

CLEANING LABORATORY EVALUATION SUMMARY

SCL #: 2007

DateRun: 06/15/2007

Experimenters: Jason Marshall

ClientType: Cleaner Manufacturer

ProjectNumber: Project #1

Substrates: Textile

PartType: Coupon

Contaminants: Dirt

Cleaning Methods: Manual Wipe

Analytical Methods: Light Meter

Purpose: To evaluate supplied product at two dilutions for carpet cleaning.

Experimental Procedure: The procedure followed is a modified version of the Institute of Inspection Cleaning and Restoration Certification (IICRC) Standard and Reference Guide S100. Much of the testing was modeled after Appendix D, IICRC Carpet Cleaning Methods Testing Protocol. The carpet substrate was donated by Shaw Industries of Dalton, GA. This carpet type is specifically designated in the IICRC Appendix method. An AATCC (Research Triangle Park, NC) soil was obtained from Textile Innovators, a division of SDL Atlas of Charlotte, NC, as suggested by DuPont Antron® of Kennesaw, GA.

Prior to soiling, a SPER Scientific Light Meter 840021 was used to measure Foot Candles from the surface of the carpet. Each carpet was marked-off into 6 sections measuring 3.5" (w) and 6" (l). (The carpeting was not cut into individual pieces as it would be too difficult to physically soil and clean smaller carpet sections.) Six readings were taken in each grid area to obtain baseline readings.

Modifications to the above-mentioned standard included: (1) omitting the use of milling stones and (2) replacing the Zytel® Type 6,6 nylon pellets with Nalgene® tubing cut into 1/8" pieces, or 'pellets'. According to the standard, approximately 1000 grams of pellets should be used for every 12 grams of soil. Or, 83 grams of pellets used per gram of soil. S100 also suggests using 500 grams of pellets for each soil under investigation (in this case, one) for carpet measuring 10.375" x 39.375" (408.5 sq. in.). This equals 1.22 ($500/408.5 = 1.22$) grams of pellets per square inch of carpet. Since the Lab had 174 grams of tubing/pellets at its disposal, two (2) grams of the AATCC soil were needed to artificially contaminate the carpet.

The carpet was cut into 7.375" x 19.6" (144.54 sq. in.) pieces. The carpet pieces were soiled by placing one piece of carpet into a 1-gallon can, making sure the carpet lined the inner wall of the can. The plastic-tubing pieces were poured into the bucket and the soil was distributed along the width of the can. The can was lidded and placed into a harness attached to a crank shaft. The crank was turned at an average rate of 42 rpm by hand for 5 minutes in one direction, followed by 5 minutes of rotation in the opposite direction.

At the end of the 10-minute soiling regime, the carpet was placed onto a carpet template and vacuumed with a Eureka SuperBroom (Brush-Up, Motor-Driven/Brush-Roll) vacuum for 3 strokes in the forward direction followed by 3 strokes in the backward direction. The carpet pieces were evaluated again for Foot Candles.

The carpet sections were then cut down the middle, lengthwise to allow carpet samples to fit into the Gardner Straight Line Washability Unit. Each piece was marked-off into three sections. Each section was sprayed 15 times with the cleaning product and allowed to soak for five minutes. A Wypall X60 reinforced paper towel wipe was attached to the Unit's cleaning sled. The towel was also sprayed with the same cleaning product until the towel was saturated (approx. 15 sprays).

After soaking, the towel/sled was placed on one end of the carpet section and the Unit run for 91 cycles (approx. 2.5 minutes). Every 30 cycles, each section of carpet was sprayed 6 times with the cleaning solution. The carpet was removed from the Unit and allowed to dry overnight. Figure 1 contains a representation of the Gardner Straightline Washability Unit. A third and final series of light meter readings were recorded for each cleaned section.

Three dilutions were used: 1:64 and 1:128. An industry standard product was used at its recommended concentration of 1:640.

Results: The more dilute solution appeared to work better than the more concentrated at the lower cleaning time. After the second cleaning cycle, the more concentrated version worked better than the dilute solution and the industry standard.

Initial light meter readings of pre-treated carpet samples were used as cleanliness baselines.

The average 'soiled' readings were subtracted from the average initial readings to establish the degree of soiling for any particular carpet sample before cleaning. To determine the level of cleanliness achieved upon testing, the average soiled readings were subtracted from the average final (i.e., cleaned) readings taken after testing and divided by the average initial readings.

2.5 minutes

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Cleaner		Average Readings			Calculations		
	Un-soiled	Soiled	Cleaned	*Soiling	*Cleaning Differential (Dc)	Percent	Average Results
	(U)	(S)	(C)	Differential (Ds)	C-S	Change	
				U-S		Dcx100/Ds	
Sample 1	40.38	10.27	14.60	30.12	4.33	14.39	
Sample 2	44.62	22.93	25.78	21.68	2.85	13.14	12.7
Sample 3	28.23	18.82	19.80	9.42	0.98	10.44	
PC 120 (128:1)							
Sample 1	35.6	16.1	19.8	19.5	3.7	18.8	
Sample 2	56.1	26.1	28.5	30.0	2.5	8.2	15.6
Sample 3	37.9	21.9	25.1	16.0	3.2	19.7	
Liq Formula 90							
Sample 1	38.6	25.4	27.1	13.2	1.7	12.8	
Sample 2	54.0	19.1	24.0	34.9	4.8	13.8	13.3
Sample 3	34.5	11.1	14.1	23.4	3.1	13.1	

5 minutes

Cleaner		Average Readings			Calculations		
	Un-soiled	Soiled	Cleaned	*Soiling	*Cleaning	Percent	Average Results
	(U)	(S)	(C)	Differential (Ds)	Differential (Dc)	Change	
				U-S	C-S	Dcx100/Ds	
PC 120 (64:1)							
Sample 1	40.4	10.3	17.4	30.1	7.1	23.6	
Sample 2	44.6	22.9	32.7	21.7	9.7	44.9	33.8
Sample 3	28.2	18.8	21.9	9.4	3.1	32.9	
PC 120 (128:1)							
Sample 1	35.6	16.1	21.4	19.5	5.3	27.3	
Sample 2	56.1	26.1	30.7	30.0	4.6	15.4	23.6
Sample 3	37.9	21.9	26.4	16.0	4.5	28.1	
Liq Formula 90							
Sample 1	38.6	25.4	29.1	13.2	3.7	27.7	
Sample 2	54.0	19.1	26.2	34.9	7.1	20.3	21.6
Sample 3	34.5	11.1	15.0	23.4	4.0	16.9	

Summary:

Substrates:	Textile
Contaminants:	Dirt

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Company Name:	Product Name:	Conc.:	Efficiency:	Effective:	Observations:
Next-Gen Supply Group	PC 120 Peroxide Mulitsurface Cleaner	1.5		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Next-Gen Supply Group	PC 120 Peroxide Mulitsurface Cleaner	0.8		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Chemspec	Liquid Formula 90	0.16		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

Conclusion:

No acceptable cut off point was established for soil removal in this carpet cleaning procedure. The two dilutions tested resulted in similar performance than a current industry product.