

# Benefits & Applications for Polished Concrete

The maintenance and aesthetic benefits of polished concrete make it an ideal replacement for conventional flooring options. The floors that used to be covered in VCT, epoxy and decorative sealed concrete can now be replaced with a flooring finish that not only looks good, but is easier and less costly to maintain; this means the floor will serve the owners needs on the basis of functionality as well as cost less to do business on. The durability and economical aspects aside, a polished concrete surface can be enhanced using decorative dyes, stains, stencils, scoring, etc. to make each floor a unique expression of the business that uses the floor.

## Applications:

- Manufacturing/Distribution Facilities
- Retail Space – Big Box/Specialty Retailers
- Airports/Hangars
- Food Preparation/Processing
- Schools
- Multi-Purpose/Community Centers
- Offices
- Museums
- Convention Halls
- Stadiums

The choice to install a polished concrete floor holds many benefits for the owner, but usually the most important benefit is what it costs to maintain. Most polished concrete floors save an owner an average of over a \$1 per square foot per year in maintenance. This cost savings is realized in less wear and tear on cleaning equipment, costly chemicals, and periodic patching/replacement of traditional flooring finishes. Lastly, polished concrete is a permanent finish; the owner realizes the cost savings of a polished concrete floor when the floor is at an age that traditional floor finishes would have to be replaced.

## Flooring Replacement:

### *2 most common flooring finishes replaced with concrete polishing*

- VCT - \$3 - \$5 per square foot\*
- Epoxy - (100% solids-2 coat, not including preparation) - \$1- \$2 per square foot\*

***\*The above cost's do not account for down-time or shut-down of business.***

Another benefit of polished concrete is its decorative versatility. Polished concrete can be combined with integral colored concrete and/or decorative dyes to yield an appearance that compliments or establishes any color scheme. This benefit allows polished concrete to be entertained by architects and designers for use in retail sales areas and anywhere else the aesthetics of the floor finish outweigh its maintenance requirements.

The final benefit of concrete polishing is the fact that its installation does not create noxious odors or require a minimum cure time before it can be put back into service. With the advent of dustless grinding systems and odorless, non-toxic chemicals, the polishing process can be completed with minimal interruption to business. This means the process can be completed while adjacent business operations or construction build-out takes place.

Overall, concrete polishing is a flooring finish option that more and more businesses are choosing for their most heavily trafficked surface because of its durability and appearance. This trend coupled with the fact that contractor's in the industry are relatively few, makes this an easy entry industry that still holds ground floor opportunities.