



## SOFTCOURT

### Operation, Maintenance and Repair of Decoflex™ Softcourt Flooring

#### **SPORT USE**

When sport is practised on a synthetic floor such as Decoflex™ Softcourt, the appropriate sports shoes for the required sport should be worn.

For daily training, student or professional use, Rephouse recommends the use of tennis shoes. Use of black soled athletic or jogging shoes will leave excessive scuff marks and spiked shoes will damage Decoflex™ Softcourt and should never be used. We suggest the use of sign boards at the facility to warn users of the correct use of tennis shoes.

It should be noted that during competition or practice use, no provisional color markings should be used as these will be difficult to remove or may act as a solvent to the flooring material.

#### **NON SPORT USE**

Synthetic flooring, such as Decoflex™ Softcourt, should only be driven over by vehicles in exceptional circumstances such as maintenance, emergencies, etc. Excessive exposure to oil drips, loading because of starting or stopping wheels can cause severe damage and effect its intended purpose. Vehicles used around and over the sports surface should be regularly checked to ensure they are free from oil, petrol or diesel leaks. Any deposits of oil, petrol or diesel on the Decoflex™ Softcourt surface should be immediately washed with detergent and water and thoroughly flushed with water.

The total weight of any vehicle should not exceed 3 tonnes with the average load per wheel not exceeding 1 tonne. Vehicles with air-filled tires can be used but only with the written consent of Rephouse.

Under special circumstances where heavy vehicles do have to enter i.e. large stadia, Rephouse recommends that the Decoflex™ Softcourt surface is covered using plywood boards or gangways i.e. the use of something safe to protect the surface.

No equipment should be allowed on to the surface which is hard and sharp enough to damage the surface. Common sense and observation will show what is safe and what is not.

Cigarettes, chewing gum, bottle tops, cans, ring tabs, etc. should be kept off the surface.

## **MAINTENANCE**

Regular checks and maintenance procedures of the Decoflex™ Softcourt surface is necessary to ensure its service life and functional characteristics. The nature and extent of the required maintenance will depend in particular on the degree of air pollution [proximity to Industry], the state and condition of neighboring surfaces [e.g. soil, mud, dirt, cultivated areas] and the incidence of algae, moss, fallen leaves and debris.

The base line areas of tennis courts as well as the keys of basketball courts should be regularly inspected for damage. These areas in particular are areas of heavy use and will show signs of wear first.

The Decoflex™ Softcourt surface should be kept clean and free of debris, rubbish, grass cuttings, leaves and sand by regular sweeping, vacuuming or air blowing. Machines such as the “Billy Goat” BG1002SP vacuum cleaner as well as the “Stihl” BR 340 L Backpack Blower are suitable for this purpose. Periodical pressure washing is also advisable using a medium-to-wide spray nozzle at a low to medium pressure especially in areas where sand will prevail i.e. landing pits, etc.

Fertilisers: these may release stains on the Decoflex™ Softcourt surface. Rephouse advises caution and should fertiliser be spilled on to the surface, we recommend a thorough pressure wash at low pressure.

## **CLEANING**

The Decoflex™ Softcourt sports floor should be pressure washed, using a medium-to-wide spray nozzle at a low to medium pressure setting. Every season this should be preceded by spraying a non-foaming detergent on the surface - this helps prevent a build up of atmospheric deposits and retain a fresh appearance. It is important to note that during pressure washing no chemical residue remains as this may leave stains but it may also detrimentally effect the non-skid properties of the surface.

## **REPAIRS**

Small or large areas of the sports surface can be replaced without the need of large special machinery. Color differences will occur between old and newly installed sections of a surface. This phenomenon is unavoidable but colors will blend in over time. Joints at repair areas will exist and will be visible however, they should not effect the use of the surface.

Repairs should only be carried out by approved Rephouse contractors.

Line markings should be touched up periodically from the start of the use of the surface. Line markings should in general be re-marked every 2 or 3 years. This is highly practised operation and should only be done by certified specialists who can guarantee their work.