CLAIMS

[Claim 1] A rotary surface treatment tool for a cleaning machine comprising:

a relatively rigid support base adapted to be rotatably driven by the cleaning machine;

a surface treatment layer supported on the support base and rotatable together with the support base; and

a relatively compliant layer provided intermediate the support base and the surface treatment layer, and supporting thereon the surface treatment layer, wherein the relatively compliant layer is in the form of a compressible foam material including open cell types and closed cell types, and wherein the foam material has a stiffness range of < 0.5N/cm.

[Claim 2] A rotary surface treatment tool according to claim 1, wherein the open cell type foam material includes polyurethane of different pores per inch (PPI).

[Claim 3] A rotary surface treatment tool according to claim 1, wherein the closed cell type foam material includes EPDM, neoprene or SBR.

[Claim 4] A rotary surface treatment tool according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the support base is an inner core, and the compliant layer and surface treatment layer is supported around the inner core.

[Claim 5] A rotary surface treatment tool according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein the support base is a generally planar disc, and the compliant layer and surface treatment layer are respectively supported on the planar disc.

[Claim 6] A cleaning machine including at least one rotary surface treatment tool as claimed in any one of the preceding claims.

[Claim 7] A method of configuring a pressure applied by a rotary surface treatment tool of a cleaning machine on a surface being treated, the rotary surface treatment tool having a relatively rigid support base adapted to be rotatably driven by the cleaning machine; and a surface treatment layer supported on the support base and rotatable together with the support base; the method comprising providing a relatively compliant layer intermediate the support base and the surface treatment layer, the surface treatment layer being supported on the compliant layer, wherein the relatively

compliant layer is in the form of a compressible foam material including open cell types and closed cell types, and wherein the foam material has a stiffness range of < 0.5N/cm.

[Claim 8] A method according to claim 7, comprising selecting compressible foam material of a predetermined stiffness and/or density to configure the pressure.

[Claim 9] A method according to claim 7, wherein the open cell type foam material includes polyurethane of different pores per inch (PPI).

[Claim 10] A method according to claim 7, wherein the closed cell type foam material includes EPDM, neoprene or SBR.

[Claim 11] A method of configuring moisture retention and/or acoustic performance within a rotary surface treatment tool, the rotary surface treatment tool having a relatively rigid support base adapted to be rotatably driven by the cleaning machine; and a surface treatment layer supported on the support base and rotatable together with the support base; the method comprising providing a relatively compliant layer intermediate the support base and the surface treatment layer, the surface treatment layer being supported on the compliant layer, wherein the relatively compliant layer is in the form of a compressible foam material including open cell types and closed cell types, and wherein the foam material has a stiffness range of < 0.5N/cm.

[Claim 12] A method according to claim 11, comprising selecting compressible foam material of a predetermined stiffness and/or density to configure the acoustic performance.

[Claim 13] A method according to claim 11 or 12, comprising selecting compressible foam material of a predetermined stiffness and/or density to configure the moisture retention.

[Claim 14] A method according to claim 11, wherein the open cell type foam material includes polyurethane of different pores per inch (PPI).

[Claim 15] A method according to claim 11, wherein the closed cell type foam material includes EPDM, neoprene or SBR.