THE AZROCK COLLECTION VINYL ENHANCED TILE COMMERCIAL INSTALLATION AND MAINTENANCE PROCEDURES

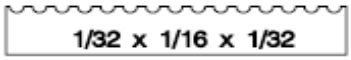
Azterra and Color Essence 12" X 12"

THE AZROCK® COLLECTION

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

These installation specifications are general guidelines for **Azrock** Vinyl Enhanced Tile. The latest edition of **Azrock's** Installation and Maintenance Manual should be consulted for complete details. Overall conditions should meet the following criteria:

1. All flooring material, accessories, and area to be installed must be kept at 65°F. (18.3°C) and no greater than 85°F (29.4°C) for at least 48 hours previous to, during and 48 hours after installation.
2. All subfloor/underlayment patching must be done with a quality Portland / hydraulic cement based latex underlayment material.
3. It is not recommended to install **Azrock** Vinyl Enhanced Tile over residual asphalt (cutback) adhesive. These residues must be covered over with appropriate underlayment plywood or a quality Portland /hydraulic cement based latex underlayment material recommended for this procedure.
4. **Azrock** Vinyl Enhanced may be installed over an (1) existing layer of on or above grade vinyl composition tile only. No other existing floor coverings are acceptable as a substrate.
5. Use the recommended **TARKETT** adhesives and trowel notches recommended for application:
   - **Tarkett #100 Clear Thin Spread**
     1/32" (0.8mm) deep, 1/16" (1.6mm) wide, 1/32" (0.8mm) apart.
   - **Tarkett #940 Polyurethane Adhesive (Specialized Wet Set)**
     1/32" (0.8mm) deep, 1/16" (1.6mm) wide, 1/32" (0.8mm) apart.
     (For Slip Resistant products in areas exposed to temperature and topical moisture extremes.)



- **SPRAYSMART ADHESIVES**

Please consult the SpraySmart Installation Guidelines for complete instructions on the use of this system.

SKU #	Description	Coverage	Shipping Weight
120-SG	Gold 7-11* /22 oz. Smart Gun Bottles	150 sq. ft ea. /14 sq. M	11 lbs case/ 6/ Case
121-SG	Platinum 10-12**/ 22 oz. Smart Gun Bottles	100 sq. ft ea. / 9 sq. M	11 lbs case/ 6/ Case

***Gold 7-11 System warranty up to 7 lbs of moisture & 11 pH ONLY with Tarkett Commercial Tile.**
**** Platinum 10-12 System warranty up to 10 lbs of moisture & 12 pH ONLY with Tarkett Commercial Tile.**

NOTE: WARRANTY REQUIRES INITIAL MOISTURE AND ALKALI TEST RESULTS BE CONDUCTED AND MADE AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST.

Use of any other products may affect or even void your warranty.

II. SUBFLOOR PREPARATION

The finished appearance of any resilient floor covering will only be as good as the subfloor it is installed upon. The subfloor should be hard, smooth, and dry. Irregularities will show in the finished job.

A. CONCRETE SUBFLOORS

Note: Regardless of the type of concrete or cement-like material used as a base for TARKETT resilient flooring the responsibility for use or suitability rests with this products manufacturer, installer or specifier and not with TARKETT.

All concrete floors, old or new, should be tested for moisture and proper bonding of the resilient flooring.

Concrete substrates of all grade levels are suitable for the installation of **TARKETT** resilient flooring. These substrates should be dry, clean, smooth, cured to hard non-powdery finish and structurally sound. The concrete surface should be free of dust, loose or scaly surface solvents or other foreign matter.

Cracks and depressions must be filled and abraded until they are completely level, using a quality Portland /hydraulic cement based latex underlayment material. **Gypsum based patching compounds are not recommended.**

CURING AND PARTING COMPOUNDS

Curing and parting compounds used on concrete subfloors on which resilient floorings to be installed may not be compatible with the adhesive and may interfere with bonding of the adhesive, patching and/or leveling compound. If a compound has been applied which contains silicone or oil, it must be thoroughly removed by sanding or grinding. After removal of curing or parting compound from the substrate, **TARKETT** recommends priming the subfloor with a liquid latex Additive before installation of the flooring.

THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR WARRANTIES, GUARANTEES AND PERFORMANCE OF A CONCRETE SUBFLOOR ON WHICH A CURING OR PARTING COMPOUND OR SEALER HAS BEEN APPLIED RESTS WITH THE MANUFACTURER OF THE COMPOUND OR SEALER FOR ADHESION OR LATEX UNDERLAYMENT FAILURES. THE RESPONSIBILITY DOES NOT LIE WITH THE RESILIENT FLOORING OR ADHESIVE MANUFACTURER.

