

**Crack Isolation Sheet Membrane** 

# INSTALLATION SHEET

# SUITABLE SUBSTRATES

ECB® Classic may be installed over a variety of substrates:

**Concrete**: Poured, pre-stressed and pre-cast concrete, concrete backerboard, mud beds, gypsum, lightweight concrete, leveling and patching compounds.

**Wood**: Plywood, APA-rated sheathing, Sturd-I-Floor, hardwood, tongue and groove and OSB with standard face. (Gap between sheeting as required.)

**Other Substrates**: Existing and structurally sound installations of ceramic or porcelain tile, stone, terrazzo, VCT/VAT, metal, radiant-heated, painted and sealed floors and floors damaged by shrinkage and structural movement. A bond test is recommended.

# SURFACE PREPARATION

- Surfaces must be level, structurally sound and meet L/360 for ceramic and porcelain tile or L/720 for stone tile on live or dead loads. Maximum variation of 1/4" in 10' from the required plane. *Refer to current TCNA Handbook for additional guidelines.*
- <u>DO NOT</u> install membrane <u>under</u> mortar beds or leveling and patching compounds.
- <u>DO</u> install membrane <u>over</u> cured mortar beds, leveling and patching compounds.
- Surfaces must be clean, dry and free of holes, projections, moisture or bond breakers such as waxes, petroleum based sealers, dirt, grease or oil.
- Grind bumps and level slab depressions with quality latex underlayment in accordance with manufacturer's instructions. Scarify smooth surfaces.
- Ensure joist spacing consists of no more than 16" on center and a double sub-floor consists of at least 5/8" per sheet.
- Perform Black Mat MVT (Moisture Vapor Transmission) test to determine if moisture is present.
  - If no MVT is present, proceed to the installation process.
  - If MVT is present, conduct a Relative Humidity Test or F-1869-98 test for emissions. If MVT is in excess of 3#/1000SF/24HRS or has an R.H. greater than 85%, call NAC for instructions.
- For absorptive substrates, up to three coats of Moisture Lock 101<sup>®</sup> may be applied according to manufacturer's instructions. (see Moisture Lock 101<sup>®</sup> PDS for complete info)
- If a parge coat is applied, it must be allowed to cure for 24 hours prior to applying primer.
- A successful overnight bond test is required to determine if the membrane system will adhere to the substrate.
- Not recommended for vertical or overhead surfaces.

# **INSTALLATION**

- 1. Measure and pre-cut membrane 4"-6" longer than required size. Re-roll membrane to half the room's depth.
- 2. Apply primer. (See primer reference chart for appropriate primer.)
  - NAC TAC or NAC TAC II should be applied with a short nap roller, flat trowel, brush applicator or sprayer.
     Substrate temperature should be a minium of 65°F.
  - a. Shake, mix or stir primer thoroughly.
  - b. Prime only an area that will covered by membrane within 1-4 hours. Apply a thin film of uniform thickness to substrate in single strokes. Do not re-roll primer.
  - c. Allow primer to dry until tacky to touch, but non-transferable

to finger. This may take as little as 10 minutes, but usually no more than 45 minutes, depending upon temperature, humidity, internal moisture level/porosity of substrate and application thickness. Air pockets may form if membrane is installed over wet primer.

# (See NAC TAC or NAC TAC II label for additional information.)

- NS97 is for Exterior Use ONLY and should be applied with a short nap roller, brush, or sprayer. Substrate temperature should be a minimum of 55°F.
  - a. Mix or stir primer thoroughly.
  - b. Prime only an area that will covered by membrane within 1-4 hours. Apply a thin film of uniform thickness to substrate in single strokes. Do not re-roll primer.
- c. Air pockets may form if membrane is installed over wet primer. Allow primer to dry until tacky to touch, but nontransferable to finger. This may take as little as 10 minutes, but usually no more than 45 minutes, depending upon temperature, humidity, internal moisture level/porosity of substrate and application thickness.

