



# Commercial Resilient Homogeneous Sheet Flooring

## INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

Medella, Medella Well, Medella Hues, and Medella Fleck

### GENERAL

Mohawk Group guidelines for preparation and installation of Medella homogeneous resilient sheet. Full Spread is the required installation method for all Mohawk Group commercial resilient sheet applications.

**Note:** Commercial resilient sheet flooring installations required specialized applications that are different than Residential. Mohawk Group recommends contracting a qualified commercial flooring installation service for all commercial installations. The installer should be well-versed and experienced with all procedures indicative of quality installations with resilient flooring.

## I. FULL SPREAD ADHESIVE INSTALLATION METHOD PREPARATION (COMMERCIAL)

### Materials Required for Installation

- 1/16" x 1/32" x 1/32" U Notch Trowel
- Mohawk M95.0 or MS160 or Total Bond adhesive
- Recess or Under Scribes
- Heat Weld Equipment
- Sharp Utility Knife
- Straight edge
- 3 Section 100 lb roller
- Handroller for areas not accessible with 3 Section 100 lb roller
- White clean cloths and mineral spirits

### Acceptable Underlayments

- **Wood**

Wood underlayment panels require a double layer construction and must be underlayment grade as specified and warranted by the manufacturer. Always fasten underlayment panels in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations. Any failure of the underlayment or Mohawk Group flooring as a result of the underlayment is NOT the responsibility of Mohawk Group. Mohawk Group does not recommend installing resilient flooring over wood flooring or subfloors applied directly over concrete or sleeper-construction floors.



- **Concrete**—See Grade Levels below. All concrete slabs shall be tested for moisture regardless of age or grade level.  
**Suspended:** An acceptable suspended floor is a concrete or wood substrate with a minimum of 18" (460mm) of well-ventilated air space beneath it. Mohawk Group recommends that a moisture vapor barrier be placed on the ground below the air space.  
**On-Grade:** An acceptable on-grade floor is a concrete substrate in direct surface contact with the ground at the surrounding ground level. The concrete slab must be protected from moisture penetration and incorporate a proven intact moisture vapor retarder.  
**Below-Grade:** An acceptable below-grade floor is a concrete substrate partially or completely in contact with the ground below the surrounding ground level. The concrete slab must be protected from moisture penetration and incorporate a proven moisture vapor retarder.
- **VCT**—Well bonded, on or above grade, in absence of waxes or sealers.
- **Ceramic**—Well bonded and properly prepared.
- **Terrazzo**—Well bonded and properly prepared.
- **Self-leveling and Patching Compounds**—Portland or high alumina cement and meets or exceeds 3000 psi.
- **Resilient Floor**—No more than one layer, well bonded, non-cushioned.
- **Radiant Heat Floors**—Not exceeding 85° F (29° C) and approved by the manufacturer for use with resilient sheet flooring.

## UNACCEPTABLE Underlayments

- Inter-flex or any perimeter-bonded products
- Cushion-back vinyl
- Any floating floor system
- Resilient tile installed below grade
- Cork
- Carpet
- OSB - Non APA approved
- Gypsum-based underlayment

Mohawk Group will not warrant or accept responsibility of any kind for flooring failures related to the use of unacceptable substrates and surfaces.

## Floor Preparation

### **Substrate preparation should be carried out in accordance to ASTM F710.**

Floor must be clean, smooth, flat and dry. Remove all foreign substances such as wax, grease, dirt, construction marks, paints, sealers and contaminants, and any substance or chemical that would interfere with a good bond. Fill all holes and cracks with a Portland-based patching compound.

### **Moisture Testing**

It is the responsibility of the flooring contractor and the installer to test all concrete substrates, both old and new, for moisture by determining relative humidity in concrete floor slabs using In-Situ Probes, limits are based on adhesive chosen.



#### **pH Levels**

Concrete pH must not exceed adhesive limits.

