

REDFORD Corporation

Having a discussion...

Non-Skid polymer flooring

Urethane topcoated hangar floors are extremely slippery when wet or contaminated with oil, skydrol, aviation fuels, and other chemicals commonly found in aircraft hangars. Urethane surfaces are even more hazardous when floors "sweat", or in areas with a humid climate.

Ask us about the **FBO** general manager who fell and broke his elbow. He chose to have us topcoat his floor with a smooth surface. The very next week, he slipped on the floor, fell and broke his elbow. He immediately called us back to resurface his floor with a non-skid surface.

We have other examples of clients who later kicked themselves for rejecting non-skid capabilities for their new floors. It used to be that the only style of floor anyone wanted was the smooth urethane topcoat. In today's litigious society, however, businesses cannot afford to expose themselves to unnecessary risks for lawsuits. For this reason, nearly all floors installed by **REDFORD Corporation** over the past years have been non-skid.

We use a high compressive strength quartz aggregate to create the non-skid property of the floor. This aggregate is matched to the topcoat color, and is spread uniformly with sand blast pots (or "seeding") and the visual effect of the finished floor is a uniform surface. Other techniques for spreading aggregate, such as throwing out by hand, or mixing aggregate with the paint, all result in a less than satisfactory finish. Sand blast pots, for example, allow us to vary the loading of aggregate light to heavy depending on specific needs in various areas of the floor. ***Generally, if planned early on, there is no charge for the aggregate, nor for its installation.***

Little is lost in the functionality and aesthetics of a polymer flooring system when a non-skid

surface is selected over a smooth surface. The *only* loss is that a non-skid floor is slightly less glossy than urethane topcoats alone. There is *no loss* in ease of cleaning, so long as the floor is installed properly and automatic scrubbers are used.

Please consider very carefully your decision regarding the topcoat surface of your floor. The only disadvantage of a non-skid surface is a slightly different look to the floor. The advantages are that the materials and installation are generally at no cost to you, and the gains in safety and lowered risk of lawsuits are significant. This is an offer that would be a shame to ignore, and we strongly recommend installation of non-skid surfaces in critical areas of every facility.



An example of a REDFORD Corporation non-skid floor at Gulfstream Aerospace Corporation, Savannah, Georgia.

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