

## Landing Tile

### NOTICE TO THE 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. VPI'S WARRANTY WILL BECOME EFFECTIVE ONLY IF THESE INSTRUCTIONS ARE FOLLOWED IN EVERY ASPECT. VPI'S EXCLUSIVE WARRANTY LIMITS VPI'S LIABILITY TO REPAIR, REPLACE OR CREDIT, AT VPI'S OPTION, VPI FLOOR PRODUCTS FOR WHICH A CLAIM HAS BEEN MADE ACCORDING TO VPI'S CLAIM PROCEDURE. CLAIMS FOR SURFACE DEFECTS OR VARIATIONS IN COLOR AND VISUALIZATION 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.

Website: [www.vpiflooring.com](http://www.vpiflooring.com)

Please note: In all cases, installations should comply with procedures outlined in ASTM Standards for installation, at a minimum. For procedures specific to VPI products, please refer to the instructions below or check our website, for the most current recommended installation techniques.

### General Setup

VPI Landing Tile and adhesive should be stored on the job site for 48 hours prior to the start of the installation. Remove the tile from the cartons or pallet to ensure the tile are acclimated to the ambient temperature. Ambient and the product temperature should be maintained between 65° F and 85° F during the installation, as well as for 48 hours before and after the installation.

**No VPI warranty covers a tile failure due to moisture emission from sub-floor, sub-floor movement, expansion, contraction or settlement caused by any environmental condition.**

### SUB-FLOOR PREPARATION

Sub-floors must be structurally sound, dry, clean and free of dirt, dust, wax, grease, paint, polishes, oil, curing compounds, sealers and all other materials that would interfere with good tile adhesion. The sub-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 or epoxy leveling compound and or underlayment. Any uncorrected sub-floor irregularities may telegraph through the landing tiles and be visible on the surface of the finished installation.

Additional information regarding the sub-floor installation and requirements can be found in **ASTM F710**.

**NOTE: Gypsum-based underlayment products should not be used.**

**Adhesive Bond Test:** In addition to, and not in lieu of, any relevant moisture tests, perform the Adhesive Bond Test in several locations throughout the area to receive the flooring. Glue down a 3' x 3' area of Landing Tile with the adhesive, roll with a Gundlach Airway #222 hand roller or equivalent, then allow to set for 72 hours. A sufficient amount of force should be required to remove the tile

Bond tests should be done across the recommended open time spectrum so that the optimal working time can be determined. Working times vary depending on substrate, environment and many other factors).

### \*\*IMPORTANT\*\*

**Without dated documents showing pH, RH, calcium chloride and bond test results, no warranty claim will be accepted for consideration.**

### CONCRETE

**Moisture testing:** It is essential that moisture tests be performed on all concrete sub-floors regardless of the grade level or whether or not the concrete is freshly poured or is classified as an older slab. Moisture testing **MUST** be performed by either:

**ASTM F1869:** Moisture Vapor by Calcium Chloride

**ASTM F2170:** Relative Humidity in Concrete Using Probes

Moisture levels, when measured by these methods, are not to exceed requirements below. If the test results exceed the limitations, the installation should not proceed until the problem has been corrected.

### Adhesive Moisture Requirements:

**VPI 503 MVER 6 lbs. maximum, RH 85%**

It is recommended that new concrete slabs on or below grade should be treated with a permanent moisture barrier such as 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.



## **SUB-FLOOR PREPARATION** **CONCRETE(cont)**

New concrete must be properly cured. A drying time of one month per inch of concrete is generally required after a slab is poured and protected from the weather. Lightweight aggregate concrete floors, and 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.

**Alkalinity (pH) Test:** To determine the pH of the concrete surface, use wide range pH paper, its associated pH chart, and distilled or deionized water. Place several drops of water on a clean surface of concrete, forming a puddle of approximately 1" diameter. Allow the puddle to set for 1 minute, then dip the pH paper into the water. Remove immediately, and compare to chart to determine pH reading.

Additional information with regard to these tests and results can be obtained through VPI's Technical Service Department.

