METHOD STATEMENT

TARKETT - GRANIT SAFE T AND PRIMO SAFE T

2015

The preparation/dryness of the subfloor and installation procedures should all be as BS 8203: 2001. i.e.: The relative humidity of a solid subfloor should be below 75%RH when tested with a Hygrometer as described in this British Standard.

Prior to selecting a smoothing compound, it will be necessary to investigate what type of traffic the floorcovering once installed will be subjected to. Latex smoothing compounds are not suitable for areas that will receive heavy traffic, especially heavy-wheeled traffic with narrow wheels. Never subject a newly installed floorcovering to heavy wheeled traffic at an early stage, as this will disperse trowelled applied adhesive from below the floorcovering which may result in future problems. Wheels should be + 30mm and preferably made of neoprene. If it is necessary to traffic the floorcovering at an early stage, protect the installation with hardboard or plywood.

For specific subfloor types and preparation, please refer to our Specifications Subfloor Types.

Recent studies have shown that micro-organisms can colonise, under certain conditions, the area between the subfloor (wooden or cement) and the installed flooring. These micro-organisms can thrive in warm, damp conditions where there is sufficient 'food' available – for example, certain types of levelling compound used prior to the flooring installation. During their normal life-cycle, these micro-organisms produce a colorant, usually pink, purple, red or black (but can be other colours), which can 'bleed' through to the surface of the PVC flooring product over a period of several months or longer.

Advice should always be sought from the manufacturers of subfloor preparations and adhesives prior to installation, to ensure that their products are suitable for the environment in which the PVC flooring is to be laid – this advice may include using products that contain biocides or of specific resin types.

For wooden fabricated underlay e.g. plywood, care must be taken to store the material in an area where it will not become damp or contaminated.

The 'bleed' through of colorant created by micro-biological activity below PVC floorcovering products is not attributable to a product/manufacturing fault.

Although Tarkett may on occasion list a choice of adhesive, levelling compound and surface damp proof membrane manufacturers and types, we do not however guarantee the products listed (except for Tarkett wood adhesives) or suggest that the list of products or manufactures, are complete or current. Tarkett would not accept any liability (except for Tarkett wood adhesives) for any of these products failing to perform in conjunction with any of their products. It is the responsibility of the adhesive, levelling compound and surface damp proof membrane manufacturer and flooring contractor to ensure the products being used are appropriate for use and applied in accordance with the manufacturers recommendations.

It is imperative that underfloor heating systems have been previously commissioned and found to be functioning correctly prior to the floor finish being installed. Ensure that the underfloor heating system is switched off 48 hours prior to the floorcovering installation commencing and remains off for at least 48 hours after the installation is complete. During the period of decommissioning of the underfloor heating system, an alternative heating source should be provided, if required, to ensure that the area of installation is kept at a constant temperature of 18°C - 27°C. Gradually increase the temperature over a number of days by only a few degrees per day until the desired room temperature is reached. The temperature should never exceed the floorcovering industry agreed maximum of 27°C at the underside of the floorcovering (the adhesive line). Failure to follow these guidelines can result in the floorcovering de-bonding, joints opening, and on some occasions discolouring, all which can occur within a long or short period of time.

CONDITIONING

It is important that the material (rolls) is stored in an upright position. 24 hours prior to use, the material should be cut to the desired lengths and acclimatised within the area to be installed by laying flat on a prepared, clean subfloor at a temperature of 18° - 27°C. This temperature should be maintained throughout the duration of the installation. The minimum temperature of the subfloor should be 15°C. Care should be taken when handling all types of floorcoverings to ensure that safety procedures are followed and damage does not occur to the material.

INSTALLATION PROCEDURES

1. Prepare the subfloor as necessary and remove all trace of debris.

2. Ensure that material with identical batch numbers are allocated within each separate area to be installed. Whenever possible, consecutive roll numbers should installed in sequence.

3. Plan the sheet direction of the area to be installed to ensure whenever possible that joins do not coincide with doorways or main traffic lanes. Identify the approx. location of each sheet.

4. Safe T is often installed in areas that will be subjected to high levels of water abuse from the surface e.g. pot wash areas, sluice rooms. If this were the case, we would also strongly recommend that a polyurethane/epoxy adhesive be used to adhere the Safe T to the subfloor. Please also refer to the coving details at the end of this specification, for an appropriate choice of coving.

5. Cut off the lengths of the material 10cm longer than the net size measured.

6. Scribe the first sheet down the length of the room with the two ends lapped up the wall. Cut down the scribe mark using utility knives with straight and hook blades removing the scrap material and place into position.

7. Place the sheet tightly against the wall and draw a pencil line down the edge of the Safe T on the subfloor lengthways opposite the scribed wall.

8. When in position draw a pencil line at 90° to the edge of the sheet from the Safe T onto the subfloor using a ruler. This cross mark should be approximately 20cm away from one of the ends still lapped up the wall.

