

ESD Vinyl Tile Maintenance Instructions

The amount and type of traffic will determine the maintenance frequency and requirements of your Staticworx vinyl flooring. Maintenance of StaticWorx ESD Vinyl tiles require sweeping, washing, rinsing and buffing. Do not use a sweeping compound as these may contain oils. Do not use generic wax or floor finishes on conductive or static dissipative vinyl tiles. All power buffing machines should not exceed 1500 R.P.M. Clean the floor with a neutral floor cleaner only. Do not use an excessive amount of water. Do not use pads or brushes that have been used on standard waxed floors as these will tend to cross contaminate and leave a non-conductive wax film that will compromise the dissipative properties of the floor.

Attaining the Desired Shine and Finish on a Staticworx solid Vinyl tile ESD Floor

Staticworx solid vinyl tile (SVT) is manufactured using automated processes. One of the automated processes is called “polishing.” Polishing is performed using an abrasive material similar to the rubbing compounds used to prepare the painted finish on automobiles. Since this process is done in-line at the factory, it is not unusual for the tile finish within a batch to vary slightly. The factory polishing is not performed to provide the final finish; it is performed to seal the surface of the newly manufactured tiles. Keep in mind, any variation in shine does not mean there is a deviation in color; it merely means that the tiles have been abraded to lesser or greater degrees depending on the point at which they went through the factory polishing process.

Instructions and Materials Needed for Initial Maintenance of New Vinyl Tile

Necessary Tools and Materials

- a.) Mopping: a dry antistatic mop
- b.) Washing: bucket, wringer and lukewarm water, mop
- c.) Single disc low speed buffer
- d.) Staticworx approved cleaning chemicals

As a standard practice, Staticworx recommends the following initial maintenance procedure prior to opening any newly tiled area to traffic and/or production.

1. Clean the floor using a neutral pH cleaner like Staticworx [Triboclean cleaner](#).
2. Buff the floor using a dry medium coarse pad (typically red in color – 3M 5100 or equivalent) with a low speed buffer (175 to 300 RPM). This process will eliminate finish variations between tiles.
3. Final polish the floor using a white pad at low speed. Staticworx Buffing emulsion ([Staticworx Buff](#)) may be used in conjunction with this process on an on-going basis.
4. For routine maintenance, steps 1-3 should be repeated. If the floor has been allowed to become heavily soiled, [Staticworx Degreaser](#) can be used during step one.

Tips for Initial Maintenance

- a. Always test your technique in a small area first to ensure the process and materials are used correctly.
- b. Avoid high speed buffing if low speed buffing creates a satisfactory finish.
- c. Never use conventional waxes on your Staticworx ESD floor. These products will insulate your conductive floor and compromise the ESD capabilities of the tile. Conventional waxes can be removed and the floor can be restored to an ESD compliant state by using wax strippers.
- d. [Staticworx Seal](#) and [Staticworx Coat](#) may be applied for very high traffic areas or areas where a super high shine is required. Staticworx Coat can be burnished.

CAUTION: High speed buffers (1000 to 1500 RPM) can be used on a periodical basis to remove heavy scratches by burnishing the tile. This type of buffer is not recommended for regular maintenance as damage to the tile can be caused with continued use.

General Maintenance Tips

It is important to note that any cleaning solutions and residue must be thoroughly removed from the surface to ensure that electrical performance is obtained. Note: oil mops, oil sprays or oil containing sweeping compounds are not recommended for use on any ESD Vinyl tiles.

Floor Protection: Floors must be protected against excessive static loads and abrasion during the movement of heavy machines, equipment etc. The removal of small metal domes from machine legs is always recommended. Plastic casters and glides of adequate size should also be used to protect the floor surface. Be sure to protect using felt paper or reinstalling proper caster.

Throw Rugs: Some types of throw rugs are backed with latex that may stain resilient floors. Make certain that the rug supplier provides assurances that the rugs have a non-staining backing.

WARNING: The extremely high forces exerted by stiletto or high-heeled traffic (dynamic loads of 3,000 PSI or more) may create visible indentations on resilient flooring. StaticWorx will not accept claims for damage caused by stiletto or high-heeled traffic.

Questions/Assistance

Call StaticWorx Customer Service at 617-923-2000 Monday-Friday between 8:30 am and 5:00 pm EST.