

VersaShield®

FLOORING UNDERLAYMENT

VERSASHIELD® INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS BULLETIN HVP 102 – Revised September 4, 2010

Installations Over Concrete Subfloors

General

VersaShield® is a preformed vapor retardant membrane designed to reduce the upward movement of water vapor from concrete floor slabs into finished flooring systems. VersaShield® can be installed on elevated slabs (structural concrete, precast, or slabs on metal decks), and on slabs on-ground (on-grade and below-grade). VersaShield® is not designed, intended, or warranted to resist liquid water pressure (hydrostatic pressure).

Moisture Testing

- Moisture testing must be conducted prior to initial VersaShield® installation, with results documented and retained in order to be in compliance with the VersaShield® Limited Warranty.
- Moisture testing must be conducted in accordance with the latest version of ASTM F2170, *Standard Test Method for Determining Relative Humidity in Concrete Floor Slabs Using in situ Probes*. A maximum reading of 95% Relative Humidity is allowed.
- Regardless of moisture test results, do not install VersaShield® on slabs below-grade where hydrostatic pressure exists (head of water above the elevation of the floor).

Preparation of the Concrete Subfloor

- All joints, cracks, and variations in the concrete surface 1/8" or greater must be filled. Use a quality patching and / or leveling compound warranted by the compound manufacturer to withstand high moisture conditions. Protrusions must be ground flat.
- All patching, leveling and / or crack suppression materials must be cured and surface dry before installing VersaShield®.
- The concrete slab surface must be dry, smooth, clean, flat and structurally sound, within flooring manufacturer's specifications.
- Residual adhesive must be scraped down to the concrete surface and removed prior to installation of VersaShield®. Do not use solvent-based adhesive remover chemicals. Additionally, certain oils, solvents, and contaminants in the concrete may cause damage to VersaShield® and should also be removed. If contaminants are known or suspected, contact Halex Corporation for instructions before installing VersaShield®.

Installation of VersaShield®

- Acclimate the rolls of VersaShield® for a minimum of 24 hours at the job location in the same manner as the flooring to be installed.
- VersaShield® has a smooth side (light grey) and a rough side (mineral-coated dark grey). **Install with the smooth side down; rough mineral-coat surface facing up.**
- Starting in one corner of the room, unroll VersaShield® flush with existing wall and cut to required length. (See photo A) VersaShield® cuts easily with scissors or a utility knife.
- Roll out additional VersaShield® rolls tightly butting the side edges to one another. (See photo B). **Do not overlap seams.**
- Limit individual lengths of VersaShield® to 25 linear feet.
- Tape all seams with VersaShield® Seam Tape and roll with a hand roller to insure a good bond. (See photo C).
- VersaShield® is easily cut to fit around irregular objects, like pillars and poles. Use VersaShield® Seam Tape to secure the seams in these areas. (See photo D).



Application of VersaShield® Seam Tape

- Store VersaShield® Seam Tape indoors in a cool, dry area at temperatures between 60F and 80F.
- VersaShield® Seam Tape is marked with the VersaShield® logo on the tape and tape core for identification purposes. Use of any seam tape other than VersaShield® Seam Tape is never recommended, and will void the VersaShield® Limited Warranty.
- Butt edges of VersaShield® Flooring Underlayment as close together as possible, but **DO NOT OVERLAP SEAMS.**
- Apply VersaShield® Seam Tape over all the seams to completely seal the gap between adjacent VersaShield® sheets. Press the tape firmly and smoothly onto the VersaShield® with a hand roller (Ex.1) to remove any bubbles, wrinkles, gaps, or other defects that would permit passage of moisture vapor.



Ex.1

- For installation of resilient floor tile (vinyl composition tile, solid vinyl tile, luxury vinyl tile, etc.) Halex recommends that a premium, polymer-modified cement patching compound be trowel-applied and feathered over the VersaShield® Seam Tape to minimize potential “seam telegraphing”. A smooth feather edge is required.
- VersaShield® is easily cut to fit around irregular objects, like pillars and poles. Use VersaShield® Seam Tape to secure the seams in these areas. (See photo D).

