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installation guidance

Altro smooth flooring - sheet

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Storage

Altro smooth flooring should be laid in accordance with the Code of Practice BS 8203:2001+A1:2009. The material should be stored for approximately 24 hours at a room temperature of not below 18°C. When laying, the area should be at a steady temperature of between 18°C and 27°C for at least 48 hours prior to, during and for at least 24 hours after completion.

Ensure that the material used in any one area is from the same manufacturing batch.

The material should be checked for any possible faults prior to laying and should be conditioned before adhering to the subfloor for a minimum of 4 hours. Sheet material should be cut into lengths and laid loose for conditioning. If the sheets are going to be cut in before adhering them to the subfloor, they should be back rolled to eliminate any possible shrinkage before commencing the fitting.

Claims against warranty for colour, batch or obvious material defects will only be considered if the flooring has not yet been permanently bonded.

Subfloor

The subfloor must conform with the requirements of BS 8203:2001+A1:2009.

Adhesive

For the correct choice of AltroFix™ adhesive, refer to the Altro adhesives data sheets. Excess adhesive should be removed with a cloth with a neutral detergent in the case of acrylic adhesive or with alcohol for two component adhesives. Removal of excess adhesive should be done as work progresses and whilst the adhesive is still wet.

Laying sheet

Altro smooth sheet material can be straight laid or used in conjunction with “sit on” or “set in” skirtings. The materials can also be self-coved. Refer to the Altro detail diagram sheet of the appropriate finishes or the Altro safety flooring installations guidance sheet for self-coving.

Once the material has been conditioned, the joints can either be cut in before or after applying the adhesive. This will depend upon the preference of the flooring installer, however, it should be borne in mind that in large installations if the joints and / or the perimeter has been cut in, any movement of the sheet whilst placing it into the adhesive will create a problem.

Turn the material back and apply the adhesive to the subfloor in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

After the specified open time, which can depend upon the subfloor, place the floorcovering back into the adhesive pushing out any air bubbles. Remove any excess adhesive immediately and depending upon the adhesive used (refer to Altro's adhesives data sheets) roll the whole area with a floor roller both width ways and length ways. All joints within the sheet should be overlapped before cutting in, grooving and hot welding.

Welding

It is recommended that all Altro smooth sheets be hot welded.

The welding should be carried out at least 24 hours after laying to give the adhesive time to harden so that the heat from the welding gun will not draw up the adhesive onto the grooved joints. All joints must be grooved and hot welded using the matching colour Altro Weldrod™ in the approved manner.

The grooves should be approximately 3/4 in depth of the flooring. The welding rod should be trimmed using a spatula equipped with guide blade. This will remove approximately 3/4 of the welding rod above the surface of the floor. After the welding rod has completely cooled, remove the guide blade from the spatula and trim the remaining exposed welding rod flush with the surface of the flooring.

Protection and maintenance

Altro smooth surfaces should be covered and protected from all other trades with a suitable non-staining protective covering.

For maintenance of Altro smooth surfaces refer to the Altro smooth flooring recommended cleaning methods.

For further information or technical advice

tel: 01462 707604 fax: 01462 707515

email: enquiries@altro.com or explore www.altro.com