

The Great Western News

December 2009

Carpet Wars



Ask Mr. Janitor :
We are getting ready for the "winter assault" on our carpets. Getting them clean and keeping them clean is a constant struggle. Do you have any ideas you can share?



Mr. Janitor Answers :
Let's look at some methods to get your carpets clean and also some methods to keep your carpets clean. Rapid re-soiling of your carpets can be slowed. We will talk about that as well.

Let's begin by looking at a few ideas that can make a significant and immediate difference in keeping your carpets clean. First, keep dirt outside your facility. By keeping parking lots, sidewalks and adjacent exterior areas clean, less dirt ends up inside. Most dirt on indoor carpets is tracked in on shoes and most of that dirt is dry and vacuumable. Second, use walk-off mats at all entrances to keep dirt and moisture out of your building. Remember to vacuum and clean the mats so they can keep on working. Mats should be long enough (20 lineal feet) so that shoes are cleaned off as people enter your building. At least 7 to 10 footsteps are required to properly clean the incoming shoes. Third, vacuum daily. This is the single most important thing to do. Remove the dirt before it builds up. The majority of the dirt that ends up on your carpet is dry dirt that can be removed by effective, daily vacuuming. This is also the time to notice, treat and remove spots on your carpet before they become stains.

If you are using a traditional extraction fluid, some of that alkaline cleaner will be left behind in the carpet along with some moisture and some soil. As the carpet dries, some of the remaining alkaline cleaner and soil may wick along the carpet fibers to the surface of the carpet. This may cause the carpet to look less than clean and some spots may reappear. Also, the cleaner residue that has wicked to the surface may now act like a magnet pulling dirt off the shoes that walk on it. That is one reason that carpets may seem to re-soil so soon after being extracted. Using an acid rinse may help ease these problems, but that is another step using your time and the expense of another product. There is a way to eliminate most of these problems as well as the extra steps so your carpets looks bright and clean after extraction and will not pull dirt off shoes so easily and re-soil so quickly.

Mr. Janitor suggests you use *The EnCap System™* extraction fluid in your extractor. *The EnCap System Extraction Cleaner* is used in your extractor just like any traditional extraction fluid. Yes, there is moisture involved, and yes, there will be moisture and soil left behind after extraction. Encapsulation chemicals utilize detergency just like the traditional chemicals you use now. It is at this point that everything changes.

The difference is in the crystal polymers used in encapsulation chemicals like *The EnCap System* product line. The soils left behind after extraction are surrounded or encapsulated into dry crystals so that ordinary dry vacuuming will remove them from your carpet. Each time your carpet is vacuumed after being extracted with an *EnCap* product, the carpet gets cleaner because more soils inside the dried crystal polymers are simply vacuumed away. Your carpets will be cleaner. They will look better, and they will stay cleaner longer than with traditional extraction products. The residues that used to wick to your carpet's surface will no longer be there. What is left is encapsulated into hard crystals that will be easily vacuumed away leaving your carpets clean and bright.

If you have any questions about fighting the carpet wars or the products to use, give us a call at our Davenport office at 563/445-6644 or in the Cedar Rapids area at 319/395-0445. The *EnCap System* products will make your carpet cleaning time more effective. Your carpets will be cleaner, and they will stay cleaner longer.

Please Note

Great Western offices and warehouses will be closed on Friday, December 11 for our annual inventory. Our trucks will be delivering previously placed orders, but our offices will be closed. We will reopen on Monday..

Great Western will be closing at noon on Thursday, December 24 and will remain closed on Friday, December 25 to celebrate Christmas. We will reopen on Monday, December 28. Great Western will also be closed on Friday, January 1 to celebrate New Year' Day. We will reopen on Monday, January 4.

Thank You and have a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

An award-winning patented design, setting new standards for the industry in carpet extraction

From their numerous design and engineering awards to their performance on carpets across the world, the **Marathon 800 and 1200** portable, self-contained carpet extractors are a tried-and-true industry favorite. These brush-assisted units lay solution in the carpet, agitate with a cleaning brush, and vacuum-recover the resulting dirty water thoroughly in one pass.

Choose from the Marathon 800 (8-gallon solution tank and 10-gallon recovery tank) and the Marathon 1200 (12-gallon solution tank and 14-gallon recovery tank).

These electric units utilize a patented internal bladder design that maintains optimal brush pressure throughout operation regardless of solution level. This bladder design requires less space and allows a sleeker exterior with improved sight lines for the operator. A 2 h.p. vac motor, 900 rpm brush speed, and 100 psi solution pump combine for maximum extraction power. A variety of optional accessories and attachments can be used for flexibility.



MARATHON 800

MARATHON 1200

PRODUCT SPECIFICATIONS		
MODEL	MARATHON 800	MARATHON 1200
CATALOG NUMBER	98166	98168
POWER (Also available in 230V configurations)	115V / 60Hz	115V / 60Hz
COVERAGE PER FILLING	600 sq. ft.	900 sq. ft.
SUPPLY CAPACITY	8 GAL	12 GAL
RECOVERY CAPACITY	10 GAL	14 GAL
SOLUTION PUMP	100 PSI	100 PSI
SOLUTION FLOW	1.1 GPM	1.1 GPM
VACUUM MOTOR	2 HP	2 HP
VACUUM	99 CFM	99 CFM
STATIC WATERLIFT	117"	117"
BRUSH SPEED	900 RPM	900 RPM
BRUSH SIZE	17" X 3"	17" X 3"
EXTENSION CORD	50'	50'
SIZE (H X W X D)	36" X 20" X 38.5"	36" X 20" X 38.5"
WEIGHT	100 LBS	100 LBS
OPTIONAL ACCESSORIES AND REPLACEMENTS		
3.5" STANDARD UTILITY HAND TOOL	98340	98340
18" CREVICE DETAILER EXTRACTION TOOL	98342	98342
4" UPHOLSTERY HAND TOOL	98343	98343
6" UTILITY/ STAIR TOOL	98344	98344
10" STANDARD DRAG WAND	98393	98393
12" DELUXE DRAG WAND	98394	98394
20' VAC/PRESSURE HOSE FOR OPTIONAL TOOLS	95567	95567



VERSATILE AND EASY TO USE

Whether used in an office or classroom, hallway or lobby, the Marathon 800 and 1200 leave behind clean carpets. The unit was designed with ease of use in mind and is an operator favorite.



EASY-VIEW SOLUTION AND RECOVERY TANKS

Clear tank lids permit monitoring of solution and recovery levels. Molded-in finger-grips allow quick removal and replacement of covers for refilling or cleaning the tanks.

CONVENIENT DRAIN SYSTEM

The solution drain hose is located at the rear of the unit for easy access.



PATENTED BLADDER DESIGN

The Marathon bladder system maintains a constant level of brush pressure for optimal extracting performance at all fluid levels.



SERVICE-FRIENDLY

The Marathon 800 and 1200 are easily accessible for service and maintenance operations by qualified personnel.

The Marathons employ a unique water delivery system minimizing complexity and virtually eliminating the need for tools to service. Their state-of-the-art engineering is what separates these units from the competition!