MOISTURE AND ALKALI TESTING

All concrete substrates should be tested for moisture vapor transmission. The Calcium Chloride Moisture Test using the quantitative method as detailed under ASTM F 1869 or In-Situ RH probes as detailed under ASTM F 2170 are recommended. Surface alkali testing is also recommended. The use of a quantitative method is preferred such as pH paper and distilled water, pH pencils, or electronic devices. The upper safe thresholds are:
TARKETT 800 & 940 Adhesives / **<5 pounds/1,000 sq. ft./24 hours (2.33 Kg/93 M^2/24 hours) / pH reading < 10 / < 85% RH.**
TARKETT SpraySmart 120-SG / <**7** pounds/1,000 sq. ft./24 hours (3.27 Kg/93 M^2/24 hours) / pH reading **< 11 / < 90% RH.**
TARKETT SpraySmart 121-SG / <**10** pounds/1,000 sq. ft./24 hours (4.67 Kg/93 M^2/24 hours) / pH reading **< 12 / < 93% RH.**

BOND TEST

A bond test should be performed on all grade levels of concrete substrates to determine if the concrete is sufficiently dry and for the compatibility of the flooring adhesive with concrete surfaces having curing agents, dust inhibitors, paint or other special surface treatments.

An easy method of testing for adherence is to perform a bond test. Use 2' x 2' (600mm x 600mm) pieces of the flooring material selected for the installation and adhere with **TARKETT** recommended adhesive. Pay particular attention to the adhesive open time. If after 72 hours an unusual amount of force is required to lift the material from the subfloor, and if after doing so, adhesive clings to both the subfloor and to the back of the material, the material can be considered "securely bonded."

NOTE: Regardless of the bond test or the type of surface treatment used, the responsibility for warranties, guarantees and performance of a concrete substrate

on which a surface treatment has been applied rests with the manufacturer of the surface treatment product for adhesion and/or patching compound failures and not with **TARKETT.**

Radiant Heated Floors. **TARKETT resilient flooring may be installed over radiant heated floors, provided the operating temperature does not exceed 85°F (29.4°C) at any point in the floor.**

B. WOOD SUBFLOORS

Note: Regardless of the type of underlayment material used as a base for TARKETT resilient flooring the responsibility for use or suitability rests with this products manufacturer, installer or specifier and not with TARKETT.

Wood Subfloor Construction: Suspended wood subfloor shall be 1" (25mm) or heavier, conforming to the current CSA or FHA standards, well seasoned, strongly constructed, free from springiness and have a minimum of 18" (460mm) of well-ventilated air space clearance above the ground. All subfloor panels must be fastened to the joists in accordance with their manufactures recommendations to preserve their warranties. NOTE: Protruding fasteners must be made flush with the plane of the subfloor panels before commencing installation of the underlayment material.

Single Wood Floors: These subfloors must be covered with a minimum of 1/4" (6mm) or heavier approved underlayment grade plywood. **This includes Sturd-I-Floor systems.**

Stripwood Subfloors: Single and/or double tongue-and-groove stripwood floors should be covered with a 3/8" (9.53mm) or heavier underlayment to eliminate telegraphing of the stripwood floor board joints.

WOOD UNDERLAYMENTS

Underlayment grade panels for residential resilient floors must be 1/4" (6mm) or heavier with fully sanded face meeting CSA or FHA standards. Commercial floors must be 3/8" (9.53mm) or heavier meeting the same standards. The following underlayment recommendations are intended as a guide. **Tarkett** strongly suggests that whoever is buying the underlayment material obtain a warranty from the supplier.

Canadian Standards Association:
-CSA 0121 - Douglas Fir Plywood
-CSA 0151 - Canadian Softwood Plywood
-COFI (underlayment grade) - Council of Forest Industries of B.C.

APA-American Plywood Underlayment:
-1/4" (6mm) or heavier APA Underlayment Exposure 1 (with fully sanded face)
-1/4" (6mm) or heavier APA Underlayment C-C Plugged Exterior (with fully sanded face)
-APA Rated Sturd-I Floor Plywood, Exposure 1 or exterior (with fully sanded face)

Note: Maranti or Lauan Type 11 (Int) interior glue plywood is not recommended as underlayment. The porosity and moisture sensitivity of these panels have been known to cause problems with adhesive bonding and panel edge swelling.
OSB or Particleboards: (Chipboard or Flakeboard): While some particle boards may be suitable for resilient flooring, TARKETT does not recommend particle or OSB boards as acceptable underlayments for any of its Installation Systems.

