

With all TorZo Surfaces fabrication projects, the key is to seal and coat all six sides, top, bottom and any and all edges. The reason for coating the bottom is to not only protect in the unlikely chance of water damage from below, but to keep the board(s) balanced. With the under mount sink, you need to seal and coat the exposed edges just like the top and bottom surfaces. If there are voids exposed on the edges, which is the case with the Seeta material, then you can use an epoxy filler to fill those voids, and then apply the two applications of top coat. Some people do not use the epoxy filler and instead apply several applications of top coats. Enough to fill in the voids. The look is as important as the sealing process, and which ever way the customer prefers is best. Either way should provide plenty of protection and has been done successfully before.

In general, TorZo Surfaces does not try to specify a specific coatings. Usually fabricators will use the coatings that they have a lot of experience with and therefore feel most comfortable with. We can give feedback from customers who have used specific coatings in their projects that they were happy with. There are solvent based coatings and water based coatings. The solvent based coatings will have be a higher durability rating, but they do not fall into the low VOC rating. Most commercial applications will use a urethane (Hesse #DE-552) which is used on restaurant chain tables such as Applebee's and is very durable. Even though this urethane has a relatively high VOC versus green coatings, it is formaldehyde free. Standard conversion varnishes have also been used (Sherwin-Williams, Valspar), again they are very durable but they do not meet the green standard.

Hesse, and others, manufacture a water based urethane which is green rated and works well with the TorZo protect, but it is not as durable as the higher VOC rated urethanes. Two low VOC coatings (considered green) that have been used in applications and have positive feedbacks are the **Bona Traffic** water based floor coating and the **Fuhr Industrial** urethane-260 which has a little aluminum oxide in the formula that gives it added hardness and durability.

I want to reinforce that there may be (are...) other coatings that can work equally well, or even better. These are the ones that we are aware of and have had positive feedback on. We continue to learn from our customers on a real time basis and will update our data base as we go.

Hope this helps.

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