

Amtico Marine

Installation Guidelines

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Areas of use

Amtico Marine LVT products are suitable for interior use only on ships and other marine installations. Amtico Marine LVT products comply with the International Maritime Organization SOLAS regulations and are approved under both European MED and UK UKCA requirements.

Receiving materials, conditioning & storage

Before laying flooring, all materials must be checked to ensure that the batches are identical and free from defects. Complaints with regard to clearly identifiable defects cannot be accepted once the flooring has been laid.

Boxes of Amtico Marine LVT products should be removed from pallets and separated from one another as part of the acclimatisation process. Ensure that the heating/air conditioning is fitted and operating. Alternatively, temporary heating or cooling may be used to maintain a constant temperature within the specified range.

Amtico Marine LVT products, adhesive and subfloor must be allowed to stabilise to a constant temperature between 18°C-27°C for a period of at least 24 hours before, during and after installation. If Amtico Marine LVT products and adhesive have been stored outside of this temperature range, then it is recommended that acclimatisation is increased to 48 hours. Amtico Marine LVT products must be stored flat and kept away from direct sunlight, heaters or air vents for proper conditioning.

Preparation and installation should not begin until all other trades have been completed.

Subfloor Preparation

The suitability of subfloors and site conditions must be assessed prior to beginning an installation to ensure that they are in accordance with Amtico Flooring and subfloor manufacturers' guidelines and national standards.

Good preparation is essential as the finished appearance of the floor will only be as good as the quality of the base and preparation over which it is installed. The base should be hard, smooth, clean, dry and free from defects. The surface should be even in order to achieve good fitting and adhesion. Any irregularities in the subfloor will show through the finished floor.

The guidance notes provided by Amtico Flooring are intended to give general information on the methods that can be used to prepare various subfloor types.

The quality and preparation of subfloors, testing for moisture content and relative humidity, and installation procedures must be in accordance with Amtico Flooring technical guidelines and country specific standards (BS 8203 and BS 8204 for UK).

Moisture in Subfloors

Moisture testing of all subfloors is essential before installation can begin. This is true of new and old buildings. Moisture testing must be carried out and recorded. All moisture tests must be undertaken in accordance with Local regulations (e.g. BS 8203 for UK) and using an appropriate method to suit the subfloor type. The subfloor may be considered dry when the relative humidity is 75% or below. If readings are above this level, a surface damp proof membrane can be applied. Consult manufacturers for instructions. Alternatively subfloors can be given sufficient time to dry.

Solid Subfloors

Preparation

The suitability of subfloors and site conditions must be assessed prior to beginning an installation to ensure that they are in accordance with Amtico International, subfloor manufacturers' guidelines, national standards and within marine requirements. These must be of sound construction, hard, smooth and clean (free from grease, dust and other foreign matter), dry and free from cracks and defects.

Existing Resilient Floors

It is recommended that Amtico Marine LVT products are not directly applied over existing resilient flooring. Generally, the old flooring should be removed and the base prepared to suit the type of subfloor uncovered.

Absorbent Subfloors / Smoothing Compounds

Most subfloors will require an application of a compatible smoothing compound to provide a hard, smooth and level surface to which adhesive and Amtico Marine LVT products can be applied. Generally these compounds should be applied at a minimum of 3 mm thickness. Consult the manufacturer for detailed guidance.

Non-absorbent Subfloors / Resin Based Substrates:

Non-absorbent subfloors should be shot blasted or abraded to create a more absorbent surface. It is then possible to bond directly using urethane adhesives.

Alternatively and in most instances, a smoothing compound, generally applied at a minimum of 3 mm thickness can be applied.

Metal

Direct Application

The metal surface shall be cleaned/degreased and then prepared by grinding or scarifying to ensure that it is clean and free from any contamination, such as rust or metal oxide. It should be mechanically abraded to give a surface key. It is then possible to bond directly using urethane adhesives.

Indirect Application

The metal surface shall be cleaned/degreased and then prepared by grinding or scarifying to ensure that it is clean and free from any contamination, such as rust or metal oxide. It should be mechanically abraded to give a surface key. A smoothing compound, generally applied at a minimum of 3 mm thickness can then be applied.

Wood Based Substrates

All existing timber decking must be overlaid with minimum 6 mm flooring or marine grade plywood. A suitable fibre-reinforced smoothing compound should be used to smooth the entire floor area.

Moisture

Substrates should be sufficiently dry, the relative humidity shall not exceed the adhesive/subfloor manufacturers' recommendation or regulations. Moisture measurements shall be documented prior installation.

Adhesive Selection & Application

Amtico Marine LVT products must be installed with specified adhesives.

Please refer to Amtico Marine Module B for the current range.

Adhesive selection should be based on the conditions on site.

For directly bonding to non-absorbent subfloors only urethane, epoxy or MS polymer based adhesives should be considered. For absorbent subfloors all adhesives in the Amtico Marine Module B can be used.

Please note that in areas exposed to direct sun or large temperature variations a 2-part urethane or high temperature adhesive must be used.

Follow the instructions on the packaging. Spread the adhesive evenly using an A2 trowel. Do not use worn trowels.

Only spread sufficient adhesive that can be covered within the recommended working time.

Amtico Marine LVT products should be rolled with a 45 kg (100 lbs) roller after laying and before the adhesive sets - timing will depend on site conditions and adhesive selection - see data sheets for more information. Always clean away excess adhesive before it is allowed to dry - use a soft cloth moistened with water.

Do not walk on newly installed floors. Furnishings or equipment can be positioned once the adhesive has fully cured, refer to the instructions for the adhesive used.

The floor should not be cleaned for 48 hours following installation.

For any further assistance on any aspect of installation, maintenance or care of any Amtico floor please contact us on 02476861409 or email technical.support@amtico.com. Our office hours are Monday to Friday 08:30-16:45.