LAYING PANELS

The method for underlayment installation shall conform in accordance with their manufacturer's recommendations to preserve their warranties.

C. OTHER TYPES OF SUBFLOORS

TERRAZZO OR CERAMIC SUBFLOORS:

Old terrazzo or ceramic flooring subfloors shall be treated in the same manner as a concrete subfloor, with additional precautions.

- If they are to be used as a subfloor they must be checked with moisture and bond tests conducted.
- Remove all sealer, varnish, wax, oils and soil to prevent their interfering with the adhesive bond.
- Any glazed or very smooth surfaces must be abraded.
- **Make surfaces level and smooth using quality portland/hydraulic cement based latex underlayment material.**

EXISTING RESILIENT FLOORS

TARKETT does not recommend installation of Azrock Vinyl Enhanced directly over any existing resilient flooring other than one single layer of vinyl composition tile installed on or above grade floors only. Any other old flooring material must be either removed or covered with an appropriate underlayment that will provide a smooth, hard surface for the installation of the new flooring materials.

REMOVAL OF EXISTING RESILIENT FLOORING

WARNING

Removal of existing flooring, which may contain asbestos, can cause asbestosis or other serious bodily harm. Unless you are sure, beyond any doubt, that the existing floor contains no asbestos, assume it does.

- Inhaling asbestos dust may cause asbestosis or other serious illnesses. Consult a contractor knowledgeable in the safe removal of asbestos. Make sure the contractor is properly licensed where required and familiar with the Resilient Floor Covering Institute Work Practices and all local, state, and federal regulations that apply. Individual copies of the *Resilient Floor Covering Institute Work Practices* are available free of charge by writing:

Resilient Floor Covering Institute 966 Hungerford Drive, Suite 12-B Rockville, MD 2085	**TARKETT Inc. USA** Installation Services Dept. 1 705 Oliver Street Houston, TX 77007	**TARKETT Inc.** 1001 Yamaska Street East Farnham, Quebec J2N 1J7 Canada

- Do not sand, dry scrape, bead blast or mechanically pulverize existing resilient flooring, backing, solvent based cutback adhesives, or lining felt. These products may contain asbestos fibers that are not readily identifiable. Do not use power devices which might create asbestos dust.

WARNING REGARDING COMPLETE ADHESIVE REMOVAL

WARNING

Some solvent-based cutback asphalt adhesives may contain asbestos fibers that are not readily identifiable. Do not use power devices which create asbestos dust in removing these adhesives. The inhalation of asbestos dust may cause asbestosis or other serious bodily harm. Smoking greatly increases the risk of serious bodily harm.

Underlayment Surface Preparation
Subfloor unevenness in excess of 1/32" (0.8mm) must be sanded or sloped down to a feather edge, as well as holes, underlayment joints, etc. should be filled with quality Portland / hydraulic cement based latex underlayment material., then sanded smooth when thoroughly set. Acceptable subfloors must be smooth, clean, and dry. Any irregularities will show through the new flooring and may not be accepted by the end users.
Cleaning
After the subfloor has finally been rendered smooth, sweep the area thoroughly, especially around the perimeter removing all dust, dirt, grit, or other foreign matter. Concrete substrates should be vacuumed.

III. GENERAL INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS:

Categories:

Type I: Dry-Set System using **Tarkett** #100 Clear Thin spread Adhesive

Type II: Wet-Set System using **Tarkett** #940 Polyurethane Adhesive (In areas exposed to direct sunlight, temperature extremes, and topical moisture.)

Type III: SpraySmart System using **Tarkett** #120 or 121 Adhesives

General tile layout procedures should be utilized including straight or diagonal layouts, borders, and designs mixing tile and **Azrock** Vinyl Enhanced Feature Strip together. Many variations using these products are possible and in many cases only limited by the designers imagination. Further information on material layout can be found in the latest edition of **TARKETT** Installation and Maintenance Manual and **Azrock's** Design Booklet.