- ***VersaShield® Double-Sided Tape*** (4-inch width) may be used in special circumstances such as repairs, ramps, and transition areas between floor finishes. Concrete must be smooth, clean, and free of debris, oily materials, coatings, and other surface treatments. Unroll VersaShield® DS Tape with release liner attached, cut at desired length, apply to the concrete surface, firmly press on the release liner using a hand roller, peel off the release liner section by section as the VersaShield® Flooring Underlayment is ready to be applied. Firmly press on VersaShield® using a hand roller or 100 lb roller.

Installation of Finished Flooring

Approved Floor Coverings are listed on Halex Bulletin HVP-101. Install floor covering on top of VersaShield® Flooring Underlayment's mineral-coated (rough) surface in accordance with the flooring manufacturer's written instructions.

Installing Vinyl Composition Tile (VCT), Luxury Vinyl Tile (LVT), or Solid Vinyl Tile (SVT):

- Acclimate the floor covering at the installation site per the flooring manufacturer's requirements.
- It is recommended that a premium, polymer modified cement patch be feathered over the VersaShield® Seam Tape to minimize potential "seam telegraphing" when used with VCT, SVT and LVT finished flooring. A smooth feather edge is required.
- The floor covering manufacturer's recommended installation guidelines must be followed using recommended adhesives and application directions.
- Apply the floor covering manufacturer's recommended adhesive directly onto the VersaShield® mineral-coated surface. Take care not to scratch, rip, tear, puncture, or damage the VersaShield® while spreading adhesive.
- Adhesives will take longer to flash off and cure compared to dry concrete. If the flooring manufacturer has specific recommendations regarding adhesive and trowel size for different types of concrete, ***VersaShield® Flooring Underlayment should be considered as non-porous.***
- Ensure the seams of VersaShield® Flooring Underlayment are offset from the seams of the VCT, SVT or LVT.
- Vinyl plank type tile should be installed perpendicular (90 degrees) to the VersaShield® seam pattern.

There are many variations of each type of floor covering. Always check with the flooring adhesive manufacturer for approved product use, application instructions, and best practices.

Installing Carpet and Carpet Tiles:

- Acclimate the floor covering at the installation site per the flooring manufacturer's requirements.
- The floor covering manufacturer's recommended installation guidelines must be followed using recommended adhesives and application directions.

- Apply the floor covering manufacturer's recommended adhesive directly onto the VersaShield® mineral-coated surface. Take care not to scratch, rip, tear, puncture, or damage the VersaShield® while spreading adhesive.
- Adhesives will take longer to flash off and cure compared to dry concrete. If the flooring manufacturer has specific recommendations regarding adhesive and trowel size for different types of concrete, *VersaShield® Flooring Underlayment should be considered as non-porous.*
- Self-stick carpet tiles should be adhered directly to the VersaShield®.
- Ensure the seams of the VersaShield® Flooring Underlayment are offset from the seams of the carpet.
- Carpets with pattern repeats are frequently kicked into place. Extra care is necessary in order to avoid wrinkling the VersaShield® during the installation.

There are many variations of each type of floor covering. Always check with the flooring adhesive manufacturer for approved product use, application instructions, and best practices.

Installing Laminates and Engineered Wood Flooring:

- Acclimate the floor covering at the installation site per the flooring manufacturer's requirements.
- The floor covering manufacturer's recommended installation guidelines must be followed using recommended adhesives and application directions.
- Apply the adhesive, when required, directly onto the VersaShield® mineral-coated surface. Take care not to scratch, rip, tear, puncture, or damage the VersaShield® while spreading adhesive.
- Adhesives will take longer to flash off and cure compared to dry concrete. If the flooring manufacturer has specific recommendations regarding adhesive and trowel size for different types of concrete, *VersaShield® Flooring Underlayment should be considered as non-porous.*
- Planks should be installed perpendicular (90 degrees) to the VersaShield® seam pattern.
- Ensure the seams of VersaShield® Flooring Underlayment are offset from the seams of the laminate and engineered wood flooring.
- Floating (non-adhered) floor covering is installed according to the manufacturer's instructions.
- VersaShield® is not recommended for use with mechanically fastened floor coverings.

There are many variations of each type of floor covering. Always check with the flooring adhesive manufacturer for approved product use, application instructions, and best practices.

US Patent No. 6,673,432

Material Safety Data Sheet available on www.halexcorp.com

See Limited Warranty for complete coverage and restrictions.

FOR MORE TECHNICAL INFORMATION:, CALL 800-576-1636 EXT.240

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