

ESD CONTROL VINYL TILE INSTALLATION AND MAINTENANCE INSTRUCTIONS



CONDUCTILE®
Static Conductive Vinyl Tile



STATMATE™
Static Dissipative Vinyl Tile



NOTICE TO INSTALLER

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS IMPORTANT INSTALLATION AND MAINTENANCE INFORMATION, AS WELL AS CAUTIONS AND WARNINGS. PLEASE MAKE CERTAIN THESE INSTRUCTIONS ARE PLACED IN THE HANDS OF THE FLOOR OWNER. OUR WARRANTY WILL BECOME EFFECTIVE ONLY IF THESE INSTRUCTIONS ARE FOLLOWED IN EVERY RESPECT. IN SITUATIONS WHEN A WARRANTY CLAIM IS DEEMED VALID BY VPI, VPI'S LIMITED WARRANTY LIMITS VPI'S LIABILITY TO REPAIR, REPLACEMENT, CREDIT OR OTHER, AT VPI'S OPTION, ON VPI FLOOR PRODUCTS FOR WHICH A CLAIM HAS BEEN MADE ACCORDING TO VPI'S CLAIM PROCEDURE. CLAIMS FOR SURFACE DEFECTS OR VARIATIONS IN COLOR OR PATTERN MUST BE MADE TO VPI PRIOR TO INSTALLATION OF THE MATERIAL. FOR A COMPLETE STATEMENT OF VPI'S EXCLUSIVE WARRANTY, CONTACT: VPI, CUSTOMER SERVICE, P.O. BOX 451, SHEBOYGAN, WI 53082-0451.

PREPARATION OF SUBFLOOR

SUB-FLOOR PREPARATION:

It is essential that moisture tests be performed on all concrete sub-floors regardless of grade level or whether or not the concrete is freshly poured or is classified as an older slab. (It is also important that pH levels should also never be above 7). Moisture testing should be performed by ASTM F-1869 Calcium Chloride Test with moisture levels not to exceed five (5) pounds per twenty-four (24) hours per one thousand (1000) square feet or ASTM F-2170 in Situ Relative Humidity Test with moisture levels, relative humidity, when measured by this method, not to exceed seventy-five (75) percent. If the test results exceed the limitations, the installation **should not** proceed until the problem has been corrected. **Adhesive Bond Test:** In addition to and not in lieu of moisture test perform the Adhesive Bond Test. In several locations throughout the area to receive the flooring, glue down 3' x 3' area of the flooring with the adhesive. Allow to set for 72 hours. A sufficient amount of force should be required to remove the flooring. **PLEASE NOTE THAT NO WARRANTY CLAIMS WILL BE CONSIDERED WITHOUT SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION INDICATING THAT SUB-FLOOR PREPARATION WAS UNDERTAKEN PER THE ABOVE**

Additional information with regard to sub-floor installation and requirements can be found in ASTM F-710.

CONCRETE, TERRAZZO, CERAMIC

Subfloors must be structurally sound, dry, clean, and free of dirt, dust, wax, grease, paint, polish, oil, curing compounds, sealers, and all other materials that would interfere with good bonding action. Floor surface must be smooth and flat with a maximum variation of 1/8" in 10 feet. All cracks, depressions, and other imperfections must be repaired with a high quality, cementitious underlayment. Gypsum-based underlayment products should **NOT** be used. Any uncorrected subfloor irregularities may telegraph through the VPI flooring and be visible on the surface of the finished installation.

VPI recommends that new concrete slabs on or below grade be poured over a permanent moisture barrier consisting of a minimum six mil polyethylene film. Any concrete in contact with earth or with less than 18" of cross-ventilated air space under it is considered to be on grade.

New concrete must be properly cured. A drying time of one month per inch of concrete is generally required after slab is poured and protected from the weather. Lightweight aggregate concrete floors, floors with steel or plastic pan construction, and floors poured over a permanent moisture barrier usually require an extended drying time. If lightweight aggregate concrete weighs less than 90 pounds per cubic foot, a topping of regular concrete at least one inch thick is required. To expedite drying time, adequate heat and ventilation should be provided.