9. Slide back the sheet along the first pencil line until the end of the sheet lies flat on the subfloor and slightly short of the wall. The two cross lines will now have moved apart.

10. Set the long scribers to the distance between the two lines and scribe this size from the wall onto the Safe T at the same time keeping the scribers parallel with the sheet edge. Cut and remove the surplus as before.

11. Slide the Safe T back into its previous position with the material now fitted to the long wall and end wall. Repeat the last procedure for the end still lapped up the opposite wall.

12. All consecutive sheets should be installed in the opposite direction to the previous sheet installed (reverse sheets).

13. Overlap the next sheet by 2.5cm with one end already 2 - 3cm short of one wall. Adjust the scribers to scribe a small amount off this end of the sheet and cut to size. Slide this end of the sheet into position against the wall. Now repeat the procedure adopted for fitting the previous sheet where the Safe T was still lapped up the remaining wall.

14. This entire procedure should be copied for all consecutive sheets apart from the last sheet, which should be installed in the same manner as the first.

15. Only install the amount of floorcovering that can be adhered to a subfloor in one day.

16. Just prior to adhering the Safe T, all joins should be re-cut. Strike a chalk-line 1cm in from the overlapped edge of the top sheet and re-cut using a knife and straightedge by cutting through 2/3 of the thickness of the sheet prior to cutting with a hook knife. Use this newly cut edge to guide a pin-vice along onto the sheet below. Deepen this cut with a utility knife and finally undercut with a hook knife.

or

17. Cut a good edge on the material and then overlap uncut edge on top. Scribe bottom edge of the Safe T top sheet by using a short scriber. (over & unders)

18. Carefully pull the sheets back half their length and re-sweep the back of the Safe T and the subfloor to ensure that no debris is present that may visually impair the installation and cause premature wear.

19. In areas that will be subjected to high levels of water abuse from the surface e.g. pot wash areas, sluice rooms, it is strongly recommended that a epoxy adhesive is used from the current range of Uzin KR 421. All other areas e.g. standard lavatory areas, that will not be subjected to high water abuse can be adhered with Tarkett Embond 170 pressure sensitive acrylic adhesive.

20. The adhesive should be applied using an appropriate 'V' notched trowel (pressure sensitive adhesives should be trowel applied and then flattened with a lambs wool roller – please seek adhesive manufacturers advice). It is important that the notches on this trowel remain the correct size throughout the duration of the installation. Place the Safe T into the adhesive whilst wet (pressure sensitive – seek manufacturers

advice) and roll with a 68Kg roller in both directions. Do not roll the last 25cm section of the Safe T, as this will ensure that the second half of the sheet is easily pulled back to expose the edge of adhesive.

21. Repeat procedure for second half of the sheets as soon as the first half has been adhered.

22. Repeat rolling at 15 minute intervals until fully bonded to the subfloor, paying close attention to sheet joins, cross-joins and ends of sheets. Inaccessible areas should be rolled with a hand roller. Remove any excess of adhesive with a cloth moistened with water or if dry, use nothing stronger that white spirit.

23. After a lapse of at least 24 hours, hot weld with matching Safe T weld rod at a temperature of between 250-300°C when the welding equipment is fitted with a Tarkett speed-weld nozzle, item - 1258012.

WELDING SAFE T

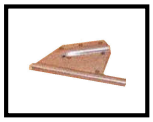
1. Allow at least 24 hours to lapse prior to hot welding with the Safe T welding cable.

2. Groove seams using a Tarkett Seam Groover (1258027) & Blade (1258028), "P" type grooving tool or an automatic seam router.

3. The groove should be down 2/3 into the thickness of the material.

4. Make sure the groove is clear of all debris and excess adhesive prior to commencing welding.

5. The recommended welding temperature is 250-300°C when fitted with a Tarkett 1258012 speed-weld nozzle.



6. Using a Leister hot air welding gun fitted with a speed-weld nozzle, this will require the setting to be approximately number 5. If unsure consult manufacturer's instructions for correct setting. Set the welding gun at this temperature for several minutes prior to commencing welding to attain the correct temperature.

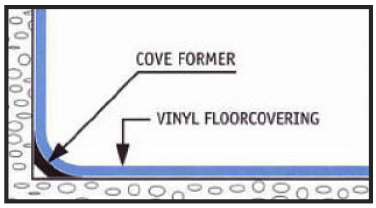
7. Try out the welding operation on a scrap piece of Safe T prior to welding the main area.

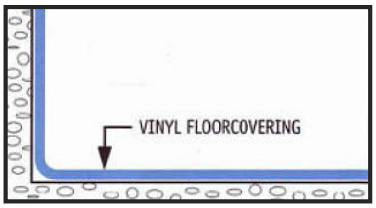
8. Weld at approximately 2 metres a minute.

