

SlideRenu™

Versus GEL COAT RESURFACING

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RESIN SYSTEM

Gel Coat resins are epoxy polyester resins which oxidize, chalk and fade at a faster rate than SlideRenu™ coatings. Resurfacing with gel coat does not break the oxidation or polishing/buffing cycle. Microscopically, Gel Coat is very porous and shrinks when exposed to the UV rays of the sun over a long period of time. As a result, gel coat resins used on water slides are susceptible to osmosis, cracking, crazing, blistering, spider cracks and constant surface abrasion from riders, rafts, inner tubes, foam mats, etc. Gel coat contains styrene, a very hazardous chemical that causes "blooming" or the loss of color in the pigment. Most gel coat applicators use a gel coat enamel which has much poorer performance characteristics than the original gel coat used during the manufacturing of the fiberglass water slide

SlideRenu™ Clear Shield and Color Shield are polyurethane/urea resin systems that have been formulated specifically to re-hydrate sun damaged gel coat resins. The 100% solids coatings penetrate deeply into the porous gel coat surface and molecularly cross link with the gel coat resins to form a new envelope of protection against oxidation that is more abrasion and UV resistant than the original factory applied gel coat. SlideRenu™ coatings are custom blended with abrasion fillers and anti-friction additives that are specifically designed to protect interior riding paths against abrasion from bathing suits, rafts, inner tubes, foam mats, etc. The anti-friction additive has been incorporated in the resin system to balance the friction created by the abrasive fillers.

PREPARATION

Both Gel Coat and SlideRenu™ coatings require the same amount of surface preparation.

APPLICATION

Gel Coat doesn't level out and cure the same way that SlideRenu™ coatings do. As a result, Gel Coat typically has a certain degree of texture or orange peel after it cures which usually requires the surface to be sanded, sealed and polished. This is a time consuming and a costly application step. Gel Coat is normally sprayed on in multiple coats to achieve the final cured thickness. Each coat is about 5-10 mils thick. Typically, 2 coats are required; another time consuming and costly application step as compared to SlideRenu coatings. Furthermore, gel coat must be uniformly applied at the proper WFT to allow for the initial sanding and polishing process, and still leave enough DFT to stand up to rigorous abrasion and polishing. If Gel Coat is applied over 10 mils, the risk of excessive spider cracking increases significantly. Since Gel Coat is quite viscous, it must be thinned prior to application. Working within these sensitive application parameters demands that Gel Coat be applied by experienced applicators in order to achieve long lasting results.

SlideRenu™ coatings have high self-leveling properties that significantly reduce orange peeling and don't require any rigorous sanding, sealing or polishing after they cure. SlideRenu™ coatings have been formulated to achieve the recommended DFT thickness in one application. These features save time and money over Gel Coat.

SlideRenu™ coatings also have extremely high hiding properties and can cover most colors in one coat

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COLOR & GLOSS RETENTION

Gel Coat begins to break down immediately after it is applied, and as a result, color and gloss retention suffers. As the oxidation process accelerates, color and gloss retention fails at an exponential rate. SlideRenu™ coatings have been formulated with the highest color and gloss retention materials in the industry. Its super high color and gloss retention characteristics produces a very fine smooth surface which not only enhances color and gloss but reduces pool water chemicals such as calcium from clinging to the interior surface of riding paths. Since SlideRenu™ coatings don't chalk or oxidize; gloss retention is maintained over the life of the coating. Highly effective UV stabilizers also enhance the depth of color of the underlying pigment. SlideRenu™ coatings come with a limited product guarantee against excessive color fading. For more details refer to our Limited Product Guarantee.

MAINTENANCE

Standard Gel Coat compounding and polishing will reduce thickness by about 2-3 mils per year. SlideRenu™ coatings are molecularly stronger than Gel Coat resins and don't wear out as fast. Slide manufacturers recommend that water slides be polished at least twice a year; opening day and closing day. A third polishing is recommended at mid season.

Water slides restored with SlideRenu™ coatings don't require any polishing which saves substantial money over the maintenance life cycle of the water slide. However, good maintenance practices recommended that a water slide is cleaned using a pressure washer at the beginning and end of the season.

COST

Gel Coat is very expensive averaging \$25/sq. ft. When the life cycle cost of Gel Coat is added to the initial application cost, Gel Coat costs about 3X more than water slides resurfaced with SlideRenu™ coatings. Over a 10 year maintenance cycle, SlideRenu™ coatings can save a substantial amount of money over gel coat resurfacing.

ABOUT SLIDERENU™

SlideRenu™ is a high performance line of UV stable coatings that restore, protect and rejuvenate color faded water slides and water play features. We make the only clear coating on the market today that brings back the like-new color and appearance to water slides that are under +/- 15 years old. Our revolutionary Clear Shield coating "re-hydrates" sun damaged gel coat resins and molecularly bonds to slide surfaces. When cured, Clear Shield forms a UV resistant envelope of protection that significantly reduces further solar degradation to the slide surfaces. For older slides where the gel coat resins can't be re-hydrated, we manufacture a proprietary polyurethane/urea resin system, Color Shield, that changes the color of old weathered slides allowing park owners to create new theming opportunities or to simply give their water slides a much needed face lift.

Our coatings are only applied by certified slide restoration technicians and are guaranteed against excessive chalking and fading. We also guarantee our coatings will not chip, crack, peel or blister for up to 10 years. You can feel confident that our coatings will protect your water slide investment for many years to come and save you a significant amount of money over the cost of gel coat resurfacing.

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