

MAT MATTERS

Andersen Co.

Mat Tips

for

January 2008

Maintaining a Gym Floor

Of all the rooms in a school, the room with the most wear and tear is typically the gym. Once a place for kids and teens to play basketball for a couple of hours a day, the gym has essentially transformed into a multi-purpose room, playing host to all types of sports, pep rallies and even drama productions.

Gyms have many functions other than sports, which makes the constant use much harder on gym floors. School gyms are used 15-16 hours on some days compared to even 15 years ago when sports and PE class was the only time the gym was used. With these changes in contemporary use of the gym: attention to the

care of the gym floor is now even more important.

Making A Floor Last

Maintenance of a gym floor originates at the entrances. You need to take off dirt and sand from your shoes and Waterhog is the best tool to achieve the desired results; as removal of soils is the first step in floor care maintenance.

Make sure that if any entrances are near parking lots, or any area that is sandy or extremely dirty, that there is matting because the more dirt and sand that is on the floor, the more it acts like sandpaper and begins to dull the appearance of the floor.

The Clean Stride mat, which incorporates Waterhog and an adhesive insert, is now being used at the gym entrances at U.S. Airways Center, home of the Phoenix Suns. Dino Trejo, Assistant Director of Building Services at U.S. Airways Center commented, "I received a sample of the Clean Stride mat and was immediately impressed!"

Once the majority of dirt and sand are stopped at the door, not much more needs to be done with a floor.