

## SLIP RESISTANCE OF CORIAN®

There are circumstances when Corian® solid surfaces can be used in flooring applications. When considering materials for flooring applications, it is desirable to understand the slip resistance of the potential candidates.

The terms “slip resistance” and “coefficient of friction” are often used interchangeably. One of the most commonly referenced methods for determining slip resistance is ASTM C1028 Standard Test Method for Determining the Static Coefficient of Friction of Ceramic Tile and Other Like Surfaces by the Horizontal Dynamometer Pull Meter Method. Materials tested using this method are often evaluated under both wet and dry conditions using a Neolite shoe heel assembly. The amount of force required to set the shoe assembly in motion is divided by the weight of the assembly to yield the static coefficient of friction (scf or cof). Since there are many ways to measure slip resistance, it is imperative to specify the method of evaluation when providing results.

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) recommends static coefficients of friction of 0.5 for walking surfaces while guidelines from the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) suggests static coefficients of friction of 0.6.

Corian® solid surfaces were given a matte finish (60° gloss) then tested in accordance with ASTM C1028. The tests yielded coefficients of friction of 0.94–0.95 under dry conditions and coefficients of friction of 0.59–0.64 under wet conditions.

By comparison, common flooring materials, such as flamed granite or limestone or cleft slate, yield average coefficients of friction of >0.7 dry and >0.6 wet<sup>(1)</sup>, and many floor tile manufacturers only report performance as “>0.5” or “>0.6.”

<sup>(1)</sup>[www.stonesource.com/slip](http://www.stonesource.com/slip), *What Stone Specifiers Should Know About Slip Resistance and the ADA*, by Jeff Green.