

# Safe Tread Clear

## **WATERBASED Anti-Slip Clear Coating**

**“Get a Grip on a Slippery World”**

**Safe Tread CLEAR** is **Self-Crosslinking**, user friendly and **enhanced with UV Blockers** that help prevent sunlight deterioration of the underlying substrate. This NON WATER WHITENING PRODUCT creates an incredibly effective anti-slip, non-skid surface on clean, dry, prepared substrates. **Safe Tread CLEAR** penetrates deeply and is scuff and impact resistant which means a long service life. It cures by evaporation and air dries quickly while it's also NON FLAMMABLE for safe application even indoors. Use it on Wood, Decorative Concrete and other decorative surfaces to provide a NON SKID surface while allowing the underlying beauty to show through.

**CONTAINS NO HAZARDOUS OR HARMFUL SILICA!**

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#### **1.0 GENERAL GUIDELINES**

- Always clean each surface that is to be coated.
- Remove all grease, oil, and other contaminants; leave no residue, clean thoroughly - if there is any question of contaminants, use a cleaner such as TSP, commercial degreaser or laundry detergent and a scrub brush.
- Never assume a surface is clean. Clean it yourself!
- Ensure that the surface (substrate) is sound, DRY, and free of all wax, oil, grease and loose materials.
- Each gallon of **Safe Tread Clear** will cover between 125 to 150 square feet in a 1 or 2 coat process.
- Use ONLY WATER for thinning and clean up.
- Keep the product from freezing.
- **PROPER SURFACE PREPARATION IS ESSENTIAL FOR A HIGH QUALITY OUTCOME!**

*Effective May, 2009*

## **2.0 PERSONAL PROTECTION**

Please review the Material Safety Data Sheet for information on Health Hazards, First Aid, Safe Handling, Emergency Information and other Product Information It is recommended that you wear appropriate attire for applying typical latex paints. **Safe Tread Clear can be applied without any modification!**

## **3.0 “TRICKS OF THE TRADE”**

- Dilute **Safe Tread Clear** with clean water only if absolutely necessary to achieve a given texture. A dilution of 5% will reduce the solids within the product by the same amount and can increase the drying time significantly.
- Mask off all areas not to be coated. Make sure to remove the masking tape immediately after the application of each coat and while coating is still wet to insure a clean edge. Double Taping is recommended.
- Stir thoroughly before applying and stir periodically to maintain aggregate in suspension.
- When applying **Safe Tread Clear** be sure to apply the second coat at a right angle to the first coat.
- Application failures if any will be due to inadequate or improper substrate preparation.

## **4.0 TYPES OF APPLICATIONS**

*We recommend 2 coats to be considered for “light” traffic and 3 coats for heavier traffic or use. It’s important to “build up” with multiple coats and not try to achieve maximum total thickness in one coat.*

### **4.1 ROLLER APPLICATION**

- For most effective application to large areas, use a “FoamPRO” 3/8” foam roller available from your **Safe Tread Clear** supplier, or you may want to use a VERY SHORT nap roller of 1/8” to ¼” maximum. Imparting different textures can be accomplished by using a lighter or slightly heavier pressure on the roller once the material has been positioned. Roll in only one direction as the final pass to insure uniformity in the resulting texture. **NOTE: using a typical paint roller is NOT Recommended and will result in an uneven finish.**
- Dampen texture roller with water - remove excess water prior to application.
- Pour **Safe Tread Clear** onto the surface to be coated or dip roller into the bucket. Make sure to completely saturate roller with product, leaving no bare spots on roller.
- Apply the first coat as a thin coat. Resaturate roller after each pass. Make 4 - 5 consecutive passes in the same direction, with each pass right next to the other. When applying, roll in one direction first, and then roll in the opposite direction in order to properly blend the product and create a uniform textured surface.
- Once an area is covered, run the roller very lightly over it to ensure even distribution of the texture coating.
- When dry to the touch, apply the subsequent coat (s).
- Do not apply too thick in a single coat or a slight “surface cracking” may result in the dried coating.

