

# F2C Design & Function Commercial Vinyl Plank Installation

## F2C Design & Function Commercial Vinyl Plank General Guidelines

### *MATERIAL HANDLING AND STORAGE*

- ❖ Store cartons of tile or plank products flat and squarely on top of one another. Do not lie on an edge.
- ❖ Store all flooring products and adhesives in a dry, temperature-controlled interior area at 65-80°F. Temperature extremes should be avoided.
- ❖ All materials should be acclimated to job site conditions. Deliver the material to the job site 48 hours prior to installation.

### **Floor Preparation**

Great care must be taken to assure a smooth substrate before installing any vinyl floor. Please refer to the Floor 2 Ceiling Floor Preparation Guide for instructions on surface preparation.

## **Adhering F2C Design & Function Commercial Vinyl Plank**

### **Porous or Non-porous**

A non-porous substrate is one which does not absorb water. If you are not sure whether a floor is porous or non-porous, sprinkle some water on the floor. If the water beads up, then it's a non-porous floor. If it soaks in, it's a porous floor. Use a small amount of water for the test, and allow the floor to completely dry before continuing. If a bare concrete floor is not porous, a sealer or curing compound may have been used. Such treatments shall be removed before installing a new floor or under-layment, and the floor tested for porosity at that time. For more information, refer to the F2C Floor Preparation Guide.

### **Adhesive Recommendations for F2C Design & Function Commercial Vinyl Plank**

All F2C Commercial vinyl plank shall be installed using TechDesign 400 adhesive. This product can be used over porous and non-porous surfaces, according to the following guidelines:

#### Vinyl Plank over Porous Floors

Spread rate: 250 sq. ft. per gallon. Use a 1/16" x 1/32" s 1/32" U-notch trowel. Set material into adhesive 10-15 minutes after spreading adhesive. The adhesive will still be wet at this time.

#### Vinyl Plank over Non-porous Floors

Spread rate: 300 sq. ft. per gallon. Use a 1/16" x 1/32" x 5/64" U-notch trowel. Allow adhesive to become "tacky" before setting material into adhesive. This should take about 20-30 minutes depending on the humidity and temperature. Spread adhesive evenly. Do not allow puddles or lumps of adhesive to form.

After Setting Flooring into Adhesive  
Roll floor in all directions using a 100 pound roller.

Keep foot traffic off the new floor for 12 hours. Keep furniture, fixtures, and rolling traffic off the floor for 24 hours. For the first 7 days, if floor must be cleaned, damp mop only.

#### INSTALLING OVER ADHESIVE RESIDUE

Do not install resilient flooring directly over residual adhesive or paint. Do not 'skim coat' directly over old adhesive. Where existing asphalt (black) adhesive is present, scrape the excessive adhesive residue from the floor so that a thin transparent layer (*less than 5%*) is all that remains. Cover with an approved patching or underlayment compound that will seal in the existing adhesive. Obtain the patching compound manufacturer's *written recommendations* to be sure that the compound being used is specifically recommended for use over asphaltic adhesives. ***The use of asbestos encapsulants or bridging materials over asphaltic adhesive is not recommended, as those products may affect the bonding properties of the new adhesive.***

#### CONCRETE SUBSTRATES

**CONCRETE SLAB CONSTRUCTION:** Concrete substrates must meet the requirements of ASTM F 710 "Standard Practice for Preparing Concrete Floors to Receive Resilient Flooring".

The appendix of F 710-98 contains guidelines regarding concrete slab construction, and specific information regarding lightweight concrete, water-cement ratio, curing procedures, alkalinity, moisture retarders, flatness and levelness, and additional reference documents.

**Concrete floors to receive resilient flooring shall be free of sealers, coatings, finishes, dirt, curing compounds and other substances which may affect the rate of moisture dissipation from the concrete or the adhesion of resilient flooring to the concrete. Non-chemical methods for removal, such as abrasive cleaning or bead blasting may be used on existing slabs and shall take place 48 hours before testing.**

**Lightweight concrete, less than 115 lb. /cubic foot, may have such low strength that it is unsuitable for covering with resilient flooring unless 1 inch of standard weight concrete (generally 140 lb. /cubic foot) is used as a topping. In addition, floors containing lightweight aggregate or excess water and those that are allowed to dry from only one side, such as concrete on metal deck construction, may need a much longer drying time.**

**WARNING:** Exceptionally porous, soft, or dusty concrete surfaces may have such low strength that they are not suitable for installation of resilient floor coverings. It may be necessary to mechanically remove the top layer of concrete in such cases. Such surfaces may need to be primed and covered with a latex patching or underlayment

compound. Consult with a manufacturer of patching or underlayment compounds or someone with expertise in concrete problems.

Expansion joints: **Joints such as expansion joints, isolation joints, or other moving joints in concrete shall not be filled with patching compound or covered with resilient flooring.** Use an expansion joint covering system.

To improve the adhesive bond to a concrete substrate sand the concrete with a 16 or 20-grit sandpaper before spreading the adhesive.

Radiant heated floors: F2C floors may be installed over a radiant heated floor as long as the slab temperature does not exceed 85°F after the flooring is installed. Set the heating system to highest possible temperature three or four days before installation. This will help to “dry out” any moisture remaining in the slab. Turn the heat off twenty-four (24) hours before installation. Leave the heat off during installation and 24 hours after installation. Then, gradually raise the heat back up to room temperature. While the heating system is turned off, maintain room and slab temperature at a minimum of 65°F and a maximum of 80°F. In cold climates, it is best to install over radiant heated floors in moderate weather months such as spring or autumn.

When installing over a Floor Underlayment make sure the underlayment is smooth, free from cracks and all imperfections filled. Underlayment must also be completely cured before adhesive is applied.

**Advise customer to begin maintenance program in 5-7 days.**