

Specifying Coatings for Aggressive Interiors

Drywall is the most common wall surfacing material used in modern construction, so it is no surprise that manufacturers have developed a wide range of products to meet the varying performance requirements of a given project.

While conventional latex systems perform well in low-contact areas like residential bedrooms and hallways, more aggressive environments will require a higher performing coating system.

High-traffic interiors such as schools, commercial offices, and hotels require coatings with greater resistance to marking and burnishing. Interiors exposed to high-moisture and detergents such as hospitals, restaurants and bars will require systems with greater moisture and chemical resistance.



Interiors subjected to constant cleaning and exposure to detergents require coating systems with excellent resistance to water and chemicals.

Institutional Low Odor/VOC

- High performing latex products with virtually zero VOC (<10 g/l) are an excellent choice for high-contact interiors where an environmentally-friendly alternative is required.
- These products offer much greater durability, scrub resistance and cleansability than conventional latexes and are ideal for applications in occupied spaces or sensitive areas such as schools or retirement facilities. Additionally, these products can also provide an ideal solution for projects where the environmental impact must be minimized.

High Performance Latex

- High performance latex systems offer improved resistance to marking and burnishing over Institutional Low Odor/VOC systems, however may have a slightly higher VOC content (some high performing latex products are also available in Low VOC formulations).
- These products are better choices for applications in high-traffic commercial and institutional spaces such as office complexes and hotels. High performance latex systems are ideal for areas that require greater durability than an Institutional Low Odor system offers, without requiring the water and chemical resistance that an epoxy system offers.

Epoxy

- Epoxy coatings are ideal solutions for aggressive interior environments where increased water or chemical resistance is required. Areas subjected to constant cleaning and exposure to detergents (such as hospitals and restaurants) or high moisture (such as indoor pools and commercial kitchens) would benefit from the increased chemical and water resistance offered by an epoxy coating system.
- Waterborne epoxy chemistry has evolved substantially in recent years and high performing epoxy-modified latex systems are available. While these systems generally do not perform as well as conventional epoxy systems in-terms of durability and performance, they offer a lower VOC alternative for applications where odor may be a concern.