### **4.2 BRUSH APPLICATION**

- Use a disposable FOAM BRUSH for best results. Use a 2” brush for small areas and a 6” brush for larger areas.
- Apply the first coat as a thin coat.
- When dry to the touch, apply the subsequent coat (s) until the desired texture is achieved.
- Do not apply too thick in a single coat or a slight “surface cracking” may result in the dried coating.

## **5.0 CURING TIME & APPLICATION TEMPERATURES**

- **Normally Safe Tread Clear will be dry to the touch within 1 hour and can be subjected to light foot traffic within 24 hours.** PLEASE NOTE: Full curing time only affects the amount of time required to wait before subjecting the surface to cleaning, heavy loads and chemical exposure. Surface can be subjected to normal loads well before this minimum time requirement.
- The coating **should not** be subjected to cleaning, heavy loads, or chemical exposure until fully cured after 7 to 10 days.

- Judgment should be used when determining when the application is fully cured. Dry times in this manual are based on a temperature of 75°F and 50% humidity. Higher relative humidity will slow the drying process noticeably as will low temperatures.
- **Safe Tread Clear** should not be used when the surface temperature is under 60°F or when it is expected to drop below that or when rain or evening dew is imminent before product has a chance to fully dry.
- **Do not allow product to freeze.**
- **IMPORTANT: ONLY USE CLEAN WATER TO THIN OR DILUTE **Safe Tread Clear**.**

## 6.0 **FIBERGLASS**

- To insure good adhesion, first sand the surface evenly using 80 or 100 grit paper to ensure the removal of all gloss from the substrate. Try “No-Sand” deglosser for painted decks if sanding is not possible.
- Clean to insure that the surface is completely free of waxes and other protective additives.
- Test for adhesion first, before continuing with the job.
- Apply **Safe Tread Clear**.

## 7.0 **CONCRETE**

### 7.1 **GENERAL ADVICE FOR CONCRETE APPLICATION**

Taking into account the following specifically listed concrete notes, unless you are absolutely sure of the (substrate) concrete history, it is important to establish the type of concrete application, the history of the concrete (if various contaminants such as oils, fuels, polishing waxes, chemicals, etc., have been in contact with the concrete), and how the application should be tackled. If there is any doubt at all about any aspect of the concrete history or type, always test (adhesion apply to a small area to test acceptability) **BEFORE** undertaking the overall application. **CONCRETE MUST BE COMPLETELY DRY AT DEPTH.**

At times, apparently properly prepared substrates do not allow adhesion. If the substrate is properly prepared prior to the application of **Safe Tread Clear** and no adhesion results, this is usually the result of concrete dampness or contamination by chemicals or silicone type materials. These types of contaminants can not be seen even though the prepared concrete looks clean and/or porous. Contaminated substrates of this type will reveal the lifting of **Safe Tread Clear** in sheet form, revealing adhesion to the primer, but the primer fails to adhere to the substrate.

The solution to resolving these types of problems is to establish precisely what the concrete has been exposed to and then to apply the correct cleaning agent to remove the contaminant. For example, long-term fuel contamination will require several degreaser applications to remove all imbedded fuel contaminants. Long term beer contamination in bars will require appropriate cleaning/preparation and a significant drying time period to ensure that beer yeast contamination from within the concrete and the concrete surface properly dries. Without this preparation, no adhesion will be possible.

**SIMPLE ADHESION TEST:** To determine if surface is paintable, put a few small drops of water onto the concrete. If the water beads up, it indicates the presence of a waterproof sealer or other compound that could impede adhesion of **Safe Tread Clear**.

### 7.2 **CONCRETE FINISH**

The type of concrete finish is critical in the way the surface preparation is undertaken. Dense, hard and heavily worked and compressed concrete is NOT porous and adhesion difficulties can be experienced without the correct treatment of the substrate. **Safe Tread Clear** or the primer used must be able to penetrate or attach itself to the substrate in order that satisfactory adhesion occurs. New concrete will take up to 28 days to cure properly. **Unless concrete is dry, adhesion problems can be experienced.** Test dryness with a moisture meter to determine if concrete is truly dry.

### 7.3 **CONCRETE CLEANING**

**Degreasers:** It is very important when using a degreaser that the clean up is absolutely thorough and complete. Rinse the surface thoroughly so that no residual degreaser is left in the substrate. TIDE Laundry powder works well.

