

Technical Tip

Removing Ice and Snow from AdvanTech® Flooring

During winter months, snow and ice may accumulate on AdvanTech panels. Although this may present a safety hazard, snow and ice will not normally affect the structural integrity of the panels. Once the ice and snow have melted and the building closed in, it is important to ensure the panels have completely dried prior to finish floor installation. Ice and snow can safely be removed from AdvanTech flooring with 3 different products.

- **Sand** – dark coarse sand will absorb heat from the sun, assist the melting process and can help minimize the possibility of slipping. Available at any local hardware or big box stores.
- **Safe Paws Ice Melt** – is a combination of materials including a glycol that can be applied before, during or after a snow/ice storm. Available in 9 lb containers from PETCO Stores or online at www.petco.com
- **Bare Ground Liquid Ice Melt** – is a special formulation that is intended to melt ice and snow but should be applied 1-2 hours prior to a storm and only when the outside temperature is below 35° F. It can be applied with a simple garden sprayer and is available in gallon containers at online stores such as www.countryhomeproducts.com or www.roofrake.com
- Follow the application recommendations of the ice melt manufacturer.
- Safe Paws and Bare Ground Liquid Ice Melt products have been tested with AdvanTech flooring and will not affect the structural integrity of the panel.
- Use of the above products will not affect the AdvanTech 50 year limited warranty.

The following products **should not** be used with AdvanTech flooring:

- **Solid or Liquid Salt Type Products** – Both solid and liquid salt forms used for melting ice and snow can open up the surface of the AdvanTech flooring allowing water to enter the wood pores and become trapped.

Solid or liquid salt type products will **void the AdvanTech 50 year limited warranty** because of the adverse effects they have on AdvanTech flooring. If ice melting compounds are used on AdvanTech flooring, it should be determined how deep and the length of time the salt solution remained on the panel. If the salt has penetrated the surface only, sanding the panels may remove the affected material. If sanding is extensive then an additional underlayment maybe required. If the salt solution has penetrated below the panel surface, replacement of the panels will be required.

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