VPI's warranty does not cover failure due to moisture emission from Subfloor. Concrete subfloors should be tested for the presence of excessive moisture or alkalis. RH test levels should not exceed a limit of 75%. MVER testing levels should not exceed a limit of 5 lbs. Do not install tile if either limit is exceeded or if there is any risk of Hydrostatic pressure.

If concrete surface is exceptionally smooth, it should be acid etched with a 15% solution of muriatic acid/water before installing flooring. Neutralize concrete after etching by rinsing with clear water to which a few ounces of ammonia has been added.

Terrazzo floors may have a sealer or film on the surface. This **must** be removed before proceeding with the installation.

Ceramic tile must be solidly adhered. Any loose tile **must** be removed. Clean existing ceramic tile using muriatic acid/water as directed above. After floor has dried, apply a thin rich coat of Portland cement underlayment with a

liquid latex binder to achieve a smooth surface.

Tile may be installed on radiant-heated floors, provided surface temperature does not exceed 75° F.

WOOD FLOORS

Tile may be installed over existing sound, suspended plywood floors of double construction. Do not install directly over wood strip or plant subfloors. Prepare such floors as follows:

1. Subfloor must be solid, well-nailed at joints and free from spring. Missing or unsound boards must be replaced.
2. Install 1/4" underlayment grade or exterior grade plywood or 1/4" underlayment grade hardboard. If floor boards are badly warped, use thicker plywood.
3. Fill all holes, cracks, and seams with wood putty or equivalent filler. Sand all patched areas and uneven joints. Any irregularities allowed to remain may telegraph through the tile and be visible on the surface of the new installation. **NOTE: WOOD EXPANSION OR CONTRACTION WILL CAUSE GAPPING RIDGES AND/OR POSSIBLE LOSS OF ADHESION.**

RESILIENT FLOORING

Do not install tile over any resilient floor covering on or below grade. Remove old floor covering and sand off all adhesive.

Whenever possible, remove old floor covering and sand off all old adhesive. If specific job conditions necessitate installation of tile over resilient floor covering, use the following procedures:

1. Floor covering must be sound and adhered tightly to the floor. Remove any loose or broken areas and replace them either with sound material or with a Portland cement underlayment with a liquid latex binder, which should also be used to level any floor irregularities and to fill in any open seams.
2. Thoroughly sand surface with very rough sandpaper, using an edge sander next to walls and in spots that the regular sander may have skipped. Completely remove all old sealers and waxes to ensure a proper bond.
3. Thoroughly sweep, vacuum, or damp mop floor to remove all dust and grit. Any texture or embossing in the original installation may telegraph through the VPI tile and be visible on the surface of the new installation.

WARNING:

Various government agencies have regulations governing the handling, removal, and disposal of asbestos containing materials. If you intend to sand, remove, or dispose of an existing resilient floor covering, backing, lining felt, or adhesive you should be aware that these products may contain asbestos fibers. Sanding, removal, and disposal of asbestos containing material can place fine particles of asbestos in the air. It has been determined that the inhalation of free airborne asbestos fibers may be injurious to your health. Fines may be assessed against persons violating these regulations. **NOTE: VPI resilient floor coverings and adhesives have never contained asbestos.**

METAL DECKS

Metal decking must be smooth, dry, clean, and free from dust, paint, asphalt, old adhesives, grease, oil, rust, and other extraneous material. Level all surface irregularities with a Portland cement/liquid latex underlayment. Lightly sand the surface for better adhesion.

INSTALLATION OF TILE, cont.

WORK BENCHES

Tile can be applied to either wood or metal work bench surfaces. The bench surface must be smooth, dry, clean, and free from paint, oil, grease, and other extraneous material. Metal surfaces should be lightly sanded for better adhesion.

Install tile in general accordance with instructions under INSTALLATION OF TILE. Prepare only as much #150 Conductive Epoxy Adhesive as can be used in 1 hour, mixing equal parts of A and B in a clean, separate container (See instructions on can label). Use a hand roller.

Alternately, #165 Conductive Acrylic adhesive may also be used. Follow instructions on label. Use a hand roller.

MULTI-COLOR FLOOR INSTALLATIONS

When installing "checkerboard" patterns, increased levels of tile trimming and installation time may be needed to assure that all the seams line up.