**Caustic Detergents:** These products help emulsify surface grease or oils and bring the contaminants to the surface. This allows the contaminants to be washed away.

**Acid Etching:** This type of cleaning helps to open the pores of the concrete so that primers and coatings have the best chance to obtain a mechanical as well as a chemical adhesion. Clean concrete with detergents or TSP prior to Acid Etching so that all dirt is removed and a complete etch is possible. **DO NOT ALLOW ACID TO DRY ON THE SURFACE.** Rinse concrete thoroughly after Acid Etching to remove all acid residual. Allow to dry completely!!!!

### **CONCRETE...**

- Must be fully cured.
- If concrete surface is clean and has a porous texture, no further surface preparation is necessary.
- If the concrete surface is NOT porous then acid etching, sanding or shot blasting is necessary. Make sure to use a light acid etch and to remove all remaining acid with soap and water and scrub brush. (If all acid is not properly removed, you will not obtain adhesion).
- Concrete should be completely clean and very dry.
- Patch all imperfections, cracks, etc. with concrete patch filler and flexible joint fillers. (These are available at your local hardware store or home center.)
- **DO NOT USE OVER SILICONE PRODUCTS.** (The Product will not adhere to silicone or siloxanes.)
- Apply ***Safe Tread Clear***.

## **8.0 PAINTED SURFACES**

- Aggressively roughen glossy surfaces by sanding with 40 grit sand paper. The surface must be rough to achieve the proper adhesion. Use No-Sand deglosser if sanding is not possible.
- Clean surface of all oils, grease, dirt, silicone and other contaminants. Leave no chalk or other residue.
- Inspect for any imperfections or delamination of previously painted surface using probe or pen knife.
- Test for adhesion before continuing with job.
- Apply ***Safe Tread Clear***.

## **9.0 WOOD**

- Sand with 36 or 40 grit sand paper to remove all dead wood fiber and insure proper adhesion.
- Pressure treated wood must be aged at least 6 months before coating with ***Safe Tread Clear***.
- Remove any peeling, cracking, or chipping paint, varnish or sealer.
- Test for adhesion before continuing with job.
- Apply ***Safe Tread Clear***.

## **10.0 STORAGE AND REPAIR**

### **10.1 STORAGE**

- To store partially used cans, seal container well (airtight) and place in cool, dry place. The contents should be useable for at least 12 months. If storing for an extended period of time, sprinkle an ounce of water onto the coating in the container and seal the lid to allow for high humidity in the can and this will help prevent skinning of the product.
- If some water content has evaporated from the product upon long term storage, add a small amount of clean water to restore the "creaminess" back to the product. If product becomes hard, dispose of it in an approved manner.

### **10.2 REPAIR**

- In the event that ***Safe Tread Clear*** is damaged, it can easily be repaired, or over-coated, because it bonds incredibly well to itself.
- Remove all damaged product. Use a sharp knife such as a utility knife to make a well-defined area such as a square and eliminate uneven edges.
- Sand area with 36 or 40 grit sandpaper so that the new application can get a good grip. Slightly bevel the edges of the existing product so that the new product can fill in the cutout area and go slightly over the adjacent surfaces.
- Clean area with water and allow drying.
- Apply ***Safe Tread Clear*** to affected area.

## **11.0 MAINTENANCE**

- Most general floor cleaners have been tested and will work well. Use products such as; *Simple Green, TSP, Laundry Detergents (TIDE Powdered Detergent), Citrus Orange Cleaners, Commercial Degreasers, Orpine, etc.*
- For best results, use a stiff bristled deck brush to agitate cleaner on the surface.
- Rinse surface thoroughly to remove all residue.
- Surfaces can also be cleaned with use of automatic scrubbers with pad pressure set on a light setting for large industrial applications. **Heavy scrubbing with automatic scrubbers can negatively affect the coated surface.**

## **12.0 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

If you are about to quote or undertake any major projects or are in any doubt about surface preparation, please contact us so that professional advice can be given. Be sure that you supply us with adequate information on the substrate and any other issues that may require consideration, i.e., site description, previous and/or current uses for the area, amount of wear.

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