Type I: Dry-Set System

The dry-set system requires the **Tarkett #100 Clear Thin Spread Adhesive** to be troweled on the approved subfloor and allowed to dry prior to tile placement. This procedure allows the adhesive vehicle to dissipate into the atmosphere. This procedure is recommended for all **Azrock** Vinyl Enhanced products, except for Slip Resistant products installed in some critical locations.
General directions are as follows:

1. After the recommended subfloor has been prepared and is ready for flooring installation, prepare tile layout in accordance with architectural diagrams.
2. Spread recommended adhesive in area to be covered in accordance with adhesive label recommendations. In the case of clear thin spread, adhesive should be spread over flooring layout lines, adhesive will dry translucent and lines can be seen. Over some sub-floors if lines are removed during adhesive troweling or when using black thin spread these should be re-striked over the spread adhesive.
3. Allow adhesive to dry completely to the touch. Proper drying is usually determined when by placing your thumb into the adhesive it has a "tack" and does not transfer to your finger. Do not lay tile until adhesive has sufficiently dried and developed tack.
4. Begin installing tile carefully at the pre-set starting point. Once placed into the adhesive tile will be difficult to shift, remove, and/or replace. Starting off properly is most critical in that the first tile placement will greatly determine the lay-up of the area to be installed.
5. Continue laying tile, working away from the start point by placing and pressing tile into the adhesive film. Carefully place tile wherever a new row is started. Since adhesive will instantly grab tile placed into it, it will not shift, allowing you to work on newly laid tile.
6. Follow this same procedure when installing other areas of the jobsite.
7. Floor is ready for light traffic only immediately. Do not allow heavy traffic on the floor for several days or until after recommended initial maintenance has been performed. Do not maintain the floor for at least 3 days after installation.

Type II: Wet-Set System

The wet-set system is the recommended procedure to install **Azrock** Vinyl Enhanced Slip Resistant Tile with **TARKETT 940 Polyurethane Adhesive** in areas exposed to direct sunlight, temperature extremes, large amounts of topical moisture and over radiant heated subfloors. With this system tile is to be placed into adhesive film prior to adhesive cure. A complete transfer of adhesive to the back of the tile must be achieved.

General directions are as follows:

1. Spread recommended adhesive in area to be covered in accordance with adhesive label directions spreading only enough adhesive that can be covered over within its working time. Trowel up to layout lines. Proper adhesive application and tile placement usually requires working "backward." Working this way helps to avoid spreading too large of an area and adhesive setting up prior to tile placement.
2. Place tile into wet adhesive film. Wet film will allow some "slip" if tile placement needs to be adjusted slightly. Continue laying tile by carefully placing them into the wet film. Do not press hard or kneel on newly tile installed tile as this may result in adhesive displacement or oozing. If it is necessary to work on freshly installed tile use kneeling boards or similar apparatus. We recommend that periodically a tile be lifted and checked to ensure adhesive transfer.
3. Thoroughly cross roll installed area using the recommended weighted three-sectional-roller. Rolling procedure should involve rolling first in one direction (north/south), the other (east/west), then diagonally. This would ensure proper transfer of adhesive onto tile backs. Proper transfer is when 90% or better of the tile backs are smeared with adhesive with little or no distinct trowel ridges visible. Failure to ensure this can lead to tile loosening later.
4. Continuing working backward follow this same procedure when installing other areas of the jobsite. Roll completed areas occasionally and entire job upon completion.
5. Do not allow traffic on floor a minimum of 24 hours after installation. Allow only light traffic on the floor for the next several days or until recommended initial maintenance has been performed. Do not maintain the floor for at least 3 days after installation.

Type III: SpraySmart System

The **Tarkett** #120-SG or 121-SG SpraySmart adhesives systems are the first major revolution in floor covering adhesives in the last several decades. They incorporate a proven installer friendly delivery system with a unique bubble forming adhesive offering a strong bond and unequaled moisture and alkali tolerance.

Adhesive advantages include:

- Moisture tolerance of up to 10 lbs
- Alkali tolerance of up to 12.
- Immediate maintenance and use of area installed.

Consult the SpraySmart Installation Guidelines for complete instructions on the use of this system.

FINISHING THE JOB

- Sweep the floor and remove scraps from the area.
- It is absolutely essential that all exposed edges be covered using cove base, wood moldings, or quarter round.
- Apply a bead of non-staining silicon or non-staining latex caulk around bathtubs, shower stalls, and toilets.

MOVING APPLIANCES

Do not move appliances, equipment or furniture directly across the new Azrock flooring, or try to slide furniture or equipment in place with a piece of carpet pile face down.
Appliances or equipment should be "walked" from one plywood panel to another until it is in place. Loaded panels must not be pushed across the flooring.

