



The Chemical Company

TECHNICAL BULLETIN

NO. 21

Traffic  
Coatings

# Sonneborn® Sonoguard® / Conipur® Deck Coating Systems

## Protection and Maintenance

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Sonoguard® / Conipur® vehicular and pedestrian traffic systems are composed of the latest technology in urethane. They are very durable to traffic, chemical exposure and harsh weather. However, there are circumstances which can exceed the limits of even the highest performance system. This short guide is intended to provide tips on situations which should be limited or avoided and the required periodic maintenance.

Snow removal, exposure to heat sources, clean up, repair of damaged areas, repair of high wear areas and recoating for aesthetic purposes will be discussed. Snow and/or ice presents a combination of potential problems. Heavy accumulations of snow and ice can possibly increase weight loads beyond the limits the structure was intended to tolerate. Cracking and other structural damage to the deck could also be a direct result of such excess weight. Therefore, in areas where such weather conditions are possible, snow removal is often necessary.

When snow removal is required, one must avoid the use of metal blades. Blades of snowplows or buckets must be fitted with rubber blades, or rubber sections attached to the bottom of the plow or bucket in order to protect the Sonoguard® / Conipur® deck membrane. The plows or buckets should also be provided with "runners or shoes" to carry the weight of the plow. Snow blowers with rubber blades may be most practical for most small decks. Where shoveling is desired, a durable plastic snow shovel poses a lesser damage threat than common metal shovels.

Sonoguard® / Conipur® is resistant to standard de-icing salts (calcium chloride and sodium chloride). As a standard routine maintenance cleaning recommendation, we suggest cleaning any remaining de-icing salts after the winter season.

Your Sonoguard® / Conipur® system, like any other thermal plastic, can tolerate only a certain amount of extreme heat exposure. Friction from spinning tires (if driven on), un-extinguished cigarettes, burning embers from barbecues, etc., have the potential to damage the system. In vehicular situations, one might post signs which limit speed or have the verbiage which may deter the practice of spinning tires. Where careless smoking is possible, provisions for disposal of smoking materials might be considered. If barbecuing is possible, restrictions or cautions should be observed.

Cleaning your Sonoguard® / Conipur® system depends, to some degree, on the composition of what is being cleaned. Common carbon and dirt deposits can be cleaned with most all-purpose household cleaners. Such cleaners can be used in conjunction with high pressure spray (not too high as to cause damage) or power scrubbers. In smaller areas or in situations where use of specialized equipment is not desirable, agitating the cleaning solution with a stiff brush or stiff bristled broom is often effective. Regardless of the technique employed, thorough rinsing is vital to assure surfactants which are common in many cleaners do not present a slipperiness problem.

Repair of mechanical damage to the system often depends on the extent of the damage. In balcony or plaza areas, damage may be caused by sharp edges on tables, chairs and gas grills, etc. Dropping or dragging of heavy or sharp objects can often damage the Sonoguard® / Conipur® system and the concrete or wood surfaces below.

In these instances, the substrates would also require appropriate repairs. Repair of the Sonoguard® / Conipur® system is simply a matter of assuring the surface is stable, clean and dry, then applying an application of the Sonoguard® / Conipur® system which duplicates the original application. BASF Building Systems Technical Services or your local BASF Building Systems sales representative can assist you or your applicator with any questions pertaining to such repairs. It is important to note that damage to the Sonoguard® / Conipur® system by sharp objects may invalidate future warranty concerns. In certain situations, a higher wear area may need an additional application of Sonoguard® / Conipur®. Or perhaps an area where ground-in dirt causes an aesthetic concern, a recoat might be appropriate. Technical Services or your local BASF Building Systems sales representative can assist you or your applicator with such an application.

If you have any questions or concerns, contact Technical Support at 800-243-6739.

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