

Webinar

Mastering Flood Clean-Up

WHITE PAPER

FEB 2024

Webinar

Mastering Flood Clean-Up

Complex & Challenging

Flood cleanup is a complex and challenging task that comes with many obstacles for professionals in the field. To ensure yourself and your team are as safe and efficient, the following is important:

Training: It is strongly advised that technicians have completed training and are familiar with the IICRC S500:2021 Standard for Professional Water Damage Restoration.

Safe Work Practises: Make-safe and clean up practices must ensure a prioritized focus on the safety of technicians, building occupants and other trades. Ensure that the WHS guidelines of WorkSafe are followed.

PPE: Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is critical to prevent injury and negative health effects (short & long term) caused by the environment, contaminants and the chemicals, equipment and processes used. Understand PPE guidelines given in sds's and technical documents.

Adhere to Industry Standards: State and local government have on-line guidelines for initial flood clean-up procedures. For flood recovery professionals, make-safe and remediation work must be conducted according to the recommendations of IICRC S500:2021 Standard for Professional Water Damage Restoration.

Communication Protocols: Clear, frequent, and documented communication is critical. Ensure that all parties involved are communicated with in a clear and understood manner. All verbal discussions must be followed by written confirmation. Every decision and discussion must be communicated.

Environmental Considerations: Respectful consideration for the environment includes limiting further damage to the immediate environs by eco-label chemical choice, intelligent & resourceful waste disposal and considerate cleaning processes.

Documentation & Reporting: Studious documentation & reporting is critical. Technicians are handling other people's assets and the interests of other parties including banks, insurance companies and loss adjusters must be considered for. Everything needs to be recorded accurately. Take plenty of photographs.

Planning

Flood Recovery and Make-Safe operations must begin with a well thought through executable plan.

A successful plan considers:

- Safety and PPE measures.
- Documented scope of the project
- Containment & isolation plan
- Discard/removal plan.
- Make-safe disinfection.
- Soiling removal
- Drying procedures
- Mould remediation
- Final disinfection
- Post-remediation verification

Webinar

Mastering Flood Clean-Up

Categories of Floodwater

Flood Water is defined by 3 categories. Before embarking on a job, the category of flood water must be known, to ensure an applicable plan is created and executed.

1. Water originating from a clean, sanitary source such as a broken water supply pipe.
2. Flood water containing significant contamination such as a washing machine leak.
3. Water which contains pathogens and toxic substances including chemicals. Such as a sewage back-up.

Note that where flood water is left unattended or comes in contact with organics or chemicals, etc., the category may elevate to the next level.

What To Use Where?

Soil Removal:

Clean Force

- Soiling & grime removal.
- Enzyme boosted.
- Tackles organics loading
- Hard & Soft surfaces
- Economical 1:65 – 1:100 dilution range.

Disinfectant (Make-safe & Final):

Thymox

- Ideal initial knock-down disinfectant.
- Non-hazardous, high performance
- Safe on virtually all water cleanable surfaces.
- WoolSafe certified.
- Botanical eco-safe

Biosan II

- Product of choice where cleanup with pathogen control is required.
- Economical use with a 1:16-1:32 dilution ratio.
- Residues will not interfere with any follow-up application of Percide.
- Strong cleaning power.

Disinfectant (Final & Mould):

Percide

- Oxidises and removes the toughest of mould and organic staining.
- Disinfects bio-contaminated surfaces.
- No dilution required.

Odour Control:

Deozyme

- Powerful quad-bio enzyme digests severe and embedded organics.
- Elimotech odour absorption technology eliminates the toughest organic malodours.

Deosan

- Powerful anti-microbial
- Elimotech odour absorption technology
- Will not conflict with Biosan II or Percide.
- Fresh, floral scent

Substrate Consideration

Carpets & Fabrics: Biosan II, Percide and Deosan will negatively affect the stain block treatment of 5th generation nylon carpet.

Natural Stone: Thymox, Biosan II, Deozyme and Deosan are safe to use on and around all types of natural stone. Percide + Boost is safe.

Webinar

Mastering Flood Clean-Up

Floorboards and Lacquered Wood: Thymox, Biosan II, Deozyme and Deosan are safe for use on floorboards, coated wooden flooring and lacquered wooden furniture.

Structural Timber and Steel: Thymox, Biosan II, Percide, Deozyme and Deosan are safe for use on and around structural timber and steel.

Plasterboard and Painted Surfaces: Thymox, Biosan II, Percide, Deozyme and Deosan are safe for use on all plasterboard and painted surfaces which are deemed to be water cleanable.

Initial Washdown

Suppress pathogen levels. Remove organic loading, surface soiling and bulk mould growth. These wash downs require solutions with the muscle to remove gross soiling and a biocide for the protection of technicians from dangerous pathogens and to suppress pathogen counts and mould growth.

Products

- Clean Force
- Biosan II
- Thymox

Pathogen Elimination

A complete kill of bacteria, viruses and mould is required for successful flood restoration and mould remediation.

See mould removal section in our Restoration Handbook for treatment for mould growth.

Products

- Biosan II
- Percide
- Thymox

Stain Elimination

Mould growth and organic soiling creates unsightly, stubborn staining. A hydrogen peroxide based solution, such as Percide, has the inherent ability to oxidise and remove the toughest mould and organic soiling. It is a great option for stain removal following an initial wash down.

Products

- Percide

Odour Neutralisation

The key to odour neutralisation is to remove the odour source. The action of an initial washdown and pathogen elimination would normally achieve this during the flood restoration process. However, further odour control is often required to absorb air-borne and trapped mal-odour molecules, providing a fresh replacement scent.

Products

- Deosan
- Deozyme

Additional Resources

- [Restoration Handbook](#)
- [Flood Clean-Up Blog](#)
- [IICRC: Flood Resources](#)

Contact Us

(02) 4966 5516

info@actichem.com.au

11 Gamma Close, Beresfield, NSW 2322