

## **General Instructions for Luxury Vinyl Tile & Planks (LVTs) - Market distributors & installation New Zealand**

- Expona Domestic 2018
- Expona Affinity
- Expona Superplank
- Expona Design

The information provided is for the Luxury vinyl tile & planks (LVTs) from Polyflor New Zealand, we suggest & recommend that the purchaser use a professional and qualified installer in order to obtain the best results.

We recommend that the purchaser check the colour, pattern and design are correct before installation, Polyflor NZ can provide images or samples upon request showing the colour, pattern & design or they can be viewed on our website [www.polyflor.co.nz](http://www.polyflor.co.nz).

### **Consideration should also be taken into account for the following:**

- Discolouration and or fading caused by UV Sunlight- Polyflor NZ recommends that any LVT placed into a North facing situation or subject to UV sunlight will require the following.
  - Window tinting (UV inhibitors)
  - Curtains, blinds, awnings,
  - External Eaves

It is the responsibility of the retail market distributor to inform the client that if placed in a North facing situation (or similar) and no adequate UV protection is in place then the product will fade and discolouration will occur. Our recommendation is for a product which will not fade or discolour be placed in the area.

- Placement of the Luxury vinyl tile & planks (LVTs) into high traffic areas which may be subject to heavy focused loads.
- Placement of rubber or latex back mats onto the Luxury vinyl tile & planks (LVTs)

### **Storage**

The Luxury vinyl tile & planks (LVTs) must be stored indoors and protected from the weather. The storage area must be dry and free from direct sunlight with an ambient temperature between 15 and 30°C. To avoid the Luxury vinyl tile & planks (LVTs) becoming contaminated, ensure that the storage area is free of any contamination or pollution & take care to avoid rough handling.

### **Visual inspection**

Before installation, always check that the product is the one you ordered in terms of specification, design, and colour. At the same time carefully inspect the material for any visible damages or defects. Although our Luxury vinyl tile & planks (LVTs) are inspected before leaving the factory, it can happen that defects are not detected. In such case, contact Polyflor NZ for assistance.

### **Sub floor Preparation**

Our Luxury vinyl tile & planks (LVTs) collections can be laid on wood, concrete, and many other properly prepared sub floors and one key factor to ensuring an excellent finished appearance is to ensure careful subfloor preparation.

The information provided in this document includes general recommendations on how to prepare various types of subfloors. The selection of all materials including moisture migration systems, self-levelling compounds, floor patch products, wood underlayment's and any other ancillary products are dependent upon existing conditions.

The application of subfloor preparation materials must be in strict accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and all warranties & guarantees pertaining to the suitability & performance of any preparation or ancillary product rests with that material manufacturer and or the flooring contractor.

Polyflor New Zealand recommends Kiesel Moisture barriers, Kiesel patching & Self-levelling and Kiesel Adhesives along with Polyflor NZ plywood and or any products which conform to the EC1 label.

**These products have been tested for compatibility and performance for our Luxury vinyl tile & planks (LVTs) and in addition the warranties for the system are held by Polyflor NZ.**

#### **Kiesel Primers & Moisture barriers**

- Okatmos EG20 primer
- Okatmos UG30 primer
- Okapox GF Epoxy primer & moisture barrier
- Okamos DSG primer & moisture barrier

#### **Kiesel Floor levellers**

- Servofine F333 patching, ramping & smoothing
- Servoplan R300s patching & ramping
- Servoplan BF850 bulk fill & levelling compound
- Servoplan Ki1 premium self-levelling compound
- Servoplan P200 plus self-levelling compound
- Servoplan S444 fibre reinforced levelling compound

#### **Kiesel Adhesives**

- Okatmos Star 100
- Okatmos Star 100 plus
- Okatmos star 110
- Okatmos Star 150 pressure sensitive
- Okamul PU Polyurethane resin adhesives

\*\*Please contact Polyflor NZ for more information or view our web site details [www.polyflor.co.nz/kiesel/](http://www.polyflor.co.nz/kiesel/)

### **Conditions**

Subfloors must be absolutely level, clean and free from grit, dust, grease, oil, polish & old adhesive. Solvent-based products, petroleum, pigmented materials on or in the subfloor can permanently stain vinyl floor covering, that is why the subfloor must be free from paint, varnish, oils, solvents, wax, hardening compounds in mastic, asphalt and other similar materials. Imperfections in the subfloor will affect the final appearance and performance of the LVT flooring. Any particles that could compromise the quality of bonding with the adhesive must be removed. It is essential that the subfloor is dry. Dampness can cause discolouration to the flooring.

The humidity of the subfloor must meet the standard technical requirements valid in New Zealand where the flooring is to be installed. If in doubt, take a hygrometer reading to check the level of dampness. A maximum hygrometer reading of 75% RH is recommended.

### **Concrete floors**

Concrete floors will need to be checked for moisture as per NZS/ AS 1884-2013 standards, should a reading higher than 75% (+-5) RH be recorded then a surface DPM (moisture barrier) or similar must be used.

Use a levelling compound if the surface is uneven, rough, or cracked. It is usual to apply 3-6mm of levelling compound to produce the desired level of smoothness. Concrete floors should always be tested for high or low PH levels and must be in the range of 7-9.

### **Floor boarded timber structural floors**

#### **Tongue & Groove**

When organizing or planning for Tongue & Groove then the 5 key areas listed below will need to be applied per NZS/ AS 1884-2013 standards & best practice guidelines NZ flooring industry 2019. The timber floor will need to be  
Clean, Sound, Flat (Plane), Smooth & Dry

#### **Structural sheet floors (particleboard, strandboard or plywood)**

Best practice techniques to prepare structural sheet boards for resilient floor coverings recommend that an approved board underlayment (minimum 4.75mm) or a cementitious reinforced fibre type be applied with a minimum 3mm.

### **Wet areas**

The building code (E3 internal moisture) identifies a bathroom, laundry, toilet or a kitchen (areas with taps) as wet area where moisture may accumulate or be generated.

Any board underlayment with timber content is affected by moisture or changes in climatic conditions. When used in areas of humidity or bathroom areas, only recommended flooring grade board underlayment for these areas should be used. There are steps needed to be taken as part of the installation process to provide the board underlayment with protection from any water splash and/ or accidental water overflow.

Luxury vinyl tile & planks (LVTs) are not recommended for areas which receive constant water flow ie wet floor shower areas

## Installation

- When installing always follow current standards NZS/ AS 1884-2013 and best practices for resilient floor coverings NZ.
- Before installation the following must be done to ensure a successful installation
- Acclimatise the product 24 hours prior to installation.
- Maintain an ambient room temperature between 18-28 degrees in the room which will have the installed product.
- Windows, doors, ranch sliders will need to be covered before, during and after installation.
- Random Shuffling of the tiles/ planks will help vary the patterns/ grains and it will avoid blocks of similar colour.
- Under floor heating will need to be fully tested prior to installation and should be switched of 48 hours to installation, a maximum 27 degrees once fully installed and specialised adhesives will be required ie 2 part epoxy's will need to be used in high heat or sunlight areas.
- The optimum appearance can be produced by dry cutting to determine if the pattern is acceptable.
- Always start at the centre of the room and before adhering check that the overall appearance for the flooring is acceptable.
- If the room is irregular it maybe necessary to square up off the most important wall or specific feature.
- Always ensure that the correct adhesives are used, and they are EMICODE1 compliant.

Should you require further information regarding the above general instructions please contact polyflor New Zealand on 0800 765 935, via our website [www.polyflor.co.nz](http://www.polyflor.co.nz).