



Custodians – wax removal and replacement.

At-risk behavior

Deep cleaning of floors (stripping) using unsafe practices.

Why we care

Every year the stripping and waxing process results in numerous custodians being injured.

What am I about to do?

Removing wax and cleaning floors using a chemical stripper and water.

How could I get hurt?

- You could slip on the wet floor resulting in bruises, strains or fractures.
- You could strain your back handling the stripping machine.
- You could splash water or chemical stripper in your eyes.

What am I going to do to prevent injury?

- Wear no-slip foot wear and proper personal protective equipment.
- Apply only the amount of chemical necessary for the job; do not use an excessive amount.
- Work small sections of the floor from the far corner back to the doorway, limiting walking through stripper (wet floor).
- Operate equipment only after you have been trained and have demonstrated proper and safe use of equipment.

Discussion points

- What is the procedure we are supposed to use?
- How does that compare to how we have done it in the past?
- How big of a section should we work at a time?
- How much is enough chemical stripper?

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Public Sector Practice

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