**Exceptionally smooth concrete:** If concrete surface is exceptionally smooth, with little porosity, it should be acid etched with a 15% diluted solution of muriatic acid before installing flooring. Neutralize the concrete after etching by rinsing with clear water to which a few ounces of ammonia have been added.

**Previously covered concrete:** Completely remove all remaining floor down to bare concrete. Be sure to eliminate all residual adhesive, or completely cover the sub-floor with a high quality cementitious underlayment, warranted for such applications.

### **TERRAZZO FLOORS**

Inspect the terrazzo for any sealer or film on the surface. This must be removed before proceeding with the installation.

### **CERAMIC TILE**

All ceramic tiles must be bonded securely to the substrate. Any loose tile must be removed. Clean existing ceramic tile using muriatic acid/water and neutralize with ammonia, as directed for smooth concrete. After floor has dried, apply a thin rich coat of Portland cementitious underlayment with a liquid latex binder to achieve a smooth surface prior to installation of resilient flooring.

### **RADIANT HEATED FLOORS**

Landing Tile may be installed on radiant-heated floors, provided that the surface temperature does not exceed 90° F. and the nominal operating temperature runs at 72°F.

### **EXISTING RESILIENT FLOORING**

Whenever possible, remove all old floor covering and sand off all the old adhesives. Any texture or embossing in the original installation may telegraph through the landing tile and become visible on the surface of the new installation.

### **Do not install tile over any resilient floor covering on or below grade – only above grade.**

If you are going over resilient floor covering, use the following procedures: the 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 cementitious underlayment with a liquid latex binder, which should also be used to level any sub-floor irregularities and to fill in any open seams. Thoroughly sand the surface with coarse sandpaper, using an edge sander next to the walls and in spots that a regular sander may have skipped. Completely remove all the old sealers and waxes to ensure a proper bond.

**WARNING!** 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.

### **WOOD FLOORS**

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

- Sub-floor must be solid, well nailed at joints and free from spring. Missing or unsound boards must be replaced. Install ¼" underlayment grade or exterior grade plywood or ¼" underlayment grade hardboard. If floorboards are badly warped, use thicker plywood.
- 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 Landing Tile and be visible on the surface of the new installation.

### **METAL DECKS**

Metal substrates must be thoroughly rough sanded and primed with Rust-oleum Professional Primer or equivalent. Metal decking must be flat, 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 mixture underlayment.

### **OTHER TYPES OF INSTALLATION**

For recommended procedures on other types of installations not covered in these instructions, contact VPI Technical Services before installation commences.



## ADHESIVE INSTRUCTIONS

Read adhesive instructions on containers for care and clean up. Perform an adhesive bond test with actual tiles and adhesives prior to installation to determine adequate performance.

### LANDING TILE

VPI 503 One Part Adhesive is a solvent-free, acrylic adhesive that is designed to permanently install dimensionally stable rubber / vinyl stair well systems. VPI 503 rubber/ vinyl stair well system adhesive can be spread over porous and non-porous surfaces free of moisture. It can be used on all grades of concrete on above or below grade in the absence of moisture, as well as approved suspended wood floors (APA). This adhesive has excellent resistance to plasticizer migration and sets to a tough permanent bond. **See adhesive label for detailed application instructions.**

One gallon covers 125-150 square feet using a 1/16" x 1/16" x 1/16" square notch trowel  
Cure time of 48 hours – 72 hours for heavy traffic and rolling loads

## EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS

### 12 x 12 LANDING TILES

- 25 ft retractable rule
- Retractable knife
- Spare blades
- Pencil
- Masking tape
- Trowel 1/16" x 1/16" x 1/16"
- Cardboard sheet to protect tiles
- Gundlach Airway #222 Hand roller or equivalent

## LANDING TILE INSTALLATION

- Acclimate Landing Tile and adhesive for 48 hrs. at a temperature of 70 degrees.
- For uneven substrates, use a leveling compound for best adhesion.
- Center landing tile in landing area for uniformity.
- Make sure the rubber nosing is set and any adhesive ooze is scraped from the substrate or ledging could occur.

