

# Solving Floor Care Problems using Ohm-Shield™ ESD Floor Finishes

The following guide is intended to solve the most common problems when using Static Solutions' Static Dissipative Floor Finishes

The solutions below can provide a useful tool in identifying problems and implementing a solution.

## Problem - Poor Gloss

Likely Cause	Solution
Insufficient coats applied	Scrub, rinse, and apply additional coats (maintain 2 to 6 coats)
Thin coats of finish	Apply in medium coats, not with a wrung out mop.
Wrong scrubbing or buffing pads/brushes used (usually too aggressive)	Use approved pads or brushes and follow recoat procedures.
Excessive amount of sand and grit is on the floor.	Use approved mats and runners of sufficient length and width.
Floor not properly rinsed before recoat. Use a neutral cleaner on floor similar to the ES-1759	Thoroughly dust mop before cleaning, remove grit, etc. outside doors, strip, properly rinse, and apply new finish.
Ammonia, bleach, or stripping solution used in scrubber or mop bucket for routine cleaning.	Use approved cleaners only such as FC-4500 diluted or ES-1759.
Dirty equipment (mop or dirty bucket) used to apply finish (stripper mop used etc).	Strip, properly rinse, and apply new finish using clean equipment.
Tile becoming old or very porous	Apply additional coats of finish, use sealer before finishing floor.
Additional coats applied before previous coat dry (will likely experience mop drag and look hazy).	Allow next coat to dry sufficiently - if problem not solved strip, rinse and reapply finish.
Improper cleaner dilutions. 10:1 is usually dilution.	<b>Always</b> measure detergent (excess cleaner residue can cause dulling).

## Problem - Scuffing and Scratching of Finish

Likely Cause	Solution
Wrong scrubbing or buffing pads/brushes. Apply a buffing solution to remove scratches.	Use approved pads and brushes
Excessive dirt and grit on floor	Use approved mats and runners, thoroughly dust mop before cleaning.
Not scrubbing or buffing enough Using wrong dilution of floor finishes of cleaner Using too much spray buff may dull the floor. Burnishing with too aggressive a pad will grind dirt into the floor.	Verify areas are correctly classified as main or secondary traffic area. Follow recommended procedures Follow recommended procedures. Follow recommended procedures.
Unequal pad pressures on twin pad autoscrubbers	Adjust
Stones, grit not picked up by autoscrubber or mop	Check work area to avoid this problem. (May need to

(grit buffed into floor or dragged by squeegee)	dust mop again prior to buffing in problem areas: doorways, etc.
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### **Problem – Ohm-Shield ESD Floor Finish Discolored (*Yellow or Brown*)**

<b>Likely Cause</b>	<b>Solution</b>
New cotton mops used to apply finish before soaked and cleaned (sizing can release and yellow floor).	Deep scrub to remove dirt and color, clean mop thoroughly. Use synthetic wet mops
Not using automatic scrubber for daily cleaning particularly when on ultra high program prior to any buffing (grinding dirt into finish)	Must use auto scrubber and proper pads/cleaner on daily basis: Damp mopping is not sufficient.
Damp mopping with dirty water (spreading dirt).	When using a mop always change water frequently and use two pail system.
Excessive dirt, sand and grit allowed to enter facility and being ground into finish	Use approved mats and runners. Dry mop daily with a non silocone treated broom.
Water trails left by auto scrubber	Minimize trails with equipment maintenance and operator training.
Dirty mops used to pick up water trails from scrubber leaving dirt which can be buffed into finish.	Train scrubber operator, use clean mop, and change rinse water frequently.
Buffing pads contain dirt and finish accumulations.	Always use clean pads: Rotate or replace as needed.
Incorrect concentration of cleaner: Too much cleaner can soften finish and/or leave residue which can hold dirt deposits. Too little cleaner will not permit adequate dirt removal.	Follow recommended floor care procedures.
Oil treated dust mops being used, leaving dirt catching residue on floor.	Use Paraffin treated mops
Applying floor finish before floor has been properly scrubbed and rinsed (dirt coated into floor finish).	Strip, rinse, and reapply finish.
Getting buildup by applying finish to edges every time floor is coated (edges turning color)	Do not recoat outer 4 to 6 inches every time floor is finished.
Fans used to force dry floor finish resulting in dirt catching bubbles and pockets (dirt can then be buffed into finish).	Never direct fans at floor finish: If fans are used, aim upward for air circulation in area.
Dirty Mops	Always use clean mops: If dirty mops or equipment used, strip, rinse and reapply finish.
Contaminated floor finish. (Unused finish should never be returned to original container.	Dispose of unused finish.
Incorrect buffing pads being used allowing a color transfer to high spots in the floor. Too many coats of floor finish applied	Use approved pads Reduce the amount of floor finishes applied before stripping

