MIDWEST RUBBER

Case Study

Retail Warehouse Store

Finding a Sharper Edge

Background

A retail building materials warehouse store requiring thousands of square feet of concrete flooring to be cleaned daily. There is a need to keep floors clean during business hours, which means cleaning alongside customers.

Business Challenge

Cleaning at this facility is performed by an experienced supervisor and a high turnover of junior operators using floor scrubbing machines equipped with commodity gum rubber squeegees. These squeegees can achieve satisfactory results in ideal circumstances, but quickly become less effective on irregular floor surfaces. They require careful use by skilled operators, plus frequent inspection, adjustment, and replacement.

The floor scrubbing challenges were:

- Ensuring floors are clean and dry, especially during business hours
- Saving time and money
- Inexperienced junior operators, who are less likely to adjust the squeegees, remove and wash them, or watch out for objects that can damage the squeegees while in use
- Frequent squeegee adjustment and replacement due to wear
- Squeegees that could not react quickly enough to frequent scrubber turns in direction, leaving dirty water and cleaning fluids on the floor

Solution

The floor maintenance supervisor was given genuine LINATEX® floor squeegees from Midwest Rubber to test, replacing the commodity gum rubber squeegees being used. LINATEX is a premium-grade rubber product. Its combination of low modulus, high resilience, and high resistance to tearing and wet abrasion make it ideal for use in floor squeegees.

The test results showed that LINATEX:

- Provided a better seal on the floor surface, virtually eliminating any water left behind
- Although more expensive, it lasted 2-3 times longer than the commodity gum rubber, saving material costs
- Required less frequent changes or adjustments, saving time and labor
- Provided excellent and consistent cleaning results, even with inexperienced operators
- Responded immediately to machine changes in direction, effectively directing dirty water into the vacuum system