### If the substrate is porous:

- Ensure substrate surface has been prepared properly.
- Spread VPI 503 adhesive on substrate using specified trowel. Allow the adhesive to flash off for 5 – 10 minutes.
- Use recommended trowel for proper spread and coverage.
- Starting at the nosing laying full tiles from the step to the back of the landing until all full tiles are laid.
- Fill in partial pieces of tile toward the walls
- Roll all landing tiles with a Gundlach Airway #222 hand roller or equivalent.
- Clean adhesive spills with mineral spirits and a clean cloth.
- Cover landing walk area with cardboard to protect tile during construction
- Let landing cure for 48 hrs.

### If the substrate is nonporous:

- Spread VPI 503 adhesive on substrate using specified trowel. Allow the adhesive to dry to the touch. When you run your fingers across the trowel ridges, the ridges should be pliable with moderate finger pressure. From the time the adhesive is dry to the touch there are 45 minutes to lay the landing tile into position. Do not allow the adhesive to dry too long as loss of adhesion strength may occur!
- Use recommended trowel for proper spread and coverage.
- Starting at the nosing lay full tiles from the step to the back of the landing until all full tiles are laid.
- Fill in partial pieces of tile toward the walls
- Roll all landing tiles with a Gundlach Airway #222 hand roller or equivalent.
- Clean adhesive spills with mineral spirits and a clean cloth.
- Cover landing walk area with cardboard to protect tile during construction
- Let landing cure for 48 hrs.



## STAIR WELL MAINTENANCE

### EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS

- Backpack vacuum
- Micro Fiber applicator pad (green) and handle  
**Never use oil base treated dust mops.**
- Putty knife
- Masking tape – tape off areas not requiring Landing Tile Conditioner
- Spray bottle and pH neutral cleaner
- Clean towels
- 6" round piece of maroon pad for stubborn areas
- Small bucket and water

### LANDING TILE REQUIRED INITIAL MAINTENANCE

**NOTE: Landing tile become slippery when wet and care must be taken. Appropriate barriers to wet areas and "warning / caution" placards should be used in all instances.**

Landing tiles are maintained by hand. Use of an automatic scrubber is not required.

- Initial maintenance is required to ensure good visual appearance.
- Remove dried adhesive with a sharp putty knife or Goo Gone and a cloth, surface may dulled by this process.
- Protect the landing tile after installation & before initial maintenance to prevent soiling or damage.

- Allow the adhesive on the installed Landing Tile to thoroughly dry 48 hours before completing the initial maintenance.
- Vacuum or sweep the Landing Tile to remove any loose soil.
- Damp mop surface with a pH neutral cleaner to remove dust and debris that cannot be removed with vacuuming or sweeping
- Allow the landing tiles to air dry.
- VPI Landing Tile cannot be harmed by lack of maintenance.
- For enhanced aesthetics, apply Landing Tile Conditioner as a uniform thin to medium coat using a pre-rinsed, clean synthetic finish mop or microfiber applicator system. Allow the Landing Tile finish to dry approx. 30 minutes before applying the next coat.
- The coating dries in about 30 minutes per application. 2 to 5 coats are required, depending on desired gloss level. Replace the microfiber pad after each coat, or more frequently if needed, for best results.

### LANDING TILE ON-GOING MAINTENANCE

**NOTE: Landing tile become slippery when wet and care must be taken. Appropriate barriers to wet areas and "warning / caution" placards should be used in all instances.**

- Sweep or dust mop the landing tile to remove any large debris  
**Never use oil base treated dust mops.**
- Damp mop using a pH neutral cleaner. Rinse with clean water & allow to dry.
- As desired, apply Landing Tile Conditioner to cleaned floor using a microfiber pad, waiting 30 minutes between coats. The number of coats required depends upon the desired gloss level.

Any questions about surface preparation, sub-floor conditions or general installation questions or maintenance not covered in these instructions, please contact VPI.

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