ADHESIVE TYPE:

VPI # 150 two part conductive epoxy is approved for all types of subfloors listed in these instructions. Must be used in areas of high traffic and/or load. VPI # 165 one part conductive acrylic adhesive is approved for work benches, wood subfloors, and concrete subfloors as listed in these instructions, above grade only. Must not be used in areas of high traffic and/or load.

CONVENTIONAL INSTALLATION (ALL SIZES) - #150 TWO PART CONDUCTIVE EPOXY

Install VPI Static Control Flooring in accordance with the following procedures:

SUB-FLOOR PREPARATION:

It is essential that moisture tests be performed on all concrete sub-floors regardless of grade level or whether or not the concrete is freshly poured or is classified as an older slab. (It is also important that pH levels should also never be above 10). Moisture testing should be performed by ASTM F-1869 Calcium Chloride Test with moisture levels not to exceed five (5) pounds per twenty-four (24) hours per one thousand (1000) square feet or ASTM F-2170 in Situ Relative Humidity Test with moisture levels, relative humidity, when measured by this method, not to exceed seventy-five (75) percent. If the test results exceed the limitations, the installation **should not** proceed until the problem has been corrected. **Adhesive Bond Test:** In addition to and not in lieu of moisture test perform the Adhesive Bond Test. In several locations throughout the area to receive the flooring, glue down 3' x 3' area of the flooring with the adhesive. Allow to set for 72 hours. A sufficient amount of force should be required to remove the flooring.

PLEASE NOTE THAT NO WARRANTY CLAIMS WILL BE CONSIDERED WITHOUT SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION INDICATING THAT SUB-FLOOR PREPARATION WAS UNDERTAKEN PER THE ABOVE.

- 1. IMPORTANT!** VPI # 150 Conductive Epoxy Adhesive is an integral component of the VPI ESD Control system. Use of non-VPI conductive adhesive will void VPI's Limited Warranty. VPI #150 adhesive coverage is approximately 135 sq. ft. per unit. Consult instructions for proper subfloor preparation **before** mixing adhesive. If installation is to be flash coved, follow special instructions under FLASH COVING.
- Flooring materials and adhesive must be acclimatized to the installation area for a minimum of 24 hours prior to installation. The areas to receive flooring should be fully enclosed, weather tight, with the permanent HVAC system set and maintained at a minimum temperature of 65°F for 48 hours prior to, during and after the installation.
NOTE: Open time and cure times will be longer at lower temperatures, and will shorten at higher temperatures. Ensure that the installation is well lit to allow effective examination of tile and installation. If you have not worked with epoxy adhesives before, you will find that unlike other flooring adhesive, epoxies do not have nor do they develop tackiness as they set up. This makes it extremely important to roll the floor as recommended to avoid raised edges.
- Each production run of tile is assigned a lot number which appears on the carton label. **CHECK LOT NUMBERS BEFORE INSTALLING TILE.** Whenever possible, install material from the same lot number in a given room or area. When this is not possible, it is advisable to isolate different lot numbers to separate areas.
- Because few rooms are perfect rectangles and the tile must be laid within a perfect rectangle, it is necessary to strike chalk lines at right angles to each other against which the tile can be laid.
- Use mixing paddle provided or a mixing paddle on an electric drill to carefully stir Part A and Part B separately until homogenous. Pour Part

B into Part A. Be sure to remove as much of Part B as possible by scraping sides and bottom of container with appropriate paddle provided.
NOTE: Adhesive should not be poured onto the floor until parts A and B have been completely mixed together. Any unmixed portion applied to the subfloor will not cure properly and both adhesion and conductivity will be affected.

Mix the combined parts A and B using a slow speed drill (200 RPM) and mixing paddle. **MIX FOR A MINIMUM OF 4 MINUTES.** DO NOT mix at higher speed. This could cause adhesive to start the curing process and shorten the open time. **NOTE:** Extended mixing (10 minutes or more) may adversely affect adhesive conductivity. Be sure to mix the entire contents of the can.

CAUTION: ADHESIVE WILL NOT CURE THOROUGHLY IF NOT PROPERLY MIXED.

