



CASE STUDY

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHARLOTTE

ULTRA DURABLE TECHNOLOGIES' EPIC® FLOOR FINISH

OVERVIEW

In partnership with Ultra Durable Technologies (UDT), the University of North Carolina at Charlotte (UNC Charlotte) applied EPIC® High-Performance Floor Finish to a variety of floor types on several of its academic and office building surfaces. One coat of EPIC® Floor Finish dramatically improved the appearance and gloss retention of the floors and has satisfied the Building Environmental Services (EVS) departmental goal of adopting a program that saves money, time, and materials. The time and labor savings allows the EVS staff to fulfill other important cleaning duties that are often neglected while also drastically reducing water, electricity, and chemical usage.

CHALLENGE

Situated on 951 acres, UNC Charlotte is comprised of 26 academic buildings with over 7 million square feet and is a part of the larger UNC system of 16 institutions. UNC Charlotte's Building Environmental Services floorcare staff had been frustrated with the high labor cost and enormous amount of time needed for frequent stripping, refinishing, and buffing using conventional wax floor finishes. Additionally, appearance levels were inconsistent; floors looked good right after refinishing and dull by the time they were scheduled to be refinished again. The EVS department includes the following tasks in its surface cleaning schedule for UNC Charlotte's academic buildings:

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| Weekly | -High-Speed Burnish/Buff Resilient Floors in Hallways |
| Monthly | -High-Speed Burnish/Buff Resilient Floors in Classrooms -Wax Touch-up for Resilient Floors |
| Alternating Every Year | -Strip and Refinish Resilient Floors -Scrub and Topcoat with 2-3 layers of Wax |

THE TRIAL

An initial trial of the EPIC® Floor Finish application was led by Brian Guns, Director of UNC Charlotte Building Environmental Services & Recycling. The goal was to monitor how long one coat of EPIC® Floor Finish would perform versus the current acrylic floor finish. The designated areas to be coated consisted of hallways, classrooms, labs, and break rooms in both the College of Health and Human Services and the Macy Building.

Between November 2019 and March 2020, the university's building EVS staff trained in-house personnel to remove layer upon layer of old acrylic finish from VCT, LVT, and terrazzo. One thin coat of EPIC® High-Gloss Finish was applied to these floors. Several areas of unfinished concrete were also coated. UDT's Abrasion Additive #240 was added to the EPIC® applied in classrooms to increase resistance to scratches from desks and chairs. A total of 230,000 SF was finished with EPIC®.



EPIC® High-Gloss Finish with UDT Aggregate #240

has really helped as the number of our regular staff of 25 is now down to 9, but it looks like we are still fully-staffed.”

Visitors notice an enormous difference between the EPIC® and the university’s remaining wax-coated floors. Scollo notes, “It’s like night and day. For some of the floors that are still wax-coated, people will ask ‘What is wrong with these floors? Why don’t they look shiny like those [EPIC®] floors?’ We get nothing but compliments with EPIC®.”

The results of the trial clearly indicate that the EPIC® program yields superior performance compared to the traditional acrylic program. Because of the remarkable results and feedback, UNC Charlotte plans to continue replacing its acrylic wax-coated floors with EPIC®.

OUTCOME

As of April 2022 (2-1/2 years after the initial application), the EPIC® floors still retain their original level of shine and require a far simpler maintenance regimen. Joe Scollo, UNC Charlotte EVS Manager, explains, “It is a huge time saver. We simply run a dustmop across the floors daily and auto scrub every couple of weeks. We do not really have to touch a hallway in 2 weeks other than dust mopping.” Consequently, the university has been able to experience significant labor and material savings. Scollo continues, “It

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– Joe Scollo, UNC Charlotte EVS Manager



EPIC® High-Gloss Finish



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For more information about EPIC® High-Performance Floor Finish, please contact:

www.epicfloorfinish.com

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