

## Caring for Eternal Step Products

The Forbo Eternal Step product range includes: Eternal Step, Eternal Step SR, Eternal Step Aqua and Eternal Step Wood.

Forbo Eternal products are a heterogeneous sheet vinyl that have lacquered finish wear layer that is transparent. This finish ensures a maximal wear resistance and maintains the design of the floor. Each Eternal Step product has a scratch resistant PUR wear layer.

The PVC wear layer also contains aluminum oxide and carborundum chips for durable slip resistance. A non-woven, fully impregnated, glass fleece layer functions as the backbone of the floor, providing flexibility and ensuring dimensional stability. Adding to stability and the high quality standard of Eternal is the optimized compact calendared backing, which is a substantial part of the construction and contains 60% recycled content.

The wear layer of Eternal Step and Eternal Step SR contains colorfast pigments, transparent PVC chips and carborundum granules. The carborundum chips are most prevalent in Eternal Step SR, providing a greater degree of slip resistance than other vinyl flooring.

The wear layer of Eternal Step Aqua and Eternal Step Wood both contain transparent anti-slip crystals. The unique embossed shape of Eternal Step Aqua was designed for wet room applications or barefoot areas.

**IMPORTANT! Before starting any cleaning procedures on any Forbo products, contact Forbo's Product Support & Education Services for additional information, recommendations or to schedule a site visit. The best results may not be achieved if the chemical and equipment types recommended below are not used. The size of the equipment recommended may also vary based on the size of the space or application type.**

**NOTE:** Forbo Flooring Systems does not warrant or guarantee the performance of other manufacturers' products mentioned in these guidelines. For specific information regarding Forbo's warranty, visit [www.forboflooringNA.com](http://www.forboflooringNA.com) or contact Forbo's Product Support & Education Services.

### **INITIAL CLEANING**

Cleaning performed for new installations exposed to normal construction soil and traffic. It is necessary to protect newly installed floors from construction soil, traffic and damage until they are ready for initial cleaning. In order to allow the adhesive to dry and cure properly, wait a minimum of five days following the installation before conducting initial cleaning or other wet cleaning procedures. For installations over non-porous substrates, additional time may be necessary because the adhesive may take longer to dry and cure.

**NOTE:** Because of the abrasive qualities of the Eternal Step products, continuous filament microfiber mops and soft bristled brushes will provide the best results. Traditional mops and floor pads will have a very short life and are not recommended.

1. Remove all surface soil, debris, sand and grit by sweeping or vacuuming with a wet/dry vacuum such as Tennant/Nobles V-WD-15S or equivalent.
2. Mix a neutral pH cleaning solution according to the label directions. The pH of the cleaner in solution must be between 6.0 – 8.0 pH. Refer to the list at the end of this section for recommended products.
3. Apply the solution to the floor. Do NOT flood the floor. The solution can be applied with either a continuous filament microfiber mop or an automatic scrubber such as Tennant T300, Nobles Speed Scrub 300 or equivalent. Allow the solution to dwell on the floor for 5 – 10 minutes. Additional dwell time may be necessary for heavily soiled areas.
4. Scrub the floor with either a low speed rotary machine such as Tennant/Nobles FM-17-SS or equivalent or an automatic scrubber such as Tennant T300, Nobles Speed Scrub 300 or equivalent using a soft bristled brush. If using an automatic scrubber, it is recommended to double scrub the floor.
5. Pick up the scrubbing solution with a wet vacuum such as Tennant/Nobles V-WD-15S or equivalent or an automatic scrubber such as Tennant T300, Nobles Speed Scrub 300 or equivalent.
6. Rinse the entire floor surface with a clean continuous filament microfiber mop using clean, cool water. Pick up rinse water with wet vacuum such as Tennant/Nobles V-WD-15S or equivalent or an automatic scrubber such as Tennant T300, Nobles Speed Scrub 300 or equivalent.
7. Allow the floor to dry thoroughly before allowing traffic.

### **ROUTINE CLEANING**

Cleaning performed a minimum of once a day, depending on the application, type of traffic and hours of operation.

1. Stains or spills should be wiped or mopped up immediately with a damp mop using a neutral pH cleaning solution. Rinse the affected area with clean, cool water. Be sure to allow the floor to dry thoroughly before allowing traffic. The pH of the cleaner in solution must be between 6.0 – 8.0 pH. Refer to the list at the end of this section for recommended products.
2. Remove all surface soil, debris, sand and grit by sweeping or vacuuming with a wet/dry vacuum such as Tennant/Nobles V-WD-15S or equivalent.
3. Mix a neutral pH cleaning solution according to the label directions. The pH of the cleaner in solution must be between 6.0 – 8.0 pH. Refer to the list at the end of this section for recommended products.
4. Apply the solution to the floor. Do NOT flood the floor. The solution can be applied with either a continuous filament microfiber mop or an automatic scrubber such as Tennant T300, Nobles Speed Scrub 300 or equivalent. Allow the solution to dwell on the floor for 5 – 10 minutes. Additional dwell time may be necessary for heavily soiled areas.
5. Scrub the floor with either a low speed rotary machine such as Tennant/Nobles FM-17-SS or equivalent or an automatic scrubber such as Tennant T300, Nobles Speed Scrub 300 or equivalent using a soft bristled brush. If using an automatic scrubber, it is recommended to double scrub the floor.