- After complete mixing, **IMMEDIATELY** pour all the adhesive on the subfloor and spread as soon as possible. **DO NOT** allow the mixed adhesive to remain in the container.
NOTE: Only use 1/16" x 1/16" x 1/16" square notch trowel.
- Spread adhesive, in 3 foot wide sections, as close to, but not over your chalk line. Any adhesive over the edge of the line must be scraped up before the next row of tile is installed to avoid high edges. **Eliminate excessive adhesive, which can cause oozing and staining at the seams, by raking down the adhesive in parallel rows with the trowel.**

Install the tile immediately into the raked adhesive. **NOTE:** Adhesive will appear glossy when first spread and will dull as it sets up. **DO NOT allow the adhesive to set up before installing tile. Do not spread more adhesive than tile can be installed into and rolled prior to the adhesive setting (about 30 minutes).**
- WORK FROM OFF THE TILE WHENEVER POSSIBLE.** When laying individual tile, do not slide tile into place. The correct procedure is to place a corner of the tile in place next to the adjoining tile, carefully guide it into proper position, and set it in place. When necessary to work on the tile, avoid shifting by using a kneeling board and by cutting tile to butt tightly at all wall junctions.
- A grounding connection is achieved by imbedding the provided copper strip directly in the adhesive and extending about 12" beyond the tile perimeter at a position nearest the desired ground point. (See GROUNDING)
- A good solid transfer of the adhesive to the tile is absolutely necessary to obtain the proper conductivity. Roll and cross roll tile with 150 lb. sectional roller immediately after tile is laid. Roll a second time one hour later. Inspect the floor for raised edges after second rolling and if necessary, roll a third time. Use hand roller in areas which cannot be reached with large roller. After rolling, pull up a tile - at least 85% of the back should be covered with adhesive to ensure proper adhesion and electrical performance. Note: if only a 100 lb. roller is available, tie a carton of tile to the roller to bring the weight up to 150 lbs.
- IMPORTANT! ANY ADHESIVE AT SEAMS OF TILE OR ON TILE MUST BE REMOVED WHILE ADHESIVE IS STILL WET.** Remove uncured adhesive by blotting with alcohol or mineral spirits. Do not smear adhesive. Use Original Soft Scrub® (paste) to remove remaining stains of wet or cured adhesive. During initial maintenance, dry buff these areas with a red pad on a low speed buffer to restore the factory finish.
- Avoid exposure of the tile to excessive heat, such as direct sunlight, until adhesive has completely set.
- Avoid traffic over the finished floor for at least 48 hours after installation.

CONVENTIONAL INSTALLATION (ALL SIZES) #165 CONDUCTIVE ONE PART ACRYLIC ADHESIVE.

Install VPI Static Control Flooring in accordance with the following procedures:

IMPORTANT! VPI # 165 Acrylic Conductive Floor Adhesive is a premium adhesive, designed to permanently install Conductile® and Statmate® Static Control Flooring only. This acrylic adhesive has been formulated so that it contains no solvents, emitting "0" VOC's.

SUB-FLOOR PREPARATION:

It is essential that moisture tests be performed on all concrete sub-floors regardless of grade level or whether or not the concrete is freshly poured or is classified as an older slab. (It is also important that pH levels should

INSTALLATION OF TILE, cont.

also never be above 10). Moisture testing should be performed by ASTM F-1869 Calcium Chloride Test with moisture levels not to exceed five (5) pounds per twenty-four (24) hours per one thousand (1000) square feet or ASTM F-2170 in Situ Relative Humidity Test with moisture levels, relative humidity, when measured by this method, not to exceed seventy-five (75) percent. If the test results exceed the limitations, the installation **should not** proceed until the problem has been corrected. **Adhesive Bond Test:** In addition to and not in lieu of moisture test perform the Adhesive Bond Test. In several locations throughout the area to receive the flooring, glue down 3' x 3' area of the flooring with the adhesive. Allow to set for 72 hours. A sufficient amount of force should be required to remove the flooring.

PLEASE NOTE THAT NO WARRANTY CLAIMS WILL BE CONSIDERED WITHOUT SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION INDICATING THAT SUB-FLOOR PREPARATION WAS UNDERTAKEN PER THE ABOVE.

