# Installation instructions

Jan 2011

#### **IMPORTANT!**

- Make sure all specifications and instructions are followed carefully.
- Contact your Tarkett representative if you are unsure about any part of the installation.
- This information is subject to change due to continuous improvement.
- Use the same batch number for each continuous surface (if material from several boxes is used, they should have the same manufacturing serial number and be used in consecutive order).
- Store the boxes in small neat piles (max. 5 boxes high).
- Let the flooring acclimatise for a while before laying.
- The subfloor must be flat, level, clean, without marks (no felt pen, marker, etc.), sound, dry, solid, hard, smooth and not exposed to moisture. Absorbency must be checked.
- Use only adhesives recommended by Tarkett. Always follow the adhesive manufacturer's instructions.
- The work must be completed with an inspection: ensure that the newly laid floor is free from adhesive residues.

#### **SUBFLOOR**

The subfloor must be level, flat, clean, free from marks (no felt pen, marker of any type, ballpoint pens, paint, etc., that could cause discoloration due to migration) sound, dry, solid, hard, smooth (the absorbency must be checked) and not exposed to moisture.

The preparation/dryness of the subfloor and installation procedures should all be in accordance with the current relevant Standard within the country of use. The dryness of a solid subfloor should be below the maximum moisture level permitted when tested in accordance with that Standard.

E.g. in the UK, the relative humidity of concrete surfaces must be below 75%, and less than 2% with the CCM method. In North America, ASTM F-170 recommends a water-to-cement ratio of 0.40 to 0.45.

Before selecting a smoothing compound, check what type of traffic the floorcovering will be subjected to once installed. Latex smoothing compounds are not suitable for areas that will receive heavy traffic, especially heavy, narrow wheeled traffic (see EN 12529, Castors and wheels). Check levelling compound compatibility, and follow the instructions of the levelling compound manufacturer.

Note: exclusion of liability (adhesives, levelling compounds, etc.)

Although Tarkett may list a selection of adhesive, levelling compound and surface damp-proof membrane manufacturers and types, we do not guarantee the products listed. The list of products and manufacturers is not guaranteed complete or current.

Tarkett will accept no liability for any of these products failing to perform in conjunction with any of its 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.

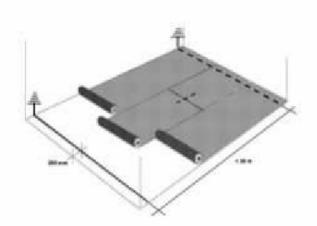


#### **EARTH CONNECTION**

The earth connection is achieved with copper strips.

### Earth connection sheets

- Sheets 10 20 metres: A copper strip is placed crossways under the sheets, approx. 200 mm from the short ends. A 100 cm copper strip is placed lengthways under transverse joints.
- **Sheets** < **10 metres:** Use the copper strip at only one of the short ends.
- Sheets > 20 metres: Apply copper strips crossways at the short ends and at every 20 metres. A 100 cm copper strip is placed lengthways under transverse joints.



### Earth connections tiles

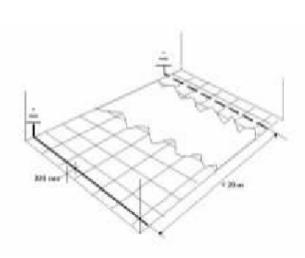
The earth connection can be achieved in two main ways:

1. The tiles are connected to earth using a system of conductive adhesive and underlying copper strips.

The earth connection is achieved using copper strips across the shorter dimension of the room, every 20 m, and connected to earth. See figure below.

Tiles and copper strips are bonded to the subfloor using a highquality conductive adhesive with permanent conductive properties.

2. When installing on access flooring systems, a separate earth connection is not normally required, as this is achieved by the adhesive and the metal construction. Consult the manufacturer of the access flooring system for advice on conductivity.



Most commonly, the copper strip will be connected to the normal electrical earthing network of the building. In highly ESD-sensitive areas, the copper strips will be connected to a separate earthing system provided by the end user. The earthing must always comply with local electrical and building codes and regulations.

## INSTALLING FLOORCOVERING

- On top of the copper strips apply a **high-quality conductive adhesive** (recommended by Tarkett) with permanent conductive properties, using a brush.
- The sheets/tiles are then fully adhered using a high-quality acrylic-based flooring adhesive. See the manufacturer's instructions regarding coverage, open time, etc.
- Assembly late in the pressure-sensitive stage reduces the strength of the bond and can cause the lines of adhesive to show through to the surface of the flooring.
- Note: Solvent-based chloroprene contact adhesive must not be used as it can cause discoloration. The assembly time depends on the type of substrate, its absorbency, the temperature and air humidity in the premises. See the adhesive manufacturer's instructions regarding coverage, open time, etc.

- Sheets must be installed so that colour differences are avoided. Reverse sheets whenever possible.
- Ensure that the floorcovering makes good contact with the adhesive and that all air is expelled. Make sure that the tool used for rubbing down the floor covering does not scratch the surface. A broom is not suitable for this purpose. Use a rubbing board. If possible, use a floor roller (min. 75 kg) and roll crosswise over the floor.

**Caution:** always be careful when cutting, making grooves, etc., that the conductive strips are not damaged, to ensure that all sections of the surface are connected to earth after installation.

- The sheets are hot welded. The joints are chamfered or grooved to about 3/4 of the thickness using a hand grooving tool or machine before welding.