



Fix Failing Floors with Forward Thinking this Fourth of July

The industrial downtime that accompanies the July 4th holiday period shouldn't be a cause of concern – as it is the perfect occasion to revitalize a facility with a fresh floor finish.

By taking advantage of this window of opportunity, manufacturers and producers can make plants and factories more efficient, safe and visually appealing for when the daily operational activity restarts.

Flowcrete Americas Managing Director, Dave McNeece, said: "Installing a new floor finish is a great way to make the most of July's unavoidable shutdown – as when the machines fire up again the site will be better placed to meet the site's needs.

"Also, renovating during a holiday shutdown avoids having to close the facility at a later date, when downtime will have a detrimental affect on productivity and profits. In fact many manufacturers find that they can lose up to 20% of their productive capacity if they have to schedule downtime during the working season."

However, plant operators need to start planning now to ensure that the materials, workforce and expertise will be available when and where they need them - otherwise they risk having to cancel the renovation because the flooring applicators are booked up or due to there being only a limited amount of stock available.

It is also important not to rush the specification, as getting the floor finish right is essential! The floor is a critical component within a plant and is just as integral as any other piece of equipment to the smooth running of the facility. Like the other equipment, the floor needs to have the necessary qualities to suit the task at hand, the budget and the application criteria.

The most intensive production areas will require a floor that can maintain a clean and seamless surface despite heavy machinery, impacts, foot and forklift traffic, hot water washes, exposure to chemicals and more. A thick, cementitious urethane flooring system is well matched to these conditions, as it will be able to retain a USDA/FDA compliant surface that actively optimizes the working environment.

Flowcrete Americas has developed the [cementitious urethane flooring range Flowfresh](#) with facilities sensitive to contamination in mind. This system contains Polygiene®, an antimicrobial agent based on silver-ion technology which complements regular floor cleaning and hygiene practices between wash cycles.

When downtime really has to be kept as short as possible, the [methyl methacrylate system Flowfast](#) can be utilized to create floors that will fully cure in only 60 minutes. This application speed doesn't come at the cost of flooring performance, as Flowfast's durable, chemical resistant and anti-slip surface makes it a valuable operational asset.

Epoxyes are an advisable flooring solution for non-processing areas that are not subject to the same manufacturing rigors and high protection demands. The hygienic, seamless surface of an [industrial standard epoxy system](#) helps to keep the facility clean and the vibrant color options allows for aesthetically pleasing floors that visually improve the site.

Dave McNeece added: "Flowcrete Americas' extensive product range and industrial flooring experience makes us a highly valuable flooring partner during the summer shutdown, as we can provide the advice, solutions and knowledge required to carry out a successful floor renovation project."

Polymer flooring systems can deliver further value to a site by being tailored to meet the specific needs of a facility. This can include having anti-slip aggregates broadcast into the floor to help minimize falls in wet service areas, incorporating colorful signage to improve workflow management and highlight health and safety concerns as well as adding coving to create a hygienic transition between the floor and the wall.

Flowcrete Americas has frequently worked alongside industrial facilities to conduct in-depth life-cycle analysis during the specification stage. This helps to determine the ability of the specified floor to withstand the future use of the site while also identifying budgetary advantages that could be achieved by installing a solution that won't incur costs later on due to repairs or an early refurbishment.

To find out more about carrying out a floor renovation project during 2015's summer shutdown period, talk to Flowcrete Americas' resin flooring experts today by calling +1 936 539 6700 or email usa@flowcrete.com.

Press Contact

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Notes to Editors

Flowcrete Americas is part of Flowcrete Group Ltd and has offices based in Spring, Texas.

Flowcrete Group has manufacturing facilities across the Americas, Asia, Europe and Africa.

Flowcrete supplies world-class seamless flooring solutions to transform environments across the globe, including decorative seamless resins, waterproof park deck coating systems, seamless resin terrazzo, durable antimicrobial flooring, corrosion protection and cementitious self-levelling underlayments.

Flowcrete's ambitious and dedicated team is inspired by excellence in people, products and service as well as continual innovation and sustainable growth. Flowcrete continues to use its global expertise to introduce environmentally friendly, hygienic and aesthetically attractive

floors to create a better and more sustainable world.

For more information please visit www.flowcreteamericas.com