Additional information with regard to sub-floor installation and requirements can be found in ASTM F-710.

DIRECTIONS:

1. Flooring materials and adhesive must be acclimatized to the installation area for a minimum of 24 hours prior to installation. The areas to receive flooring should be fully enclosed, weather tight, with the permanent HVAC system set and maintained at a minimum temperature of 65°F for 48 hours prior to, during and after the installation.
2. All subfloors must be clean, dry, free of dust, dirt, wax, paint, grease or any other contaminants that might interfere with the adhesive bond.
3. Cracks and uneven surfaces must be filled with an approved cementitious patching compound.
4. Use a 1/16" x 1/16" x 1/16" square notch trowel to apply adhesive to sub-floor. Replace worn trowels to ensure proper spread rate. **DO NOT RE-NOTCH.**
5. **POROUS APPLICATIONS:** Once troweled, the adhesive should be allowed to remain open (flash-off) for approximately 5-10 minutes before placement of the flooring material.
6. **NON-POROUS APPLICATIONS:** Allow the adhesive to dry to the touch so that there is little or no transfer of adhesive to the finger.
7. **7. GROUNDING:** The ESD floor must be grounded once every 2,500 square feet or each area if less than 2,500. The ground strip should be placed in the wet adhesive and have additional adhesive troweled over it prior to placing the tile in the adhesive. The ground strip is then mechanically attached to the approved ground point. (See following for more detail on grounding).
8. From the time the adhesive is allowed to dry to the touch, to the time it must be covered is approximately 45 minutes.
9. If the adhesive is allowed to remain uncovered, after initially drying to the touch, for periods longer than the recommended 45 minutes, a loss in adhesion strength will result. Care must be taken by the installer not to spread more adhesive than can be worked appropriately within the 45 minute time frame.
10. Installation of these products on porous sub-floors utilizing a wet application of adhesive is **NOT RECOMMENDED OR WARRANTED.**
11. Utilizing a 150 lb three section flooring roller, roll and cross roll the tile immediately after it has been installed, then repeat approximately 1 hour later. Use a hand roller in those areas that cannot be reached by the larger roller.

COVERAGE: 1/16" x 1/16" x 1/16" square notch trowel - Approximately 150 sq. feet/gallon.

CLEAN UP: Soapy water followed by mineral spirits.

DO NOT APPLY SOLVENT DIRECTLY TO FLOORING MATERIAL.

OPEN TIME: Up to 45 minutes (once dry to the touch) depending upon sub-floor porosity, temperature and humidity conditions and ventilation.

SEAMLESS INSTALLATION

Conductile and Statmate are available in 36" x 36" or 24" x 24" sections, square edge or pre-grooved, for seamless installations. The 36" x 36" or 24" x 24" sections are installed in essentially the same manner as described under CONVENTIONAL INSTALLATION using VPI #150 Conductive Epoxy Adhesive and specified trowel or VPI #165 Conductive Adhesive and specified trowel. Special procedures are required as follows:

SQUARE EDGE SECTIONS

1. Remove tile from carton and store flat in stacks (not to exceed 6" in height) at a temperature of at least 70° F. for 48 hours prior to installation. This allows tile to adjust to room temperature. Tile will then lay flat and conform to the contour of the subfloor when installed.
2. Lay out field so that the last section ends at least 6" from the wall to allow space for use of router and hot air welding tool around the room perimeter.
3. Install the field, making sure to install copper grounding strip at the designated ground connections (See GROUNDING). Make sure that the tile is rolled and cross rolled with the proper sectional roller (see Roller on page 2). Allow the adhesive to set up overnight.
4. Dry cut all cove pieces to fit as described under FLASH COVING, and install them. Roll thoroughly with a hand roller.
5. Using a scrap piece of tile, set the router so that the blade cuts a groove to a depth of approximately one half of the thickness of the tile. Rout all field seams in one direction only, being careful to keep the groove centered on the seam as closely as possible. Use chamfering plane to rout cove pieces where the router cannot be operated.
6. Preheat the hot air welding tool. Using the 4mm welding nozzle, weld the bead into the groove. Trial weld a few scrap pieces before starting on the floor so that adjustments in the heat setting may be made if desired. Beginners may find it easier to work with a lower heat. However, with experience, welding will be faster with a higher heat. A lower heat is recommended for correcting mistakes or welding in awkward places. A good weld is achieved when a small amount of melted bead overflows along the edges of the groove.
7. After the weld has cooled, shave off the excess bead with a spatula. If the bead is shaved before it has cooled, it will shrink below the surface of the flooring. Keep the spatula sharp by periodic honing with a fine stone.
8. After welding and trimming all seams in one direction, repeat the routing, welding, and trimming procedures on all seams running in the other direction.
9. While seamless installations are usually flash coved, top set cove base or other treatment may be used at the floor-wall junction. In these instances, use a chamfering plane to finish the groove close to the wall where the router cannot be operated.

