



FLEXMAR® Polyaspartic Polyurea Coatings "Tire Staining" Bulletin

"Tire Staining" can occur on floor coating systems in general but is random and unpredictable. This known industry issue is a concern of coatings manufacturers and tire manufacturers. As reported by Dealers, Applicators, and Homeowners nationwide, FLEXMAR® floors infrequently experience a "tire staining" occurrence rate in less than 1% of installations. FLEXMAR® floor coatings are guaranteed against hot tire pick-up but are not guaranteed against "tire staining" also known as "tire tracking" or "paw printing."

Why Does "Tire Staining" Occur?

Vehicular tires are varied and infrequently have the potential to leave a "coal tar" looking stain. Tire manufacturing formulas vary in chemical composition and contain an ingredient used as an antioxidant – antiozonant which acts as a preservative that allows the tire to remain flexible and withstand the effects of ozone and UV degradation while adding to tire performance characteristics and longer tread life. Some manufacturers may choose derivatives of these chemicals which can lead to the staining issue. In essence under certain conditions such as length of time from installation to parking a vehicle on the coated surface, temperature of the tires, this colorless chemical will exude microscopic amounts from the tire and deposit on the coating. Then when exposed to air will oxidize and discolor and turn a "coal tar" color as "tire staining", "tire tracking", or "paw printing". Surprisingly these chemicals may also be used in hair dyes and tattoo applications and are very difficult to remove with common household cleaners.

The Remedies

So far the best remedy is for the qualified FLEXMAR® dealer to sand the stained area to remove the stain and reapply a FLEXMAR® clear sealer. Many new car dealerships place mats underneath showroom vehicle tires as a preventive measure. Another is to wait 3 days before parking in the garage to allow the coating system to further cross-link and harden to lessen the chance of "tire staining".

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