

**LOCTITE***Adhesives for more  
reliable assemblies***APPLICATION CASE HISTORY****No. 260**

# Loctite® Natural Blue® Cleaner & Degreaser Lifts Hardened Resin Off Floor *Provides Safe and Clean Working Environment*

**Situation:**

A leading designer, manufacturer, and distributor of thermofused decorative panels was having problems cleaning the floor of their work area. These panels consist of a melamine resin-impregnated decorative paper, thermally fused to an industrial grade of particle board or medium density fiberboard. The panels are used by furniture and cabinet manufacturers for use in store fixtures and displays, office furniture, hotel and restaurant furniture, kitchen and bath cabinets, and entertainment centers.

Alpha cellulose paper rolls 4-5 ft. wide and weighing up to 2,000 pounds are brought in by fork lifts. This paper is stretched out and run through liquid melamine resin. The paper is dried in treater ovens and then cut to size. Thermal fusion is used to permanently bond the paper to the board.

During this process, some melamine resin gets dispersed on the concrete floor around the work area. Once the resin hardens on the floor, safety issues become a concern. It can cause a slipping hazard for personnel and for the fork trucks that bring in these giant rolls of paper. If a fork truck slipped, possible property damage could be a concern, as well as personal injury. Maintenance personnel had tried using regular soap and water, but it wasn't enough to soften the hardened resin. They also tried using a diluted acetic acid solution to lift the resin. In order to get the resin softened quickly enough, a strong solution needed to be used, but the vapors from the acetic acid were too strong. That's when they turned to Loctite for help.

**Solution:**

Loctite® Natural Blue® Cleaner & Degreaser is a biodegradable, industrial-strength concentrated cleaner and degreaser. Natural Blue can be economically diluted with water and is formulated for wipe down, pressure spraying and immersion cleaning processes at room temperature or heated. It is non-flammable, non-toxic, contains no ODCs and is available in pine-scent and fragrance-free formulas. Natural Blue comes in six convenient sizes from a 4-fluid ounce bottle to a 55-gallon drum.

**Results:**

100 ml. of Loctite Natural Blue Cleaner & Degreaser is diluted in 2 gallons of warm water. It is then used with a floor scrubber to soften and lift the hardened resin from the cement floor.

According to a company supervisor, their department always has a drum tilted on a barrel rocker ready for use, and that operators from other areas of the plant are often coming over to use it as well.

"Natural Blue makes cleanup easy for the 20 operators in our area, and leaves the area with a fresh smelling scent afterwards," he says. "Loctite Natural Blue helps us provide a safe and clean environment for our employees."

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