CANNON REVOLUTIONIZES FLOOR SAFETY WITH GRIPPY MAT

Not many of us think about viscosity, but we know it when we experience it. Viscosity affects the thickness of our favorite ketchup, the creaminess of the peanut butter on our toast and how easily we can squeeze toothpaste onto our toothbrush. For something as critical as motor oil, the required viscosity guarantees that it will be thick enough to lubricate engine parts, but thin enough to flow consistently in cold weather.

Why viscosity testing matters.

Whether they're solid, liquid or somewhere in between, materials must go through multiple stages during manufacturing to create a finished product. Viscosity data helps quality control (QC) teams determine how these materials should be pumped, mixed, transferred and stored. Viscosity testing during manufacturing allows QC to monitor the flow and stability of materials to make sure the final product is up to specifications and helps them keep their processes efficient and cost-effective. In order to perform these tests, QC Teams use precision viscometers.

The revolution that started in a Pennsylvania college town.

During a government research project in the mid-1930s, Penn State chemical engineering professors Drs. Michael Cannon and Walter Fenske discovered that even the slightest tilt of an Ostwald manual glass viscometer suspended in a constant temperature bath affected the accuracy of their measurements.

Dr. Cannon believed he could eliminate the vertical alignment problems if he had Penn State's glass shop, which made scientific glassware, bend the Ostwald Viscometers into a different geometry that aligned the bulbs. Dr. Cannon's new prototype not only provided the results he was looking for, it revolutionized kinematic viscosity measurement. Now known as the Cannon-Fenske Routine Viscometer, it has become the most widely used manual glass viscometer in the world.

Today, CANNON Instrument Company is internationally acclaimed for its precision instruments, lab testing services, and certified viscosity and flash point standards. Since 2003, CANNON has been authorized to set the U.S. national standard for certified liquid viscosity reference standards by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST).

Rubber-backed mats couldn't meet the high standards at the CANNON plant.

At the CANNON Instrument facility in State College, Pa., their commitment to excellence shines through in their efforts to provide employees with a clean, safe working environment. Since rubber-backed mats were considered a floor safety best practice, CANNON used them throughout the plant. The problem was that these mats failed across the board:

- The mats always looked dirty and were hard to maintain, frustrating efforts to keep the plant clean and neat
- At the employee entrance, they were forced to lay multiple mats end-to-end to cover the area, creating a trip hazard
- Their rubber-backed mats constantly shifted out of position and they were always moving them back to where they belonged

"We didn't like our old mats," says Dan Hook, VP of Manufacturing. "They didn't look good, they didn't work and they created dangerous trip hazards for our employees. But they were all we had until we found Grippy Mat."

Enter the mat that sticks.

When CANNON replaced their rubber-backed mats with Grippy Mat, the results were immediate and dramatic. First, they rolled

Grippy Carpeted Mat looks good and provides a safe, continuous walking surface from the employee entry to the plant floor.

CANNON Instrument Company

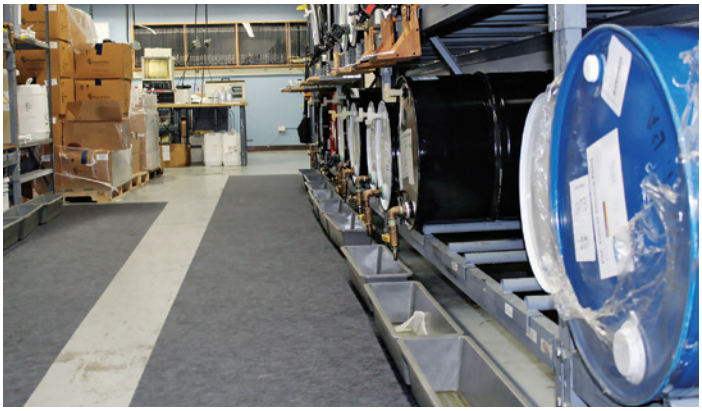
out Grippy Carpeted Mat to cover the entire walkway between the employee entrance and plant floor entry. Grippy Mat provided the continuous coverage they needed to keep dirt and moisture from tracking into the plant — with no gaps or overlaps like they had with rubber-backed mats.

"We really like the way the carpeted mat dresses up the floor," observes Hook. "And it's easy to clean — a big plus in our heaviest traffic area."

Next, they covered the transition area from the inner plant entryway to the plant floor with Grippy Floor Mat. This extra walk-off adds traction and helps to capture any remaining dirt and moisture before employees reach work areas.

Clean, safe liquid dispensing areas are now standard.

CANNON is the leading provider of viscosity standards — liquids used to calibrate and verify the performance of all types of viscometers. And like most liquid blending and dispensing areas, the drum taps leak and drip, creating slippery floors and dangerous walking conditions.



No more messy dispensing areas. Grippy Mat adds traction and keeps drum storage neat and clean.

Grippy Mat looks great while it protects the cafeteria floor from drips.

Where they once used pails, troughs and scattered absorbents, CANNON rolled out Grippy Mat and dramatically improved conditions. Grippy Mat adds traction, absorbs stray drips and eliminates the mess from wipers and absorbent mats. Drip troughs and PIG Pans are lined up neatly to catch drum leaks while Grippy Mat provides a safe walking surface for employees.

"We love how clean and organized these areas are now," says Hook. "And we can keep them that way because our Grippy Mats stay down for three months."

Grippy Mat even makes break time better.

When Cannon placed black Grippy Floor Mat in their newly-remodeled cafeteria, no one expected it to enhance the decor. But it looks great — complementing the contemporary stainless steel and black color scheme — while it traps drips, splashes and spills in front of the beverage station and sink.

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