1. Taraflex Fitness Tiles

For Fitness, Multi-Purpose, Weight Rooms, and Athletic Facilities

1.1. STORAGE

Store on clean flat solid surfaces in a controlled environment. Do not store outside.

1.2. PREPARATION OF SUBFLOOR

Subfloor Preparation (General Contractor)

- The General Contractor will supply a smooth, flat concrete finish which will be achieved manually or mechanically. The slab will have a tolerance of + or - 1/8″ in a 10' radius. Respect ASTM F710 "Standard Practice for Preparing Concrete Floors to Receive Resilient Flooring".
- The concrete subfloor will be cured for a minimum of at least sixty (60) days.
- The concrete floor temperature will have to be maintained at a minimum of 65°F (18°C) for one week prior, during, and permanently thereafter the installation. The concrete must be tested according to ASTM F1869 "Standard Test Method for Measuring Moisture Evaporation Rate of Concrete Subfloor Using Anhydrous Calcium Chloride". **Slab is not to exceed 8lbs per ASTM F1869.**
- Before proceeding with any work, inspect the subfloor surface and report in writing to the Project Manager and the General Contractor any visible defects on the surface such as cracks, bumps, rough areas or variations in evenness.
- The General Contractor shall patch and repair all cracks, voids and other imperfections of concrete with high strength portland cement based patching materials - Ardex K-15 or equal, approved by the manufacturer. Do not use gypsum based patching materials. If concrete is out of level then it should be properly leveled by an experienced underlayment contractor using cement based material that will provide a minimum of 3,000 psi. compressive strength and sufficiently bound to existing clean concrete surface Ardex K-15 or equal, approved by the manufacturer . After completion of sanding, patching and leveling, vacuum or sweep entire surface of concrete to remove loose dust and dirt before starting the installation of material. Control joints (saw cut) less than 1/8th" in width do not need treatment.
- Do not bridge resilient flooring over expanding/contracting floor joints. Observe ASTM F710. Use appropriate transitioning strips where applicable.

1.3. ACCLIMATION OF TILES

- Installation temperature shall be at least 65°F (18°C) maintained for one week prior to and during installation.

Material inspection
Note: Inspect all TARAFLEX FITNESS tiles carefully to verify that correct colors, patterns, quality, and quantity have been shipped. Do not install, cut, or fit any material that has visible defects. Fitness Tiles are sold in batches (dye lots). Do not mix batches.

1.4. INSTALLING TILES OVER EXISTING FLOORING

- ***Over existing resilient***-material must be adhered securely the substrate.
- ***Over existing ceramic***-grout lines must be filled level (skimming). Follow appropriate patch manufacturer's recommendations.
- ***Over existing carpet***-carpet must be secure. Pile to be no more than 22 ounce loop pile construction.
- ***Over existing rubber***-floor must be clean

*** It is important to respect the original installation's tolerances for moisture, ph, and other conditions that may affect its permanent efficacy. VCT for example once encapsulated may experience a differing nature than before it was covered. Therefore, extra care must be taken to analyze the condition of the original installation and the current slab conditions.

1.5. INSTALLING TILES OVER IN SLAB HEAT SYSTEMS

- In all cases, it is necessary to respect the drying time of the slabs.
- Before laying the flooring, the heating installation must have been operating for around 4 weeks in order to stabilize the sub floor with the correct moisture content for its proper functioning and to prevent steam rising once the floor is in use.
- Trained technicians who can check the thermal rate and correctly stabilize the ultimate temperature must carry out the start-up operation of the heating installation.
- This ultimate functioning temperature must be reached at least 8 days before the flooring is laid and continuously maintained until reaching the degree of dryness recommended for the sub floor.
- The heating must be stopped 48 hours before starting the laying operation (treatment of cracks and joints, primer, skimming/patching, installation of the flooring) and not restarted until at the least 72 hours after installation.

