

Installation Guidelines for *Sound Solution* under Floating Floors

Site Conditions:

The building should be completely enclosed. All outside doors and windows should be properly installed with latching mechanisms in place.

Landscaping should be sufficiently completed to direct water away from the building. Gutters and downspouts should be in place.

All concrete, masonry, plastering, drywall and other wet work should be completed and thoroughly dry prior to beginning the installation. Texturing and paint primer coats should be completed. Where possible the installation of the base molding should not take place until after the wood flooring has been installed.

Adequate ventilation should be available. The HVAC system for the building should be operational. The flooring should not be exposed to extremes of temperature, humidity or moisture. The installation site should have a consistent temperature of at least 65 F (air and sub-floor and humidity levels should be between 35-55% for a minimum of 72 hours prior to and following the installation.

Basements and crawl spaces should be dry and adequately ventilated. Sub-floors must be checked for moisture content and emissions using industry accepted methods. Crawl spaces should meet local building codes regarding minimum heights, cross ventilation and the use of vapor retarders.

Sub-floors must be free from dust, dirt, grease, wax, curing agents, sealers, oil and any other bond inhibiting substances. **The sub-floor should be level within 3/16" in 10' or 1/8" in 6'.**

Concrete must be dry with moisture emission rates that do not exceed 3 lbs/1000 sq ft/24 hrs as measured by the Anhydrous Calcium Chloride Test (ASTM-F-1869-98). Fill low areas with a cementitious leveling compound or latex milk additive latex patch with a minimum 3,000 psi compressive strength. Leveling compounds must be tested to ensure they are properly cured and within the manufacturer's specified requirements before proceeding with the installation. Mechanical surface profiling is the preferred sub-floor preparation method. Mechanically profile the sub-floor to medium-grit sandpaper texture. Sanding or scouring with open paper or a titanium disk is preferred. Lightweight or acoustical concrete, less than 3,000 psi, must be primed with a compatible primer. **For installations on concrete sub-floors, an additional moisture / vapor barrier such as 6 mil polyethylene film must be installed between the sub-floor and the *Sound Solution*.**

For Wood Joist Systems the sub-flooring should be structurally sound, free of loose panels or boards, and free of protruding fasteners. Moisture content should be within normal industry standards for the areas average environmental conditions. Underlayment panels should be fastened according to the manufacturer's specifications. All panel seams should be sanded level and prepared according to the manufacturer's instructions. Minimum sub-flooring: 5/8" CDX plywood sub-floor/underlayment (Exposure 1), maximum 16" o.c. construction. Install the flooring perpendicular to the floor joists.

SOUND SOLUTION may be installed over existing full spread sheet vinyl and vinyl tiles (non-embossed and non-cushion backed) if the existing flooring is well bonded. Fill low areas with a cementitious leveling compound or a latex milk additive latex patch with minimum 3,000 psi compressive strength. Leveling compounds must be tested to ensure they are properly cured and within the manufacturer's specified requirements before proceeding with the installation, repair or replace loose flooring products. *Never sand any resilient flooring that may contain asbestos fibers.*

INSTALLATION:

1. For installations on concrete sub-floors, an additional moisture / vapor barrier such as 6 mil polyethylene film must first be installed.
2. Roll out the *Sound Solution* cushion parallel to the wall and in the same direction as you plan to install the floating floor. Trim to fit the floor leaving no gaps around the perimeter of the room.
3. Next, install the laminate or floating floor planks atop the underlayment according to the manufacturer's instructions, allowing appropriate expansion gaps at the perimeter of the installation. Be sure that you are still able to see the edge of the underlayment so that you can properly line up the next roll.
4. Install the next 6-foot section of underlayment, butting the seams together. Repeat until installation is complete. Tape may be used to hold the *Sound Solution* in place while the flooring is being laid.
5. Seams should be butted together leaving no gaps or overlaps. If installing the underlayment on concrete, or below grade sub-floors, be sure to tape the seams together with two inch moisture-resistant tape.