PRE-GROOVED SECTIONS

When installing pre-grooved sections, follow the same general installation instructions as for square edge sections. Exceptions to these general instructions are as follows:

1. Take extra care to minimize adhesive seepage at the seams. Any adhesive allowed to remain in the grooves could prevent the vinyl bead and flooring from fusing together properly.
2. After the adhesive has set up overnight, use the chamfering plane to remove all excess adhesive that may have seeped into the grooves.
3. Weld and trim all seams in one direction only.
4. Use the chamfering plane to open each cross seam.
5. Weld and trim all remaining seams.

FLASH COVING

Coving of tile up the wall eliminates accumulations of dirt and bacteria at the floor-wall junction. This procedure can be used with either CONVENTIONAL or SEAMLESS INSTALLATIONS. The following steps are recommended:

1. Install metal inside and outside corners. Then install a suitable cap strip (either metal or plastic) around the entire room. Exercise care so that the tops of the cap strip and metal corners are at the same level. Use either flat headed nails or contact bond adhesive to fasten corners and cap strips.
2. Place a cove strip at floor-wall junction to support tile at the bend. Radius of cove strip should be at least 3/4" and must have same radius as the metal corners.
3. When installing 12" x 12" tile, lay out field so that it ends approximately 6" from the wall. When 24" x 24" or 36" x 36" sections are used, field can

INSTALLATION OF TILE, cont.

be laid out so that the last section ends at any convenient distance in excess of 6" from the wall. The distance from the edge of the field to the cap strip must be less than the width of the cove pieces since variations in floor and wall levels always necessitate cutting the cove pieces so that a tight fit can be achieved.

4. Install field in accordance with procedures listed under either CONVENTIONAL or SEAMLESS INSTALLATION, and allow adhesive to set up overnight before installing cove pieces.
5. Dry cut cove pieces to fit. Remove pieces and apply adhesive to the exposed floor and wall. Install the pieces and roll thoroughly with a hand roller. If # 150 adhesive is used, do as large an area as practical to avoid repeated mixing of adhesive batches.

GROUNDING

Several acceptable methods are used to ground ESD control floors, depending of job conditions and/or personal preference. Two recommended procedures are described:

1. Prior to installation of the static control flooring, the electrical contractor drops a wire (usually a #10 or #12 stranded) inside the wall from any convenient ground bus so that the wire emerges at the floor wall junction. A small hole is either cut into the drywall at this point or chipped out of the concrete floor.
2. If there are exposed steel columns supporting the building, the ground connection may be made directly to the columns. The copper grounding strip is laid flat in the conductive adhesive on the floor allowing several inches to protrude at the junction next to the column. The grounding strip on the floor is covered with additional adhesive and Conductile or Statmate installed over it. A hole is drilled into the steel column an inch or two up from the floor. Tap the hole and secure the grounding strip using a simple machine screw and washer. Make sure all paint and foreign substances have been removed from the column to assure metal contact. Cover the connection with an electrical box.
3. VPI provides sufficient copper strip to allow one ground connection for every 2,000 to 2,500 square feet of installed tile. Copper strip grids under tile are unnecessary since the conductive adhesive acts as a conductive plane beneath the tile.

FINAL INSTALLATION AND MAINTENANCE

FINAL STANDARD INSTALLATION STEPS

Allow at least 48 hours (after the adhesive has set). The floor should then be swept and/or dust mopped to remove any loose dirt. Then dry buff with a low speed buffer.