CAUTION: Resilient flooring should be the last material installed in a new construction or remodeling. If this is not possible, the new floor should be fully protected from other construction traffic and activity.

MAINTENANCE OF AZROCK VINYL ENHANCED TILE

Azrock's Vinyl Enhanced Tile is polyurethane enhanced with **TARKETT's** unique Tritonite II , a procedure developed by **Tarkett** to meet floor utilization demands. This enhancement pre-seals the product thus limiting the adhesion of soiling agents and, in doing so, greatly simplifies the initial maintenance procedure and reduces the amount of additional coats of finish that need to be applied prior to opening the floor to traffic.

In most cases newly installed flooring will only require a mopping with properly diluted Neutral Floor Cleaner prior to application of Commercial Floor Polish. The pre-sealed surface of Vinyl Enhanced Tile means that in most cases only 1 to 2 coats of polish is necessary prior to placing the floor into service. In addition, excellent maintenance results are easily obtained by spray buffing either during the initial maintenance procedure or during the normal General Maintenance cycle.

The following guidelines are a general overview appropriate when normal quality maintenance products are utilized. We would suggest that products manufacturers recommendations be consulted and followed. Before application of any finish, the **Azrock** floor tile must be clean and free of all foreign matter before applying additional coats of floor finish. Initial maintenance should begin only after all tiles are thoroughly bonded to the subfloor. Up to a week is usually required for the tile to become properly seated when using conventional trowel applied adhesives. When using the Spray Smart System intial maintenance may commence immediately. Any moisture or cleaning fluid allowed to get under the tile during the bonding period will attack the tackiness of the adhesive, resulting in unnecessary expense for replacement due to breakage. Daily sweeping with a soft broom or damp mopping is the only maintenance recommended during this period. If the possibility exists as to extreme amounts of dirt and debris to be present on the newly installed floor, prior to initial maintenance procedure, tile may be given a light coat of finish a day after installation to help protect the floor. In this case floor would need to be stripped prior to initial maintenance to remove the finish and construction dirt.

After the initial bonding period, a deep scrubbing with a quality commercial neutral cleaner, is usually all that is required to prepare the new tile floor for the needed coats of floor finish. In some instances, the new tile floor may require more than a deep scrub due to abuse received from construction activities.

IMPORTANT: Floor sealer use is NOT recommended.

RECOMMENDED MAINTENANCE PRODUCT CHART

The products listed in this chart have shown demonstrated success in maintaining **Azrock** Flooring products. If products other then those listed are being considered they should be of similar or greater quality and specifically recommended by their manufacturers for the flooring product and the areas of intended use considering site conditions.

Manu-facturer	**Neutral Cleaner**	**General Purpose Cleaner**	**Buffable Floor Finish**	**Non-Buff Floor Finish**	**Stripper**
Johnson-Diversey	Stride	GP Forward	Signiture	Complete	Bravo
Spartan	Damp Mop 8	SD-20	TriLinc	On & On	EnduraStrip
Hillyard	Super Shine all	Renovator	Super Hil-Brite	One Plus	Arsenal
Buckeye	Straight Up	Crossroads	LiquiMax	Lucent	Juggernaut

Note: All warranties and guarantees regarding the suitability and performance of these products (floor finish/polish) if not supplied by Tarkett, rest with the material manufacturer or the maintenance contractor, and not with Tarkett.

JOB CONDITIONS REQUIRED

1. AC/Heat fans must be operating to assure circulation and drying.
2. Water and plumbing in building must be in working order.
3. Hot water heater must be hooked up and operating.
4. Floor area must have adequate lighting.
5. Electrical plug outlets in floor area must be "hot" and properly grounded.
6. All debris and equipment must be removed from the floor area.
7. An adequate supply of Commercial Floor Stripper should already be on hand.
8. All spray painting and clean-up procedures that will generate airborne dust particles must be completed before floor preparation begins.
9. Secure the services of an experienced, professional floor service to provide necessary equipment and manpower to complete the job.

EQUIPMENT REQUIRED

To prevent delays and to complete the job in a reasonable amount of time, a professional floor service may be considered to provide the following equipment to complete the initial strip and finish operation:

- Clean dust mops
- Mop heads and handles (soak new mops 24 hours)
- Buckets with wringers
- Blue/Green stripping pads or equivalent natural fiber brushes
- Side-to-side slow speed buffers, generally 375 RPM or slower
- Automatic floor scrubbing machine (with full charge)
- Foot Traffic Safety "Caution: Slippery When Wet" Signs

NOTE: The number of pieces of equipment required depends on the size of the job and the manning required to complete the maintenance with the time allowed.