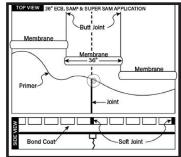
# (See NS97 label for additional information.)

- Slit release paper and allow membrane to roll out, adhesive-side down, across primed floor.
- 4. Press Membrane into place with flat side of trowel applying 50 lbs. of pressure/sq. inch or a 75-100# roller.

| NAC Primer Reference Chart |                      |             |                |                      |             |                |
|----------------------------|----------------------|-------------|----------------|----------------------|-------------|----------------|
|                            | Interior Application |             |                | Exterior Application |             |                |
|                            | Below<br>Grade       | On<br>Grade | Above<br>Grade | Below<br>Grade       | On<br>Grade | Above<br>Grade |
| NAC TAC                    | ~                    | ~           | ~              | ~                    | ~           | ~              |
| NAC TAC II                 |                      | ~           | ~              |                      |             |                |
| NS97                       |                      |             |                | ~                    | ~           | ~              |

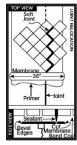
# **FULL FLOOR COVERAGE**

Butt joint 36" ECB membrane | or overlap and single cut through toremove excess. For end seams, continue with next roll tightly butt jointing ends or double cut. Membrane is non-directional. Placement of soft joints may be repositioned with full floor Isolation joints, coverage. working and expansion joints used for vertical displacement need to be



carried through to tile installation. Soft joints in tile patterns are required as per TCNA Handbook method EJ171.

# **STRIP APPLICATIONS**

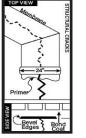


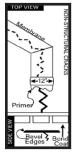
## Joint Relocation

36" ECB may be placed over control/saw-cut joints. Offset ECB membrane 24" to one side of joint. Measure in approximatly 12" on membrane and cut thru tile joint nearest to control joint in substrate. This will assure lateral movement transfer to membrane. Apply appropriate caulk to new "soft joint". Bevel ECB membrane edges with thin-set or mortar for a smooth transition to substrate.

### **Structural Cracks**

Center 24" ECB membrane over cracks that completely penetrate slab. For cracks greater than 3/8" wide, fill with a suitable urethane caulk before applying membrane. If crack turns, cut and butt joint ECB membrane to accommodate direction. Bevel membrane edges with thin-set or mortar for a smooth transition to substrate.

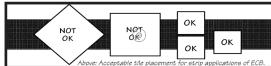




## Non-Structural Cracks

Depending on the size of the tile, center 12" or 24" membrane over cracks such as shrinkage cracks. If crack turns, cut and butt joint ECB membrane to accommodate direction. Bevel membrane edges with thin-set or mortar for a smooth transition to substrate.

When using strip applications of ECB membrane, be sure to follow the acceptable placement of tile according to the graphic below:



## **EXTERIOR AND WET APPLICATIONS**

Substrate must be properly sloped to prevent standing water. All joints and termination points of the membrane must be sealed with 1/4" bead of NAC approved urethane sealant or SubSeal Liquid waterproofing membrane. Smooth out sealant with flat side of trowel and let cure. **FOR BEST RESULTS** Use Strataflex<sup>®</sup> membrane for exterior applications.

INTERIOR FLOORS USING RADIANT HEAT

ECB Membrane System, full floor coverage, **OVER** in-floor, hydronic heating systems placed in poured gypsum/gypcrete or other lightweight products. Perform bond test to ensure primer and membrane will bond to new surface. If bond test fails, you may apply up to three coats of Moisture Lock 101 according to manufacturer's instructions to seal pores and harden the surface. (See Moisture Lock 101 'PDS for complete information) Apply NAC Primer as required and install ECB Membrane as directed.

## **TILE WARMING SYSTEMS**

Use ECB Membrane, full floor coverage, over substrates where lowvoltage tile warming systems are to be installed. Follow ECB Product Data and Install guidelines. Secure tile warming system to membrane as directed by warming system manufacturer. DO NOT puncture or staple the floor warming system to the membrane.

