

ANIMAL CARE SOLUTIONS

DETERMINING THE PERFECT FLOORING SYSTEM
FOR YOUR ANIMAL CARE FACILITY





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The most important factor in selecting the right floor technology in your animal care facility is considering the area utilization – including chemical exposure, traffic conditions, wet or dry environment, UV exposure, maintenance required and, of course, the existing condition of the floor. Several seamless chemistries are available to meet animal care facility performance criteria, and each of these options can be incorporated into different systems to provide long-term wear, impact and skid resistance.

When evaluating which flooring system will work best for your facility, consider the following:

CHEMISTRY

Using epoxies is a best practice thanks to:

- Low volatile organic compounds (VOCs)
- Low odor retention
- Wide range of chemical-resistant applications
- Quick return to service when combined with a polyaspartic topcoat(s)

As a rule of thumb, the flooring system should be tested by experimental exposure to all chemicals that will be used **prior to installation.**

SYSTEM THICKNESS

The traffic pattern and wear considerations will dictate the coating thickness. For instance, heavy traffic requires more than a simple coating for long-lasting wear.

- **Trowel-applied systems** work best to repair irregularities in an existing floor and have modest impact and thermal shock disbondment resistance.
- **Broadcast systems** (1/8” thickness) help with wear resistance and an appropriate non-skid texture.

In addition, incorporating a cove base will help maintain the floor and prevent the accumulation of debris at the floor and wall transition.

SKID RESISTANCE

Coating systems can be textured using any of the following:

- Silica sand
- Polypropylene beads
- Aluminum oxide

A smaller-grade aggregate can be incorporated into the coating, while a larger aggregate must be broadcast and backrolled, leaving variation in texture. Additional topcoat materials help with the coarse texture of broadcast systems.

AESTHETICS

When considering aesthetics, your options include:

Color

Color can be added through pigmenting your resin or using colored aggregate. These components can be combined for more variety.

Design

Seamless flooring standard products are virtually unlimited as far as design options. In a simple coating system, aisle markings, traffic lines and even logos may be embedded in the floor, or the aisle may simply be a different color from the field.

Transitions

Seamless floors are frequently installed with an integral cove base transition between floor and wall to allow for easy cleaning and prevention of water damage at the wall. For block walls, the top of the cove can be terminated into a mortar joint. For drywall or cement board, the troweled cove is feathered, and an epoxy wall system can be installed over the feathered edge.

Finish Texture

Textured finish coats not only contribute to design but also enhance slip resistance. A variety of textures are available, including:

- Glossy
- Stipple
- Satin
- Urethane
- Flat

TIMING AND COST

Some chemistries allow for quick installs, while other polymers may require cure times of up to one week in order to provide full chemical resistance. If you are constructing an entirely new facility, consider that most standard epoxy and urethane systems require the concrete to be **at least 28 days old** because these systems will not allow excess moisture to escape from the concrete.

In addition to considering downtime created by the installation, think about:

- How long the system will last
- What repairs will be necessary and who can repair them (your staff versus the original contractor)
- If a warranty is included

FLOORING SYSTEMS

Our flooring systems are designed with functionality and aesthetics in mind for pharmaceutical, research and biotech applications, or other areas where a decorative, heavy-duty floor is desired.

Bio-Flake® 1/8” Decorative Flooring System Highlights

- Fast turnaround time
- Moisture insensitive
- High-temperature resistance
- Attractive yet functional
- Wide selection of colored chip blends
- No moisture testing required
- Chemical resistant to a broad range of sterilants and disinfectants, including:
 - Steris: CIP 100, 200, 220, 300, Spor-Klenz, Vesphene
 - Acidulate 45T
 - Bleach
 - IPA
 - LPHSE Unicide 256
 - Clidox S
 - SaF Kleen
 - Dilute Phosphoric

FasTop® Multi Topfloor SL23 Flooring System Highlights

- Low odor for renovation projects
- Chemical resistant to surgical solution and other fluids
- Slip-resistant finish available for wash-down areas
- Can be applied to “green” concrete
- Rapid cure and hardness development
- Water based
- Low-temperature cure
- Impact resistant
- Moisture resistant
- Unlimited MVER/RH when installed at 1/8” thickness



For more information contact your local Sherwin-Williams representative or visit [sherwin-williams.com/protective](https://www.sherwin-williams.com/protective).

KEEPING YOUR COATINGS PROCESS IN MOTION

HIGH-PERFORMANCE ANIMAL CARE FLOOR COATINGS
THAT KEEP PROJECTS ON BUDGET AND ON TIME

THE SHERWIN-WILLIAMS DIFFERENCE

The industry experts at Sherwin-Williams Protective & Marine are renowned authorities in their respective fields of knowledge – including Bridge & Highway, Fire Protection, Flooring, Food & Beverage, Freight Rail, Marine, Oil & Gas, Power Generation, Steel Fabrication and Water & Wastewater. Our global technology expertise in areas including tank linings, passive fire protection, corrosion under insulation (CUI) testing and fusion-bonded epoxy drives game-changing innovation and influences global industry standards.



Unparalleled
distribution network



Global
industry expertise



Most extensive sales
organization coverage



Unmatched technical
and specification service