a set-in stain occurs using a d-Limonene based degreaser with mild agitation via an orbital, low speed floor machine.

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