

# METHOD STATEMENT

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# TARKETT - OMNISPORT SPEED AND TRAINING

2016

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 trowel 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 manufacturer's 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.

## **CONDITIONING**

It is important that the materials (rolls) are carefully stored on a dry, flat surface within a heated building. 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.

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## INSTALLATION PROCEDURE

1. Prepare the subfloor as necessary and remove all traces of debris.
2. Ensure that material with the same batch number is allocated to each area to be installed. Consecutive roll numbers should also be used.
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.
4. Cut the lengths of the material 10cm longer than the size of the measured length of the room.
5. Place first sheet against the longest wall with the surplus material riding up either end of the room/area being installed and scribe down this wall using a long scribe.
6. **For wood designs, install all sheets in the same direction. For plain colours, all consecutive sheets should be installed in the opposite direction to the previous sheet installed. (Reverse sheets)** i.e.: 1<sup>st</sup> sheet facing north, 2<sup>nd</sup> sheet facing south, etc. Arrows on the reverse of the material can identify the direction of the sheets. Overlap each sheet by approximately 2.5cm onto the previous sheet and allow the Omnisport to ride up the wall at either end of the room as before.
7. Prior to adhering the Omnisport, all the overlapped joins should be cut by placing a straightedge on top of the overlapped material 10mm in from the edge of the sheet. Cut through both top and bottom sheets by guiding the knife down the edge of the straightedge.
8. Carefully \*pull the sheets of Omnisport halfway back across the size of the room, one sheet at a time, until all the sheets are pulled back to expose the subfloor. \*Depending on the length of roll, it may be more appropriate to carefully roll the material back across the room.
9. Re-sweep the back of the Omnisport and the subfloor to ensure that no debris is present that may visually impair the installation and cause premature wear.
10. Apply Tarkett Embond 170 pressure sensitive acrylic adhesive from Tarkett.
11. The adhesive should be applied using an appropriate 'V' notched trowel and should be trowel applied and then flattened with a lambs wool roller in the case of pressure sensitive adhesive (**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 Omnisport 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 Omnisport, as this will ensure that the second half of the sheet is easily pulled back to expose the edge of adhesive.
12. Whilst the adhesive is still wet, trim the Omnisport flush with the skirtings. This can be achieved by using an adjustable trimming tool, which are readily available from Floorcovering Distributors, or if preferred, 'free-handing' the material to the skirtings using a hook knife. Once the Omnisport has been trimmed flush with the skirtings, roll with a 68Kg roller until fully bonded to the subfloor.
13. Now repeat sections 8-11 for the other half of the sheets prior to the adhesive setting on the first half.

**Omnisport can also be installed using the conventional method of scribing with long scribes, but as the product is so flexible, it is as easy to trim as some cushioned vinyl's. If in doubt, use conventional installation fitting techniques.**

14. After a lapse of at least 24 hours, hot weld the Omnisport using Omnisport weld rod at a temperature of between 250-300°C when fitted with a Tarkett speed-weld nozzle.

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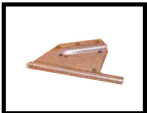
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## WELDING OMNISPORT

1. Allow at least 24 hours to lapse prior to hot welding with the Omnisport welding rod.
2. Groove seams using a Tarkett Seam Groover (1258027) & Blade (1258028), "P" type grooving tool or an automatic seam router.



3. **Do not groove the Omnisport deeper than the solid vinyl wear layer. i.e.: do not groove into the foam backing.**
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 speed-weld nozzle, item - 1258012.



6. Using a Leister hot air welding gun fitted with the speed-weld nozzle, this will require the setting to be approx. 5-6. 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 Omnisport prior to welding the main area. The responsibility to ensuring that the floorcovering is not burned or singed and is watertight, is the installers, as all welding gun temperatures vary. The above temperature settings are for guidance only.**
8. Weld at approximately 2m a minute.
9. Preferably 2 people welding. One operative welding at least 3m ahead of the other prior to the second person trimming the cable 1mm proud of the Omnisport 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 to the surface of the Omnisport using the spatula knife only.

## VARIOUS TYPES OF SKIRTING

### Sit-on coving

This type of coving should not be used when watertight joints 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 2.57m and is normally 6 cm in height and protrudes 1.0–1.5cm 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 joint is required. Wooden ventilated skirting is also available (specific details can be supplied on request).

