Installation Instructions

Homogeneous Vinyl Sheet with TRUESHIELD™

Quick Reference Guide

Types of subfloors:	Concrete – timber
Installation system:	Full spread, heat-welded seams
Adhesives:	Armstrong SV-200 or recommended by the adhesive manufacturer
Trowel size:	1.5mm deep, 1.5mm wide, 2.5mm apart (S-891 notched steel trowel)
Special precautions:	Do not roll material face in
Recommendations:	Allow to acclimatise to room temperature (18°C) Roll entire floor area with 45kg roller. Do not allow heavy rolling loads for at least 24 hours after installation
Weld rod:	Use matching weld rod

Initial Protection

Armstrong highly recommends the installed floorcovering be protected from construction site debris, dirt, soil, traffic and stains, all of which can damage the unprotected flooring. Do not tape protection to the surface. Responsibility for the protection of the finished work until handed over to the client should be arranged prior to installation.

As with all urethane-coated products, some coverings could cause the urethane to cloud in the presence of moisture.

To The Installer

Please note that if material has been cut, fitted, or installed, NO ADJUSTMENTS or CLAIMS (if any) will be considered due to the failure to comply with any of the following. Before cutting and installing Armstrong floorcoverings make sure that you:

1. Check for obvious manufacturing defects in good daylight conditions
2. Check that the material is the correct color, pattern and quantity ordered by the customer
3. Material should be allowed to acclimatise to job climatic conditions for 24 hours at 18°C. Never install the material if the temperature in the room is less than 15°C
4. Use only Armstrong recommended adhesive specifically formulated for Armstrong product
5. All rolls of Armstrong products are marked with a 'batch number'. When using more than one roll make sure the rolls have the same 'batch number' when used side by side or same room area
6. After loosely laying the first two strips, before adhering, step back and inspect the overall effect. If acceptable, then go ahead and adhere, but if there seems to be a problem or doubt of any kind then stop immediately and call the distributor or Armstrong Customer Service Centre
7. Do not cut or install any damaged or defective material unless accepted, agreed and approved by all parties concerned

Subfloors

The condition of the subfloor not only has an important bearing on the appearance of the finished installation, but can dramatically affect the life and serviceability of the floorcovering. It is essential, therefore, that the subfloor be dry, hard, rigid, smooth, level, clean and free of dust and grease.

Concrete Subfloors

Concrete subfloors must be cured and completely dry. The surface must be steel trowelled to a smooth dense surface free of trowel marks, irregularities, as per local government standard.

Concrete slabs shall meet local government standard and not exceed 75% relative humidity.

Concrete slabs in contact with fill, hardcore or the ground must have a damp-proof membrane to prevent entry of moisture. Water proofing additives and curing compounds do not replace the damp-proof membrane. New slabs should dry for at least one month per 25mm thickness.

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Care must be taken to ensure that the surface of the concrete is free of parting of curing compounds, oil, grease, paint, dust and any other substances, which may prevent the adhesive from forming a secure bond. The surface of the concrete must be smooth and level, completely free of cracks, holes and protrusions.

If the surface is not satisfactory it should be repaired and levelled with a cementitous underlay, applied according to manufacturers recommendations.

When curing compounds, hardeners, sealers, or parting compounds have been used, they have to be completely removed by sanding, sandblasting or grinding prior to the installation of materials as this will impair the bond of the adhesive. *A MOISTURE TEST SHOULD ALWAYS BE CARRIED OUT PRIOR TO INSTALLATION.*

Heated Subfloor

Flooring material can be installed over heated subfloors. However, it is imperative that the temperature at the surface of the slab does not exceed 28°C. Prior to the installation, heating should be turned on for a number of days to remove all traces of residual dampness that may be present in the subfloor. The heating should be turned off 48 hours prior to and during the installation and should not be turned on until 48 hours after the installation is completed, in order to allow the adhesive to set.

Timber Subfloor

All timber subfloors must have at least 450mm of good cross ventilation under the floor to prevent distortion and movement of flooring members as well as excessive movement of underlay. New timber subfloors should be rigid, sound and constructed of seasoned timber and free from excessive cupping and warping.

