

SAFETY RECOMMENDATIONS

Introduction

This fabrication bulletin addresses basic safety rules for working with Corian® Solid Surface and accessories.

Overview

The safety culture within DuPont goes back to the foundation of the company in 1802 when DuPont manufactured gunpowder. DuPont continually strives to be a leader in the creation of safe work environments.

Many different tools are used to manufacture, fabricate and install Corian® Solid Surface. We recommend that you, as a Corian® Solid Surface fabricator/installer, review your operations and implement safe work practices.

Following these simple safety rules, as well as appropriate local occupational safety and health regulations, will help to prevent accidents. Safety is a key part of our business success.

A. Work environment

- **Keep children away.** All children should be kept out of the work area.
- **Escort visitors.** Only trained personnel should be in the work area, all others should be escorted and kept a safe distance from the work area.
- **Stop accidental activation of equipment** with padlocks, master switches, or by removing starter keys.
- **Keep the work area clean.** Cluttered areas and benches invite accidents. Provide access to electricity and air from the ceiling. Cables and hoses are tripping hazards. Do not allow shavings or dust to accumulate.
- **Don't work in a dangerous environment.** Don't use electric power tools in damp or wet locations or expose them to rain. Use air powered tools for wet sanding. Keep work areas clean, dry, well ventilated and well lit.

B. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

- **Wear safety glasses or approved eye protection.** Prescription eyeglasses only have impact-resistant lenses; they are not safety glasses.

- **Wear steel-toed safety shoes.**
- **Wear gloves suitable for the task being performed.** Leather gloves or a suitable alternative should be worn when handling solid surface. Chemical resistant gloves should be used when handling chemicals. One exception is the use of rotating equipment, where gloves could be caught on the equipment.
- **Wear ear/noise protection.** Noise levels from equipment often exceed permissible levels.
- **Wear proper apparel.** Don't wear loose clothing, neckties, bracelets or other jewelry that can get caught in moving parts. Wear protective hair covering to contain long hair.
- **Wear a face or dust mask** if cutting or finishing operations are dusty.

C. Pre start-up reviews

- **Read the instruction manual** for each tool or piece of equipment before operating. Learn the application and limitations as well as any specific hazards associated with the tool/equipment.
- **Ground all tools.** If a tool is equipped with three-prong plug, it should be plugged into a three-hole electrical socket. If an adapter is used to accommodate a two-prong socket, the adapter lug must be attached to a known ground. Never remove the third prong.
- **Create operating procedures and train operators.** Operating procedures and training not only improve safety, but improve consistency of performance. Include a procedure for "locking out" larger equipment so it can't be turned on when someone is maintaining it. Identify all possible sources of energy that could make the equipment move. These include electricity, air, hydraulic, any springs or source of tension, and gravity. Larger, more complex equipment may have multiple power sources.

D. Operating procedures/training

- **Operating procedures** provide information on how to safely operate equipment in a standard fashion that provides consistent results. Separate procedures should provide standard and safe methods for maintaining equipment including lock out procedures.
- **Train operators** so they understand the procedures and are able to operate the equipment in a safe and standard manner.

E. Inspection and maintenance

- **Maintain tools.** Equipment that is not maintained is less efficient and can lead to injuries. Keep tools sharp and clean for good performance. Follow instructions for lubricating tools and changing accessories.
- **Keep all guards in place and in working order.**
- **Check for damaged equipment.** Before using equipment, verify that it is not damaged. Check for alignment of moving parts, binding of moving parts, breakage of parts, mounting and any other conditions that may affect its operation. A guard or other part that is damaged should be properly repaired or replaced before operating the equipment.
- **Make sure equipment is disconnected from any power supply** while performing maintenance. Sources of power include electricity, air, hydraulic, any springs or source of tension, or gravity. These should be locked out or blocked so the equipment won't move unexpectedly.

F. Use the proper tool correctly

- **Use the right tools.** Don't use a tool or attachment to do a job for which it was not designed.
- **Don't force tools.** A tool will do the job better and be safer at the rate for which it was designed.
- **Use recommended accessories.** Consult the owner's manual for recommended accessories. The use of improper accessories may be hazardous.

G. Operation

- **Remove adjusting keys and wrenches.** Form a habit of checking to see that keys and adjusting wrenches are removed from the tool before turning to "ON".

- **Secure material while working on it.** Use clamps or a vice to hold material when practical. It is safer than using your hand and frees both hands to operate equipment.
- **Don't overreach or lean** while performing tasks. Maintain proper footing and balance at all times. Disconnect tools from all power sources before servicing and when changing accessories such as blades, bits, cutters, etc.
- **Avoid accidental equipment startup.** Make sure the switch is in "OFF" position before providing power to equipment.
- **Never stand on equipment.** Serious injury could occur if equipment is tipped or if cutting tools are accidentally touched.
- **Feed parts in the correct direction.** Only feed work into a blade or cutter against the direction of rotation of the blade or cutter.
- **Never leave equipment running unattended.** Turn power off. Don't leave equipment until it comes to a complete stop.
- **Fatigue, stress, medication, alcohol, and drugs can prevent workers from safely operating equipment.**

H. Material transport and storage

- **Carry products safely.** Lifting devices are preferred for moving Corian® Solid Surface sheets. Use two or more people if manual movement is required. Prevent sheet from flexing by carrying in a vertical orientation. Wear heavy-duty gloves as the edges of the products are sharp.
- **Store materials safely.** Don't stack products too high or in an unsafe manner.
- **Store flammables in approved storage areas or cabinets specifically designed for flammable storage.** Read product SDS for recommended storage conditions.

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