9. Preferably 2 people welding. One operative welding at least 3 metres ahead of the other prior to the second person trimming the cable 1mm proud of the Safe T with the aid of a spatula knife inserted into a welding slide. The weld should then be allowed to cool down. Finally trim the weld cable flush with the surface of the Safe T with the spatula knife only.

SELF COVING

Safe T can be coved without a cove former. Simply fold and crease Safe T into a 90° angle (corner roller - item 1258010 / hockey stick - item 1258003). This method of coving eliminates internal and external vertical joins by allowing the material to be wrapped around these design details by using a series of 45° angle cuts. It is also possible to self-cove Safe T over a 1.5 to 4 cm radius cove former and up a wall to a desired height where it is normally finished to a PVC capping seal. This can be achieved in one piece with a minimum of joins, although there will have to be internal and external vertical joins. Adhere all vertical surfaces and cove detail with a solvent free contact adhesive.





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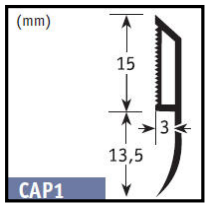
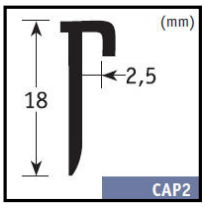
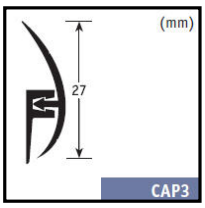
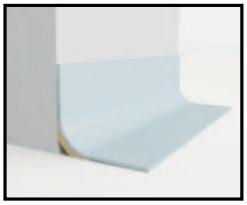
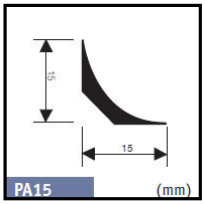
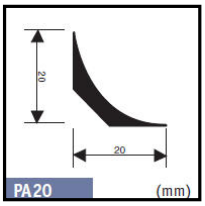


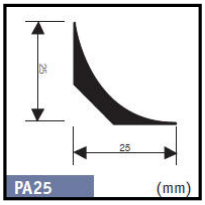


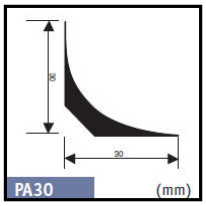


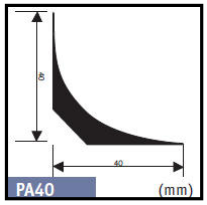






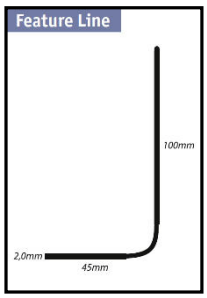


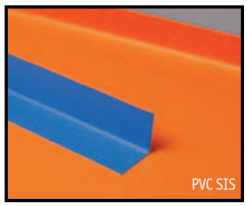


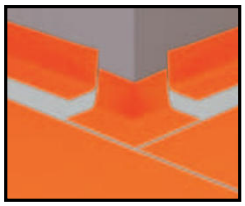


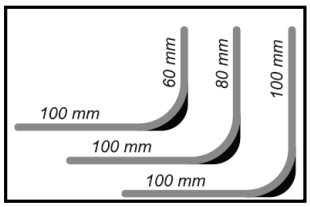
PVC PRE-FORMED SET-IN COVING

This type of product is available in various lengths or rolls and varies in height and protrusion at the foot of the cove. Fix the coving to a prepared wall and subfloor with a contact adhesive. Measure the area to be installed and cut off the lengths of the vinyl so that they overlap onto the cove by approximately 2cm. Overlap sheets by 2.5cm and re-cut to leave a close butt join. Adhere the vinyl using the same acrylic adhesive as before for the sheet (whilst still overlapping onto the cove) up to the edge of the set-in cove. Using short scribers, (over & unders) scribe and cut the vinyl to the edge of the set-in cove and roll with a 68Kg roller whilst the adhesive is still wet. After the lapse of at least 24 hours, hot weld all sheet to sheet and sheet to set-in coving joins with the matching Eclipse welding rod.









PVC SIT-ON COVING (NOT SUITABLE FOR VERY WET AREAS)

This type of coving should not be used when watertight joins are required. It is normally used as an alternative to a wooden skirting in areas that will not be subjected to large amounts of surface applied water. Sit-on PVC coving is available in lengths of 2m as well as in coils of varying lengths and is normally 10cm in height and protrudes 1-1.5cm out at the toe. Install the floorcovering in the normal manner, scribing to a wall instead of a skirting and adhere to the subfloor. Fix the coving to a prepared wall with a contact adhesive. Prior to adhering the sit-on coving to the wall, the scribed edge of the floorcovering to the wall can be sealed with a sealant. This will provide extra protection to the floorcovering from surface moisture attack, but should not be used as a cheaper alternative to a pre-formed coving or self-coving when a watertight join is required.