FINISHING NEW **AZROCK** VINYL ENHANCED TILE FLOORS

1. Consult and follow application instructions on product labels.
2. Dust mop entire floor area and remove gum, tar, glue, etc. from floor.
3. Properly DILUTE Commercial Floor Cleaner according to manufacturer's directions.
4. Dip mop in cleaning solution, let excess solution drain off and apply cleaner liberally to floor. Let cleaner set on floor 5 minutes before scrubbing. DO NOT FLOOD FLOOR.
5. Important: With blue or green pad or equivalent bristle brushes, pass over each tile section at least twice. Do not rush this procedure-it is crucial. If necessary, apply more solution to keep floor wet so that it is wet at all times during the deep scrub procedure. Do not let solution dry under any conditions.
6. After a section is deep scrubbed, pick up the cleaning solution immediately with automatic scrubber or clean mop and clear water. Rinse the floor clean and allow to dry.
7. Pour a quality Commercial Floor Polish into clean mop buckets.
8. Use new properly prepared or clean mops for applying floor finish.
9. Dip mop in floor finish, place mop in wringer and tamp lightly. The mop should be full but not dripping.
10. Apply one to two thin coats of finish to floor. Under normal conditions, allow a minimum of 45 minutes drying time between coats. One or two additional thin coats of finish should be applied prior to opening building for use.
11. Important: AC/Heat must be in operation to assure adequate drying time and

curing of finish between coats. Temperature and humidity level in the building will determine drying time.

CAUTION: Do not dry buff, spray buff or burnish vinyl Enhanced tile or asphalt tile floors without prior applications of a metal cross-linked acrylic finish which is resistant to neutral cleaners. Do not dry strip under any conditions.

If followed closely, these procedures will prevent costly delays and unnecessary expenses resulting from a new floor that has not been prepared properly for the owner.

SPRAY BUFFING: Spray buffing is a common and effective method of commercial maintenance. If desired, this may be done by attaching a spray applicator or using a hand-held spray applicator and lightly spraying a diluted floor finish (1 part finish to 3 parts warm water) or a commercially formulated spray buff solution onto the floor. Buff the solution in before the liquid can dry. A thin, protective, glossy film remains after buffing the liquid dry, leaving the base coat (if applied) intact, reducing the need for stripping. High traffic areas may require refresher coats more frequently.

CAUTION: Make sure the power buffer is in good condition and may be used on wet floors safely. Make sure there is not exposed wiring and no danger from electrical shock. A wet soapy floor is slippery, so move about cautiously. Electric shock hazards exist, so use a ground fault circuit interrupter for any electrical connections in a wet environment.

WARNING: When performing maintenance with a buffer, you may occasionally buff floors other than Azrock Vinyl Enhanced Tile floors. Other floors may contain asbestos, and if maintained improperly could release asbestos fibers. Breathing asbestos fibers can be hazardous to your health. Make sure that you are buffing an Azrock Vinyl Enhanced Tile floor, or check with the manufacturer of the commercial floor to insure that it does not contain asbestos. Never dry buff flooring which contains asbestos. Azrock Vinyl Enhanced Tile floor products do not contain asbestos.

STRIPPING PROCEDURE - EXISTING TILE FLOORS

1. Dust mop entire floor area and remove gum, tar, glue, etc. from floor.
2. Mix 3 quarts of hot water with 1 quart of Commercial Floor Stripper.
3. Dip mop in stripping solution, let excess solution drain off and apply stripper liberally to floor. Let stripper set on floor 5 minutes before scrubbing. DO NOT FLOOD FLOOR.
4. Important: With blue or green pad or equivalent natural fiber brushes, pass over each tile section at least twice. Do not rush this procedure-it is crucial. If necessary, apply more solution to keep floor wet so that it is wet at all times during the stripping procedure. Do not dry strip under any conditions.
5. After a section is stripped, pick up the stripping solution immediately with automatic scrubber or clean mop and clear water.
6. If using a scrubber, pick up any stripper left behind with cool water and clean mop. Additional rinsing is usually not necessary. Allow area to dry completely prior to application of finish. Finish floor following steps 7 to 11 as indicated under the FINISHING NEW **AZROCK** TILE FLOORS section below.
7. Move stripping operation to next area of floor and repeat the procedure.