# **TILE SETTING MATERIALS**

A thin-bed, latex-modified mortar meeting a minimum material specification of ANSI A118.4 is required when installing porcelain, ceramic or decorative stone

tile or related products on membrane. Key setting material into membrane with flat side of trowel. Re-apply mortar with notch side of trowel using minimum trowel size of 1/4" x 3/8". Contact product manufacturer for trowel size when using organic adhesives and epoxy mortars suitable for ceramic tile applications.

# WOOD AND VCT INSTALLATIONS

When installing wood or VCT over membrane, a solvent free or urethane glue/adhesive must be used. Follow general membrane installation instructions.

#### Cautions

- Not recommended for use on concrete floors with excessive hydrostatic head pressure or excessive moisture vapor transmission. Use NAC TAC or NS97 for MVT protection up to 10#/1000SF/24HRS or NAC TAC II for protection up to 7#/1000SF/24HRS.
- Protect floors from traffic until new floor is fully cured. Large format tile installations may require extended cure times.
- Membrane and companion products must be protected from the elements and UV rays until tile is
  installed, grouted and cured.
- <u>DO NOT</u> install membrane <u>under</u> mortar beds or leveling and patching compounds.
- DO install membrane over cured mortar beds, leveling and patching compounds.
- Do not use petroleum-based cleaners or sealers for tile, marble, stone or grout.
- Impervious tile (less than 0.5% absorption) requires a 48 hour cure time prior to grouting.
- Protect floors from heavy construction equipment during installation to prevent damage.
- For exterior/wet applications, substrate must be properly sloped to prevent standing water.
   Not recommended for vertical applications. Use SubSeal Liquid Waterproof Membrane in place of
- sheet membrane.
   Movement joints must be installed in finished tile system per TCNA method F171:
- Interior: 2010 25' in each direction. If exposed to direct sunlight or moisture then 8' to 12' in each direction. Exterior: 8' to 12' in each direction.

## Application Notes for NAC TAC/NAC TAC II Primer

Coverage: 375-425 square feet per gallon depending upon applicator type and porosity of substrate. Clean-Up: Remove wet NAC TAC or NAC TAC II with a damp cloth and plain water. Use mineral spirits for dried primer.

- NAC TAC and NAC TAC II primers are not freeze/thaw stable. Do not store below 35°F. If NAC TAC or NAC TAC II separates, shake to remix. If product will not remix, do not use.
- Due to increased adjustability of primer bond to membrane, a bond test, if needed, should be delayed 24 hours. A permanent bond is established in 48 hours.

#### Application Notes for NS97 Primer

**Coverage:** 300-400 square feet per gallon depending upon applicator and porosity of substrate. **Clean-Up:** Tools, equipment and spillage may be cleaned up with mineral spirits. **Spill or Leak Procedures:** Contain spill if possible. Wipe up or absorb with suitable material

- and shovel up. Prevent entry into sewers and waterways.
- Do not use in direct contact with copper shower pan liners. Application equipment must be compatible with chlorinated solvents. Avoid contact with aluminum, copper, copper alloys or polystyrene foam. May damage painted surfaces, vinyl and plastics. Test a small area for damage before use.
- Make sure the area is well-ventilated. Prevent vapor buildup by providing fresh air to
  maintain levels below exposure limits. Open windows and doors or use other means to
  ensure continuous movement of fresh air and cross ventilation during application and
  drying. Vapor is heavier than air and will collect in low areas. Do not use in basements or
  other poorly ventilated areas. Wear a NIOSH approved self-contained breathing apparatus
  or other approved respiratory protection device if use conditions generate vapors at a
  level in excess of recommended exposure limits.
- Avoid skin contact. Wear gloves. Wear eye protection and side shields. Contact with flame or hot surfaces may produce toxic gases. Do not smoke.

See Primer labels and SDS for additional instructions on use, storage and disposal. Visit www. NACproducts.com or contact NAC at 800-633-4622 with questions and for additional information.



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