1.6. TILE LAYOUT

- Mark the center starting line. Finished installation should be square to the room.
- Lay the first length of Taraflex along this chalk line and then work progressively outward, leaving a small gap (1/4" minimum) between the sheets to allow the material to relax for at least 24 hours.
- Tiles should be positioned so that the perimeter cuts are equal (< or equal to ½ tile).
- Avoid small cuts in entrances and high traffic areas (> ½ tiles).
- This may mean that the first row of tiles is installed on or over the center line.
- Install tiles in the same direction, using the directional arrows placed on the back of each tile.
- **The tiles are batched, do not mix the batches.**

1.7. EXPANSION SPACING

- Leave an expanse space along the perimeter. Add 1/16" for every 6 feet (3 tiles) in each direction. For example: A 24'x36' room will require a ¼" space at the width end (24") and a 3/8" space at the length end (36ft)

- In areas exposed to direct sunlight e.g. in front of shop windows, the gap should be at least 3/8".

1.8. METHOD OF TAPPING

- Each lug (interlocking edges) must be tapped flush using a non-marking synthetic mallet (white). For tile installations over existing cushioned flooring, it may be necessary to use a non-marking "dead blow" mallet. Be careful not to damage tile during the tapping of the interlocking joints. Dead Blow type mallets work well with "over existing surface" installations. Be careful to not hit the tiles too hard.

1.9. TOOLS

- Knife, tape measure, straight edge, jig saw, synthetic mallet, chalk line and/or laser guide. Mallets are to be non-marking white rubber, or non-marking Dead Blow type. Do not forget the safety equipment that you will need. (safety goggles, ground fault interuptors for power tools, etc).

1.10. CUTTING METHODS

- Straight cuts can be done with a knife. Cut through the upper surface (one or two passes) and then break along the cut.
- Shapes can be cut using a jig saw (wood blade)
- Tiles can be heated and cut for irregular shapes. Be careful not to damage the tile.

Caution! Follow tool manufacturer's guidelines for safety and use. Wear proper safety equipment.

1.11. ADHERED INSTALLATIONS

- The tiles can be stuck down, using Gerflor's recommended polyurethane adhesive.
  - In entrance to store room
  - In entrance doorways
  - On ramps / sloped surfaces (check ADA requirements for slope/ramping compliance) Tile may have to be heated for form fit beginning/end of ramp slope.

*** Use only Gerflor's recommended urethane adhesive. Adhere using a 1/32" V Notched Trowel. Follow typical gluing methods as outlined in the Full Spread Installation Guidelines for Taraflex Resilient Sheet Flooring.

1.12. TYPES OF BASE

- Rubber or Vinyl base as normally practiced. Use "toe" base only and place tightly against the surface of the tile. For areas where the expansion spaces exceed the covering ability of the base, use an extended toe resilient base.
- Wood trim (natural, varnished or painted)

1.13. EXPANSION/CONTRACTION JOINTS

- Use a flush fixing moveable joint and hot weld the tiles to each side
- Cut the tiles each side of the joint and use a cover strip fixed on one side only.

1.14.THRESHOLDS AND TRANSITIONS

- • In heavy traffic, high moisture doorways, a metal mechanically fixed section must be used. (See Pemko Product Catalogue for suggestions.)
- For lower traffic intensity doorways, not subject to moisture an adhered PVC section can be used.

- **Joining to adjacent floor covering**
  - Depending on the flooring to be met, use an adapting taper profile.

1.15.JOINING TILES OF DIFFERENT COLORS

- Two methods:
  - Simply join tiles using existing interlocking lugs/edges (strongest method).
  - For curved or straight joints requiring a cleaner looking line, cut the tiles then hot weld. (most aesthetic method).

1.16.PUTTING INTO SERVICE

- Floor can receive traffic immediately after installation.
- Prohibit the use of equipment or fittings with rubber feet. **Do not use rubber mats.**

1.17. REPAIRS

- If a tile is damaged:
  - Cut through one of the corner dovetail lugs (interlocking edges).
  - Remove the lug and lift out the tile.
  - Replace with a new tile noting the installation direction.

1.18. UPON COMPLETION OF INSTALLATION

- Iinspect entire project for visual imperfections.
- Double check all heat welds for correct quality. Repair all imperfections prior to leaving the project.
- Ensure all exposed vertical abutments such as door jambs are cut tightly (net) and sealed with a water proof sealant such as clear silicone or equivalent.
- At all unbased abutments such as pipes pole inserts, the material must be cut neatly and cleanly to form a tight, net fit. Any gaps must be repaired or filled with a permanent waterproofing sealant.

END OF DOCUMENT