MAINTENANCE OF AZROCK TEXTURED SURFACE SLIP RESISTANT TILE

Azrock Slip Resistant Tile offers a safer walking surface than smooth surfaced flooring, making it an excellent choice for areas in commercial interiors where slip resistance is a concern. A clean, well maintained surface is essential to preserve the beauty, durability, and performance of **Azrock** Slip Resistant Tile. **Azrock** Slip Resistant Tile should be maintained in the same manner as other **Azrock** Vinyl Enhanced Tile products except:

1. First sweep and/or vacuum the floor to remove grit and dirt which could be ground into the finish if left too long. As with any embossed product, bristle brushes should be utilized in lieu of nylon pads for any scrubbing operation. We recommend a polypropylene bristle such as that provided by Clark/Pullman™ or an equivalent. We do not recommend Slip Resistant floors be scrubbed or buffed with nylon pads. High Speed machines should not be used on **Azrock** Slip Resistant Tile.

2. The use of a quality floor finish is definitely recommended. Appropriate floor finishes will meet or exceed the minimum co-efficient of friction slip resistance of 0.50 as measured by the James Machine (ASTM F-2047). Excessive applications of finish or finish build-up should be avoided. These circumstances would affect the proper performance of the slip resistant surface. In most cases no more than 2 thin coats are necessary. During normal maintenance floor should be observed to determine if a refresher coat of finish is necessary, most likely in the high traffic areas. Apply single coats of refresher finish when deemed necessary only in traffic areas where needed. Taking care to avoid finish build up along wall and fixture perimeter areas.

3. As with any flooring material manufactured to aid in surface traction increased maintenance will be necessary. These surfaces do tend to "grab" dirt particles from foot wear and "hold" onto them. Since each area where this material will be utilized will have different environmental and use conditions maintenance frequency will need to be adjusted. Normally the areas selected for Slip Resistant Tile receive more than normal amounts of traffic and spillage, thusincreased attention to maintenance will be necessary.

4. Stripping of the floor should be done when needed using a quality Commercial Floor Stripper, and re-coated. Normally a polypropylene bristle brush is appropriate for use when stripping, however if the floor is unusually dirty a clean grit impregnated brush may be used. This brush is abrasive and should not be used on a consistent basis. Never use carbide brushes.

SPECIAL MAINTENANCE PRECAUTIONS

• SCRATCH WHITENING - it is industry experience that all resilient tile products when scratched, produces a fracture resulting in a "white" scratch easily noticeable on dark colored tile. This is not a manufacturing related issue or a sign of wear, but rather exposure of the predominately limestone component of all resilient tile. While scuffs and scratches will still occur on lighter tile, they are camouflaged by the light background of the tile pattern. In fact all resilient tile manufacturers point out that, darker-colored patterns may be susceptible to scratch whitening. These colors may require more frequent maintenance if used in field areas. On a similar note, the use of bold or solid color tile should be limited in abusive areas such as under chairs and desks.

• SPILLS - Most spilled household substances and virtually all spills encountered in a commercial environment should be wiped up immediately with an absorbent paper towel or white cloth and the area washed with full strength Neutral Commercial Floor Cleaner or household detergent. If removal is not complete, try rubbing with isopropyl alcohol or lighter fluid. Alcohol and lighter fluid are flammable; follow all recognized cautions when using these products.

• SLIPPERINESS - Water, other liquids, chemicals and foreign matter on the surface of the floor can cause it to be slippery. They should be removed immediately! Incompatible floor finishes can cause slipperiness. Do not allow furniture polish to come in contact with the floor, whether finished or unfinished. It will cause severe slipperiness! Caution signs should be placed in commercial areas where the floor becomes slippery and should remain until the condition has been fully remedied.

CAUTION: When washing, finishing or stripping the floors, traffic should be excluded from the area because wet floor surfaces are usually slippery. The use of improper waxes and floor finishes can cause problems such as slipperiness and dirt accumulation.

• STAINS - All resilient floor coverings, especially white or light colors, can be

stained by certain materials. These include tracking from asphalt paving or asphalt driveway dressing, solvent liquid or past waxes, certain formulations of rubber casters or furniture cups, shoe sole material, shoe polish, lipsticks, pigmented clays, paints, pigments, petroleum by-products and tires. In many instances, tire stains are difficult or impossible to remove. Be sure your **Azrock** floor is properly protected from contact with these materials. Protect the floor from direct contact with tires. Use either extra tiles or a piece of Plexiglas to provide protection.