#### **Inspection of flooring material prior to installation is required.**

Any defects should be immediately reported to the seller from which the flooring was purchased before installation. Mohawk Group will not be responsible for labor costs to repair or replace material with defects that were apparent before or noticed at the end of an installation. The jobsite and all flooring material and adhesive must be kept between 65° F and 85° F (18° C and 29° C) for 24 hours before, during and after installation. Installation site should never drop below 55° F during the life of the floor.

The permanent HVAC should be fully operational.

## **II. INSTALLATION FAST FACTS**

- Store Medella rolls standing upright.
- All Medella products must be installed in roll sequence. Check batch or dye lot prior to installation.
- Do not reverse edges for Medella. For Medella Fleck, Medella Hues, and Medella Well, reverse edges.
- Do not net fit Medella products until you are ready to glue. Due to tension in the factory roll it may shrink. Material must be adhered within 4 hours of cutting and fitting.
- Do not undercut seams when using a hook knife. Nothing will be left to heat weld.
- Always inspect the flooring thoroughly before installation. Report any defects PRIOR to installation.
- Never roll and store Medella products face in. If it must be temporarily rolled face in for positioning in the room, make the rolls as large as possible.
- DO NOT slide heavy equipment over or across newly installed flooring. Always lift objects and place them on hardboard on top of the flooring, and gently reposition them.
- Use caulk along bathtubs, showers, sliding doors, metal door jambs or similar areas.
- Make sure equipment has large surface, non-staining floor protectors. The protectors should be at least one inch in diameter and rest flat on the floor. The heavier the item, the wider the floor protector should be.

## **III. SEAMING INSTRUCTIONS (Important – Please note: Heat welded seams are required for Medella only)**

1. After positioning the flooring, overlap the seam edges. For non-descript/non-patterened/random designs which do not have (an obvious) pattern repeat, overlap the seam edges an average of 1”.
2. Mohawk recommends the use of recess or under scribes for seams that are only slightly open.
3. Seams CANNOT be cut tight or full or it will result in a peaked seam.
4. Double cut seams are an option if substrate will not be damaged.
5. Fold back both sides of the seam area and apply the Mohawk M95.0 or MS160 or Total Bond adhesive to the dry zone. Allow the adhesive to flash before placing the material into the adhesive.
6. Place one side of vinyl into the adhesive and roll the seam area using a 3 section 100 lb roller.
7. Place the edge of the uninstalled vinyl against the edge of the installed vinyl and press into place.
8. Using a clean cloth, repeat until all residue is removed from the surface of the Medella vinyl.



### **Infuze Seam Sealer Application (for Medella Well, Medella Hues, and Medella Fleck)**

1. Prepare vinyl according to Mohawk Group's commercial installation instructions.
2. Apply a bead (approximately 1/8") along the entire edge of the commercial sheet vinyl. Apply seamsealer to only one side of the vinyl to be seamed.
3. Complete the seam by tucking both sections of the sheet vinyl together while the adhesive is still wet.
4. Roll seam with a hand roller to remove excess seam sealer.
5. Always recap seam sealer between applications.
6. Remove any excess seam sealer by wiping with a clean dry cloth, followed by a cloth dampened with mineral spirits.
7. Dried sealer may be removed with approved adhesive remover/stripper.
8. Protect the seam area for a minimum of 6 hours to allow seam to fully cure.

### **Heat Weld Seams (required for Medella)**

Professionally heat welded seams provide a strong, watertight, hygienic, monolithic surface.

