

CASE STUDY: SHANDS AGH, GAINESVILLE, FL

PRODUCT:

DURA® VCT Micro-Bonding Finish
HIGH GLOSS, STAIN AND WEAR PROTECTION

APPLICATION:

The Environmental Services Department within this 435 bed, 600,000 square foot hospital, has historically maintained its vinyl composite flooring with Johnson floor wax. The current practices include the expenditure for three full-time employees whose duties are dedicated to floor care, including striping and applying wax finishes and maintaining floor finishes using Tennant auto scrubbers, burnishers, and sundry chemicals and equipment pads.

The existing floor care practices resulted in poor sustainability of floor surfaces requiring at least four (4) complete strip and re-coat services per year, and two (2) deep scrub services per year. Each complete strip cycle included approximately five (5) coats of finish and each deep scrub service included two (2) coats of finish.

EXPECTED OUTCOME:

The extraordinary costs and minimal durability associated with this process prompted Shands AGH personnel to seek alternative floor finish technology solutions that would simultaneously improve durability while decreasing man hours and result in lower total costs.

Evaluations included specially formulated High Solids Acrylic Finish, Urethane Finish, Epoxy Finish and DURA® VCT.

ACTUAL OUTCOME:

Outcomes varied as the evaluations were considered. Such outcomes revealed the difficulty of preparation, application, and maintainability of both the urethane and epoxy finishes. While these solutions represented significant advantages over the current acrylic wax finishes being used in the facility; the multiple application process and expense per square foot resulted in the consideration of these products for change management to end.

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TAF 133® Hybrid Inorganic
Micro-Bonding Polymer
Nano Technology

CASE STUDY

The specially formulated High Solids Acrylic Finish did improve the performance over the current wax formulary but did not represent significant improvement or reductions in cost sufficient to consider it as an alternative.

The DURA® VCT product was installed in a high traffic hallway, representing approximately 1400 square feet, on February 1, 2007. The area selected represented one of the harshest conditions within the hospital with significant foot and wheel traffic. As proposed; only two (2) coats of DURA® VCT were applied according to the application guidelines. Hospital personnel realized immediately how simple the product was to apply, and after the first coat decided to complete the application of the test area.

Since the DURA® VCT cost per gallon was significantly higher than that of conventional wax products, but considerably lower than that of the urethane and epoxy finishes; the decision was made to observe the area for a period of one (1) year to determine if the claims made were sustainable.

SUMMARY:

After reviewing the application of the DURA® VCT one year later, the Environmental Services Director and the Assistant Director determined that the product was sufficiently saving considerable labor and maintenance costs without any noticeable degradation to the original applied finish.

After one and one-half years, the Environmental Services staff determined to adopt the use of DURA® VCT throughout the hospital. Initial applications made in the West Wing of the hospital yielded exceptional praise by the Hospital Administrator who suggested making the entire hospital look as good as that wing. The DURA® VCT product is currently being applied to all surfaces in the hospital and significant benefits have been realized. The Emergency Room and patient rooms have remained clean, clear and without degradation, allowing for better patient care and utilization of all facility rooms without the delays associated with strip and wax policies which have now been abandoned since using DURA® VCT.

The Assistant Director of the Environmental Services Department suggests that a 66% reduction in labor hours has been achieved by using DURA® VCT in lieu of all other technologies available. This labor reduction has afforded the department additional man hours to complete needed tasks without hiring new staff. As stated by the Assistant Director, "Using DURA® VCT makes floor care easy, and we no longer have to waste time stripping and re-waxing."

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