Access Tile®

Tactile Systems

CLEANING AND MAINTENANCE MANUAL

The Access Tile Detectable Warning Tile is unique in its visual and tactile properties and requires a slight variation in cleaning procedures. Due to the undulation and texture of the tile surface, it is necessary to reach the grime that rests on the low parts of the tile. Standard wet mopping will not be completely effective in cleaning these textured surfaces. A major benefit of the polymer composite tile is that the composition is virtually non-porous, and prevents liquids, dust and grime seeping into the body of the tile. The unique, non-porous nature of the tile therefore lends itself to regular and frequent cleaning in order to maintain and enhance the visual contrast that the bright yellow tile provides. Visual contrast is an essential safety feature of the tactile tiles, and this contrast must be rigorously maintained with regular cleaning in order to provide the contrast that the visually impaired rely on for their safety. The use of general purpose commercial floor cleaners or machine bristle scrubbing will not harm Access Tile. However, as these cleaning practices may weaken or dissolve the adjacent floor finish, careful attention must be paid to the selection and application of the cleaning solution. It is advisable to check with the manufacturer of the cleaning solution in order to be certain that the product intended to be used will not harm the Access Tile, grout, or the adjacent floor finish in any way.

Regular Maintenance

Many neutral general purpose cleaners are effective for the regular maintenance and cleaning of Access Tile. It is important that the cleaner to be used has a non-oil, non-animal fat, non-soap base. Cleaners with these bases may cause problems due to oil-residues which tend to trap dirt in the cleaning process.

Please remember to treat any cleaning product you wish to use on a small, out of the way test area of the tactile surface and adjacent floor area before applying it to the entire Access Tile surface. This will ensure that it performs as desired, not only on the Access Tile surface but also on the adjacent floor finish, thus avoiding unexpected problems.

Avoid Surface Coatings

Access Tile does not require the use of sealants or waxes. Adding surface coatings increases the number of unnecessary steps in maintenance procedures without improving either the appearance of the tile, or the resistance to dirt build-up. In fact, using a surface coating turns a low maintenance composite finish into a high maintenance tile.

In addition, surface coatings will actually diminish the unique performance characteristics that make Access Tile exceptional among tactile tiles. Such surface coatings create a thin barrier that may modify the skid resistance and visibility properties, thereby reducing an important safety feature of the flooring.