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6. Pick up the scrubbing solution with a wet vacuum such as Tennant/Nobles V-WD-15S or equivalent or an automatic scrubber such as Tennant T300, Nobles Speed Scrub 300 or equivalent.
7. Rinse the entire floor surface with a clean continuous filament microfiber mop using clean, cool water. Pick up rinse water with wet vacuum such as Tennant/Nobles V-WD-15S or equivalent or an automatic scrubber such as Tennant T300, Nobles Speed Scrub 300 or equivalent.
8. Allow the floor to dry thoroughly before allowing traffic.

### **INTERIM CLEANING**

Cleaning performed as needed, depending on the application, type of traffic and hours of operation. The following processes should be followed when the routine cleaning is not removing the soil from the floor.

1. Remove all surface soil, debris, sand and grit by sweeping or vacuuming with a wet/dry vacuum such as Tennant/Nobles V-WD-15S or equivalent.
2. Mix 2 oz. of a general purpose per gallon of water. The pH of the cleaner in solution must be between 8.0 – 10.4 pH. Refer to the list at the end of this section for recommended products.
 

**NOTE:** If there are hard water or mineral deposits present, mix a hydrogen peroxide cleaning solution according to the label directions. The pH of the cleaner in solution must be between 4.0 – 7.0 pH. Refer to the list at the end of this section for recommended products.
3. Apply the solution to the floor. Do NOT flood the floor. The solution can be applied with either a continuous filament microfiber mop or an automatic scrubber such as Tennant T300, Nobles Speed Scrub 300 or equivalent. Allow the solution to dwell on the floor for 5 – 10 minutes. Additional dwell time may be necessary for heavily soiled areas.
4. Scrub the floor with either a low speed rotary machine such as Tennant/Nobles FM-17-SS or equivalent or an automatic scrubber such as Tennant T300, Nobles Speed Scrub 300 or equivalent using a soft bristled brush. If using an automatic scrubber, it is recommended to double scrub the floor.
5. Pick up the scrubbing solution with a wet vacuum such as Tennant/Nobles V-WD-15S or equivalent or an automatic scrubber such as Tennant T300, Nobles Speed Scrub 300 or equivalent.
6. If not using an automatic scrubber, pick up the scrubbing solution with a wet vacuum (preferred) or a continuous filament microfiber mop.
7. Rinse the entire floor surface with a clean continuous filament microfiber mop using clean, cool water. Pick up rinse water with wet vacuum such as Tennant/Nobles V-WD-15S or equivalent or an automatic scrubber such as Tennant T300, Nobles Speed Scrub 300 or equivalent.
8. Allow the floor to dry thoroughly before allowing traffic.
9. If the floor requires restoration cleaning procedures, contact Forbo's Product Support & Education Services.

### **NOTE:**

Weather, traffic and geographical location will influence the required frequency of this procedure. For example, in areas where there are large amounts of snow and chemicals used in the winter months it will likely be necessary to perform this procedure more frequently. In dry climates, or where there is less dirt traffic, it may not be necessary to perform this procedure as frequently.

### **RECOMMENDED FLOOR CARE PRODUCTS**

The following list of recommended floor care chemicals have been tested for compatibility with Forbo products. This list is provided to offer the best opportunity to care for your flooring and meet the needs of your facility. **If you prefer to use a manufacturer's floor care chemicals that are not listed, be sure to use a corresponding cross-referenced product.** For additional information on a product or for your local supplier, refer to the Contacts section of the Forbo Commercial Floor Care Guide.

#### **Neutral pH Cleaners:**

Forbo Neutral pH Cleaner  
 3M™ Neutral Cleaner 3H  
  
 Pro-Link Level 7  
 Spartan Damp Mop  
 Diversey Stride  
 Ecolab® QC 34 High Performance  
 Neutral Floor Cleaner

#### **Hydrogen Peroxide Cleaners:**

Pro-Link TransOxy  
 Spartan Clean by Peroxy  
 3M™ Peroxide Cleaner 34L  
 Diversey Alpha HP  
 Ecolab® QC 54 Peroxide Multi Surface Cleaner

#### **General Purpose Cleaners:**

Forbo Heavy Duty Cleaner  
 3M™ General Purpose  
 Cleaner/Concentrate 8H  
 Pro-Link Synthetic Floor HD Cleaner  
 Spartan Industrial Pathmaker  
 Diversey Profi  
 Diversey GP Forward  
 Ecolab® QC 35 MAXX Dual Action Floor  
 Cleaner

Forbo's Commercial Floor Care Guide contains additional information and is available for download at [www.forboflooringNA.com](http://www.forboflooringNA.com). For a hard copy, or for additional information, contact Forbo's Product Support & Education Services at 1-800-842-7839.