Old timber subfloors should have all loose boards re-nailed and badly worn or damaged boards must be replaced. If necessary, sand the floor to a level finish without undulations. Overlay subfloor with hardboard or approved fibrous cement vinyl flooring underlayment. The underlay sheets must be fastened at 75mm intervals around all sides, 10mm from edges, and at 100mm to 150mm intervals throughout the body of the board.

The sheet shall be fastened by 25mm x 2mm ring-grooved nails, or 22mm chisel point staples for hardwood subfloors and divergent point staples for softwood subfloors. Hardboard must be laid smooth side up and all joints should be staggered. All joints and any raised edges of the underlay shall be sanded smooth and level. The sanded areas must be sealed prior to the installation of the floorcovering as recommended by the manufacturer.

Underlay must be installed over structural particleboard using the adhesive and nailing fixing system specified by the underlay manufacturer.

Existing Resilient Floors

Armstrong recommends the removal of existing resilient floors. If this is not practical, adequate care should be taken to ensure the existing resilient floor is to an acceptable standard to receive new floorcoverings.

The existing resilient floor must be smooth (not textured, or embossed, enough to show through the final installation), completed and firmly bonded and properly installed on recommended subfloors. Existing resilient floor must not be cushioned, and must have no evidence of moisture, alkaline salts or hydrostatic pressure. Polish and other finishes should be removed from existing floorcovering by thorough stripping. Indentations and damaged areas should be replaced or repaired.

Installation over existing resilient floors reduces resistance to indentations.

ADDITIONAL OPEN TIME OF FLOORING ADHESIVE MAY BE REQUIRED TO REDUCE ENTRAPMENT OF AIR UNDER FLOORING MATERIAL WHEN LAYING OVER EXISTING RESILIENT FLOORS.

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Expansion Joints

Armstrong does not recommend that resilient floorcoverings be installed across expansion joints. Various expansion joint covers are available and should be specified by the architect or agreed between the contractor and the purchaser.

Job Conditions

Job conditions should be as outlined in the instructions of local government standard.

Temperatures in areas to be covered should be maintained at a minimum 18°C for 48 hours prior to, during and after installation. Please note that cold subfloors have considerable influence on the open time of flooring adhesive.

SEAMING INSTRUCTIONS HEAT WELD

- All factory edges should be removed, using the Armstrong S-33 edge trimmer during installation, or cutting 20mm from factory edge
- Scribe seams using Armstrong S-83 Recess Scriber set to provide a gap of 0.5mm – 1.0mm. Cut on scribe line and roll cut edge into adhesive using hand roller. Roll entire floor using 45kg roller.
- Heat welding should only be done when adhesive is completely cured (24 hours).
- Rout or groove the seam in a "V or "U" shape to a minimum of ¾ of the material depth using a grooving machine or hand groover with a sharp blade against a straight edge, so that both sides of the seam are grooved equally and uniformly.
- For best results and to reduce damage to the surface use an Armstrong S-65 speed nozzle.
- Set temperature setting on the hot air welder, fitted with an S-65 speed nozzle, to deliver enough heat to fuse weld rod to sheet. Amperage of electrical supply, length of extension cord and wire size will affect the temperature setting. As a guide, a Leister weld gun fitted with an S-65 speed nozzle should be set to heat setting of around 7. Practice on a piece of scrap material until correct setting is achieved.
- Insert weld rod into the S-65 speed nozzle and immediately insert the rod into the groove.
- Hold the gun at the proper angle so that the tip of the S-65 speed nozzle is parallel with the material. A good weld will result when the rod just starts to flair, and no more, on each side of the seam. If the rod flairs excessively you are going too slow, the Armstrong weld rod should ultimately fall apart before scorching the material if the heat setting is correct.
- To change directions in welding, shave off excess welding rod and groove the end of the rod for approximately 20mm. Start welding from the opposite direction and continue welding until you overlap the initial grooved weld rod and continue for another 20mm before lifting weld off.
- Allow weld rod to completely cool before skiving (trimming).
- Once weld rod is cooled off, skive off in two passes. The first pass using a quarter moon (spatula) knife with a trim plate. The second pass should be flush with the material. Too much weld rod flair or an uneven seam will result in the top surface of the material being removed exposing the material backing.

For further Armstrong information:

www.armstrong.com
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