IMPORTANT: Tile should not be burnished only buffed at an RPM never to exceed 375 using a red pad (3M 5100 or Equal).

Alternatively, a Norton Maroon pad can be used when lighting, environmental conditions and other factors accentuates shading or when other surface conditions exist.

After dry buffing, the floor should again be swept and/or dust mopped, cleaned with a pH neutral cleaner and then rinsed. (A mild abrasive, for example Original Soft Scrub, can also be used to remove heel marks, ground in dirt and dried adhesive stains). If Norton Maroon pad was selected above, finish by dry buffing with a red pad. If the red pad was initially used, no further buffing is necessary.

While VPI ESD tiles do not need any type of floor finish to function properly, the surface uniformity and overall appearance of the tile can be enhanced by using an ESD floor finish. Tech Spray-1720 can be purchased from various local Stratus Tech Spray distribution outlets, or equal. (Tech-Spray can be reached at 806-372-8523)

Caution and Remember: Floors become slippery when wet and care must be taken when walking upon wet floors. Appropriate "Warning" or "Caution" place cards should be used if any traffic is possible while the floor is wet.

TYPICAL MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE

The nature of the maintenance program will depend on the amount or type of traffic and the desired appearance. A typical maintenance schedule for a commercial facility would be similar to the following:

Daily Maintenance

1. Sweep and/or dust mop the entire floor.
2. Wet or damp mop soiled areas with a neutral cleaner.

The copper grounding strip provided by VPI (2" x 24") is intertwined with the stranded copper wire. The connection of grounding strip and copper wire is pushed into the hole and conductive adhesive liberally applied so that the connection is completely buried in the adhesive and the hole is filled to the level of the floor or wall surface. The balance of the grounding strip is then laid flat in conductive adhesive on the floor and covered with additional adhesive. Tile is then installed over the grounding strip.

2. If there are exposed steel columns supporting the building, the ground connection may be made directly to the columns. The copper grounding strip is laid flat in the conductive adhesive on the floor allowing several inches to protrude at the junction next to the column. The grounding strip on the floor is covered with additional adhesive and Conductile or Statmate installed over it. A hole is drilled into the steel column an inch or two up from the floor. Tap the hole and secure the grounding strip using a simple machine screw and washer. Make sure all paint and foreign substances have been removed from the column to assure metal contact. Cover the connection with an electrical box.
3. VPI provides sufficient copper strip to allow one ground connection for every 2,000 to 2,500 square feet of installed tile. Copper strip grids under tile are unnecessary since the conductive adhesive acts as a conductive plane beneath the tile.

Weekly Maintenance

1. Sweep and/or dust mop the entire floor.
2. Wet mop entire floor with a neutral cleaner.
3. Restore traffic lanes.
4. Spray buff scuff and heel mark areas.

Monthly Maintenance

1. Sweep and/or dust mop the entire floor.
2. Machine scrub the entire floor with a neutral cleaner solution.
3. A mild abrasive such as Original Soft Scrub® can be used to remove heel marks and ground-in dirt.
4. Rinse the entire floor with clear water.
5. Dry buff the entire floor with a medium pad.

Yearly Maintenance

1. Sweep and/or dust mop the entire floor.
2. Strip the entire floor with a stripping solution.
3. Rinse the entire floor with a neutral cleaner solution.
4. A mild abrasive such as Soft Scrub® can be used to remove heel marks and ground-in dirt.
5. Rinse the entire floor with clear water.
6. Dry buff the entire floor with a medium pad.

For resolution of maintenance problems not covered in these instructions, contact Customer Service at VPI Corporation in Sheboygan, Wisconsin.

General

Tests show that VPI Static Control Tile resists attack from most acids, strong alkalis, and aliphatic solvents. Strong aromatic solvents will attack the surface, but the effects will be minimal if spills are removed quickly.

Because strong dyes and iodophor germicidal compounds stain quickly, VPI recommends dark colors in areas where these agents are used. The tile may also be stained by some rubber products.

Vinyl is a tough, chemical-resistant and non-absorbent material that does not need a sealer like vinyl composition tile.



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