

# ENVIROPRO

High Performance Waterbornes of Distinction for  
Timber, Cork and Parquetry

**TECHNICAL BULLETIN**

**TB 07**

## APPLICATION TECHNIQUES FOR ENVIROPRO WATERBORNE POLYURETHANES

### Object

To review the recommended practices for application of Enviropro specialty waterborne Polyurethane's.

Enviropro coatings are designed for both roller and applicator bar apply

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### Applicator Bar Apply - The Drag Method

The use of a swivel head applicator tool with a split cylindrical application sleeve is the recommended technique for best surface finish.

This technique is referred to as the drag apply method.

This technique also has the greatest productivity in square meters per manhour, especially so for large areas.

Two types of applicator bar are used;

- weighted or heavy bar - this gives a spread rate of 12 to 18 sq m per L.
- light weight or hollow bar - this gives a spread rate of 10 to 14 sq m per L

The light weight bar is recommended for Enviropro to give the desired approx 10 to 12 sq m per L

The basis of the technique is to gradually move a puddle that is the length of the floor toward you with an angled action of the applicator tool.

Refer enclosed photographs.

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## Method.

- Cut in edge along the start wall. It is desired to apply in the direction of the timber where possible. Cut in with a brush or edger pad 1 to 2 meters ahead of the wet edge. Cut-in should not be too heavy and definitely not be allowed to dry out.
- Excessive puddling of the edge cut-in can leave dark marks 'ghosting; through the later coats. Some can take a long time to disappear, if at all.
- Pour a 10 to 15 cm puddle the length of the run using a spout type watering can or directly from the product bottle.
- Drag the swivel head applicator through the puddle at an approx 30 degree angle, moving the puddle toward you in a long parallel stroke to the direction of movement. The applicator head should extend for approx 1/3 of it's width over the previously dragged pass, ie 2/3 of the head moves the puddle. At the cut-in overlap, drag as close to the start wall as possible.
- At the end of the stroke, swivel the head to change direction maintaining contact with the floor. Press out the applicator sleeve onto the floor to be coated next pass to remove any air bubbles and foam. Raise tool and place at end of previous pass and gently feather for approx 1 meter in the direction of previous stroke travel so as to remove any swirl marks from thickness variation at the direction change.
- Add to puddle as required so as to keep it continuous. Experience will enable a minimum puddle at end of job.
- Finish by making as long a pass as possible up to the exit point. At the exit point raise applicator and finish in gentle feathered strokes to uniformly finish the floor at exit.

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## Roller Apply Method

Many Floor sanders and Finishers prefer the roller apply technique as the roller;

- is the tool they were using in previous solvent borne coatings application times
- for tight and complex small areas the roller may have some advantages in the opinion of some users.

**The recommended roller cover is a 10 mm nap which gives a coverage of 8 to 12 sq. m per L depending on method used.**

The 6 mm nap cover used on solvent based coatings is not recommended as it will give too low a coverage at 15 to 18 sq m per L.

**The 'silent roller' technique should be used.**

- The silent roller results from a fully charged roller cover that is not partially dry or empty during the application. The partly empty charged roller cover is not considered silent as it gives a grabbing / squelching noise.  
The non-silent use will aggravate wet edge loss, stipple effect, and air entrapment in hotter weather, as well as giving a lower coverage ( generally 15 or more sq m per L ).
- Cut in with brush or edger pad as per previous.
- Using a bucket ( on wheels makes life easier ) for dunking the roller into, fully saturate the roller cover and generously apply to the floor.
- Passes should be approx 1 to 2 metre wide **in the direction of the timber** for the length of the room rather than progressing a wide front as is often the case with solventborne coatings application.
- Finishing strokes should be with a silent roller the full length of the run ( wall to wall ) taking care to feather at the end of the strokes.

- Avoid puddles or runs - coatings must always be applied uniformly

Remember, there is no right or wrong method - it is what works that is important !

For example, while lambswool applicators are not recommended it is known that in the hands of a skilled and experienced practitioner, good waterborne finish can be obtained. The probability of application difficulties arising increases however when one moves away from recommended methods.

The enclosed photographs indicate the bar applicator drag and roller apply methods.

Clearer photographs are available upon request to Enviropro users.

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For further information contact your state Distributor of Enviropro products or our Chief Chemist on the only 7 day, 24 hour hot line in the industry;

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