### **Problem - Powdering of Floor Finish**

<b>Likely Cause</b>	<b>Solution</b>
Applying coats too thin.	Utilize medium coats
Wrong buffing pads or brushes used (too aggressive)	Use recommended pads and brushes
Floor not rinsed before floor finish applied: Heavy undiluted FC-4500 cleaner residues can prevent good	Floor must be thoroughly rinsed before applying floor finish

adhesion*	
Dirty buffing pads being used.	Change or rotate pads during buffing and clean pads after each use.
Fans used to force dry floor finish: Surface may dry too quickly and not allow finish to form a good bond.	Never direct fans at floor finish: If fans are used, aim upward for air circulation.
Hardeners surfacing from floor (composition floors such as Terrazzo preventing adhesion).*	If finish does not adhere apply sealer before applying floor finish.
Finish designed for low speed buffing is being burnished Use Conduct-Coat AF-6500 for use on static dissipative floors	Always match the chemicals to the buffing R.P.M.
Finish applied before floor or previous ESD floor finish coat dries. Allow 1-2 hours between first two coats and 24 hours between 2-3 coats.	Strip, rinse, and allow floor to dry before applying additional coatings. DO NOT APPLY IN HIGH HUMIDITY CONDITIONS.
Stripper residue left on floor due to poor rinsing (finish not sticking to floor). Failure to allow sufficient dwell time of the stripper will leave patches of floor finish on the floor. Utilizing a clogged stripping pad may also leave patches of floor finish on the floor	Strip, rinse thoroughly, and reapply finish. Covering too large an area will cause the stripper to dry into the floor Always follow the applications of the floor stripper.  Always follow the applications of the floor finish.
Old Ohm-Shield ESD floor finish not completely removed (incompatibility of coatings).	Only used approved finish, do not apply soft buffable finishes over harder finishes.
Factory finish/sizing was not stripped off of new tile before finishing.	Strip, rinse and reapply finish.
Frozen floor finish (may bead up on floor during application).	Do not proceed with finish: Replace with good product.

### **Problem - Streaks in Floor Finish and/or Floor Finish Exhibiting an Alligator Effect.**

<b>Likely Cause.</b>	<b>Solution</b>
Floor finish or seal not thoroughly dry before applying additional coats.	Strip, rinse, and reapply - Do not recoat if mop drags
Contaminated mops or pails used to apply finish (i.e.: dirty strip mot used).	Strip, rinse, and reapply floor finish using clean equipment.
Floor finish frozen or stored in extreme heat.	Replace damaged product. Strip, rinse, and reapply new finish
Floor finish applied over factory finish/sizing on new tile.	Strip, rinse, and reapply finish.
Contaminated finish put back in original container.	Do not use left over finish, dispose of contaminated finish, strip, rinse, and reapply new finish.
Improperly rinsed floor before coating.	Rinse floor after scrubbing or stripping before floor finish is applied.
Dirty mop or equipment used when applying finish.	Insure equipment is clean before attempting to apply finish.
Floor not thoroughly scrubbed and rinsed before applying finish.	Scrub and rinse floor thoroughly before applying finish.

Hardeners surfacing in floor (Terrazzo and Concrete) preventing adhesion.	If finish does not adhere, seal floor before applying floor finish.
Cotton mop heads that have not been soaked prior to initial use.	Soak new cotton mop heads prior to first use for mopping or applying finishes. Rayon or finish mops are recommended for finish application.

### Problem - Floors Seem Slippery-Floor not dissipative

Likely Cause.	Solution
Silicone based products (furniture polishes, glass cleaners) getting on floor due to aerosol over spray or accidental spills.	If silicone based products are used near aisles, apply to rag prior to use to reduce the chance of over spray hitting the floor. Scrub floor to remove: If floor is still slippery after cleaning, apply a medium grit floor finish over affected area.
ESD floor finish applied in high humidity	Apply in a controlled environment . Keep air condition on.
Ice melting compounds on floor.	Clean contaminated (normally near entrances and at end of runways) thoroughly with clean water to remove - do not use detergents when spot cleaning. Control the amount of ice melting chemicals. Used approved mats and runners. Clean mats and runners occasionally with a wet-dry vacuum or wet extractor using plain water
Powder residue left on floor after burnishing, etc.	Dust mop floor after burnishing.
Dirt and grit on floor.	Use approved mats and runners, dust mop thoroughly.
Applying multi coats before subsequent floor is allowed to dry.	
Improperly treated dust mops being used, usually oil treated.	Use mops untreated..
Improper detergent solution: Little or none will not permit removal of foreign substances.	Always measure the detergent and use recommended dilutions
Use of acids (vinegar) in cleaning water: Acids will destroy the cleaning ability of detergents.	Always measure the detergent and use recommended dilutions and add vinegar.

### Problem- Slippery Floors-Floor is dissipative

#### Likely Cause

Floors are slippery due to residual moisture, neutralizers, cleaners and or chemicals.

#### Solution

Floor finish was applied or used in high humidity  
Residual stripper or neutralizer or cleaners not removed.  
Floors not allowed to dry before applying additional coats of floor finish  
Wash with neutral cleaner such as ES-1759 , rinse with water and then apply more ESD floor finish.

### Problem- Floors not dissipative

#### Likely Cause

Contamination

Use Ohm-Shield AF-6500 on ESD floors

#### Solution

Remove dirt daily, apply ESD floor finish or ESD cleaner more frequently, especially in low humidity's. Clean with FC-4500 cleaner diluted with water.  
Apply the correct ESD floor finish.  
Apply the correct ESD product using multiple coats on a regular basis followed by cleaning using the correct FC-4500 cleaner.

\*To test the ESD finish adhesion to floor, apply one medium coat to a small area and allow to dry (30-40 min.). Apply a piece of masking tape or scotch tape to the floor finish and pull up with a quick jerk.. If finish comes off with tape you do not have good adhesion.

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