- Use only Mohawk Medella, Medella Hues, and Medella Fleck vinyl weld rods, and Medella Well non-vinyl weld rods.
- Wait a minimum of 12 hours before heat welding newly installed Medella Homogeneous sheet.
- Seam edges should be only slightly gapped (about a business card thickness) and vertical. Wide gapped and/or undercut seams will prevent quality welds.
- The depth of the groove should be 1/2 to 3/4 the thickness of the material. DO NOT go too deep. The groove must also be centered between edges. Both are critical to ensure proper strength and bonding.
- Medella weld rod measures 4mm in diameter. Recommended groove width is 3.5mm.
- Grooves must be clear of all debris including dust.
- Use only professional quality welding equipment that will maintain sufficient temperatures. A welding tip must be chosen to produce a quality weld without damaging the appearance of the sheet vinyl.
- Preheat welding gun. Temperature should be set approximately 700° F. Just above 5 on the green Leister gun. Practice on a scrap piece to fine tune temperature and pace for type of substrate and site conditions.
- Determine the correct welding speed by ensuring that the welding rod actually fuses into the groove. A small ridge must form on either side of the welding rod, at the vinyl surface. If no ridge forms, you have not heat welded the seam.
- While the welding rod is still warm, trim off 1/2 -2/3 the excess rod with a spatula knife and trim plate.
- After the rod has cooled to room temperature, make the final trim pass using only a razor-sharp spatula knife in one continuous movement.

## **IV. FLASH COVE**

- Medella Homogeneous sheet can be Flash Coved.
- All Seams must be heat welded.
- The use of cove stick is required at wall/floor junction.



- Mohawk adhesives will provide excellent grab when used as a flash cove adhesive.

## V. INSTALLATION

1. Align with the most dominant wall and using a sharp utility knife, trim away excess material along the walls, cabinet and other permanent objects, leaving approximately 2" of material (rough cut) to be trimmed off later.
2. Make relief cuts at corners to allow the material to lay flat before the final cuts are made.
3. Fold back half of the material and apply Mohawk M95.0 or MS160 or Total Bond Resilient Flooring Adhesive to the substrate using the appropriate trowel (1/16" wide x 1/32" deep x 1/32" apart U Notch Trowel). If a seam is required, leave an 18" dry zone at the edge of the seam. Then follow the Seaming Instructions listed above.
4. Do not immediately place the material into wet adhesive. To avoid bubbling, allow time for the adhesive to flash before positioning the material. Do not allow the adhesive to dry completely.
5. Slide the material in place and remove air from under the material using a 3 section 100 lb roller over the entire adhered floor.
6. All areas must be rolled. Toe kicks will require the use of a small hand roller.

## VI. ADHESIVES

### M95.0

#### Concrete Substrate Conditions

Installations on, above or below grade over APA approved wood subflooring or over concrete substrates with up to 95% in-situ RH (per ASTM F2170), and pH between 8.0 and 10.0.

#### Adhesive Working Time

No more than 30 minutes, Do not allow the adhesive to become dry to touch.

#### Recommended Coverage and Trowel

1/16" wide x 1/32" deep x 1/32" apart U Notch Trowel  
220-260 sq ft/gallon

#### Clean Up

Use a water dampened cloth to clean up adhesive while still wet; dried adhesive may require the use of mineral spirits.

#### Cleaning

Wait 48 hours before wet mopping.

**Note:** See Mohawk M95.0 TDS for further details.

### MS160

#### Concrete Substrate Conditions

Installations on, above or below grade over APA approved wood subflooring or over concrete substrates with up to 95% in-situ RH (per ASTM F2170), and pH of 11 or less.

#### Adhesive Working Time

Working time should not exceed 4 hours under acceptable temperature and humidity conditions.

**Recommended Coverage**

140-160 SF/ spray can

**Clean Up**

Use a water dampened cloth to clean up adhesive while still wet; dried adhesive may require the use of mineral spirits.

**Cleaning**

Wait 48 hours before wet mopping

**Note:** See Mohawk MS160 TDS for further details.

**Total Bond****Concrete Substrate Conditions**

No RH or pH testing required.

**Adhesive Working Time**

Working time is approximately 45 minutes under acceptable temperature and humidity conditions.

**Recommended Coverage and Trowel**

1/16" wide x 1/32" deep x 1/32" apart U Notch Trowel

180-250 sq ft/gallon

**Clean Up**

Use a water dampened cloth to clean up adhesive while still wet; dried adhesive may require the use of mineral spirits.

**Cleaning**

Wait 6 hours before wet mopping

**Note:** See Mohawk Total Bond TDS for further details.

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