• INSECTICIDES, DISINFECTANTS AND SOLVENTS - Care should be exercised in the selection and excessive use of insecticides and disinfectant sprays, such as those used in hospitals. Some disinfectant and insecticide sprays contain oil or solvents which may settle in sufficient quantity on the floor to discolor, cause slipperiness and harm the floor covering. These include some cleaning agents containing caustics, strong soaps, or solvents such as gasoline, kerosene, or turpentine.

• COATINGS such as shellac, lacquer, varnish, and paste wax or those containing aromatic solvents are NOT recommended for **Azrock** floors. The may permanently injure the flooring surface. NOTE: There are a number of specialized clear urethane or epoxy formulated "permanent" maintenance coatings be marketed for application on mainly vinyl Enhanced tile floors. Some of these products, if not applied correctly or applied on newly installed tile or on poorly bonded tile have lead to tile release from the substrate. **TARKETT** makes no statement as to these products acceptability for use on our resilient flooring products. Damage resulting to flooring from these types of coatings will need to be addressed by the manufacturer and / or applicator of such coating.

• SWEEPING COMPOUNDS OR MOP TREATMENTS WITH PETROLEUM SOLVENTS, SILICONE COMPOUNDS OR LOOSE ABRASIVES - Solvent oils may adversely interact to change surface hardness of the floor finish, cause slipperiness, and shorten the service life of the tile. Improper or harsh abrasives may unduly scratch the finish. Use only floor sweep and mop treatments that contain water based or emulsion based materials that are compatible with the floor finish.

• STILETTO HEELS - Resilient flooring, as well as wood and other commercial floors, may suffer visible damage as a result of the extreme high forces (up to 2,000 pounds per square inch psi) exerted by stiletto or high heels. **TARKETT** will not accept claims for damage caused by stiletto or high-heeled traffic. Stiletto or high-heel damage is intensified by protruding nail heads. An exposed nail head on a stiletto heel can exert a force up to 6,000 psi. **Azrock** commercial resilient flooring and other types of commercial flooring are not designed to perform under such concentrated high pressure.

CAUTION: Do not dry buff, spray buff or burnish Vinyl Enhanced tile or asphalt tile floors without prior applications of a metal cross-lined acrylic finish which is resistant to neutral cleaners. Do not dry strip under any conditions.

MAINTENANCE HINTS

- Use full width entrance walk-off mat. Clean mats frequently. Do not use walkoff mats with rubber base that can come in contact with floor tile. Stains often result when rubber comes in contact with vinyl Enhanced tile.
- Sweep floors daily to remove grit and dirt which will be ground into the finish if left too long.
- Buffing over the finish with a polishing machine adds luster to the finish coat and helps dislodge dirt and blends touch-up spots with original finish coat.
- Operators of ultra-high speed machines must be thoroughly trained in the machine's proper use. Improperly used, these machines can damage any resilient floor covering.
- Don't polish floor finishes until thoroughly dry - such action kills its luster.
- Don't apply floor finish in a heavy coat. One or several thin, even coats provide better floor protection and improved appearance.
- Mop with clear water if dirt accumulation is not removed by sweeping. DO NOT flood the floor when mopping.
- Be sure no floor cleaner film is left on the floor before applying finish. Floor finish over a floor cleaner film reduces the water resistance of the finish and may leave a spotted floor.
- Touch up worn spots in heavy traffic areas before finish film wears through completely. Usually, it is not necessary to reapply finish to the entire floor.
- NEVER apply floor finish over a dirty surface. The dirt will be trapped under the new coating. If the floor has been exposed to traffic since the last floor finish application, it should be mopped clean.
- Do not force-dry any brand of acrylic floor finish. This often will cause powdering of the finish.

CONTINUING GENERAL MAINTENANCE

JOB CONDITIONS

Interior air conditioning or heating must be in operation.

EQUIPMENT REQUIRED

See previous page for a list of equipment needed. The amount of each item will be determined by the cleaning crew size required to finish a defined area within an allotted time. Improperly equipped crew members will waste time and increase maintenance costs.

STRIPPING PROCEDURE

See previous page for details on stripping. If a new brand of finish is being applied after an incomplete stripping, there is a good possibility that the new brand may not adhere to the old one. To prevent "non-adherence" of the new finish, it is very important that the old finish be removed completely.

APPLICATION OF FINISH

See previous page for details on finish application. Do not rub in the finish. A coat of finish will dry to a sheen in approximately 45 minutes depending on temperature and humidity. Apply coats depending on gloss & protection desired.

For further information regarding Azrock Product Warranties and Floor Care procedures write to:

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