

# ARMALONG & ARMATRANS

## ENGINEERED INSTALLATION SYSTEM

### QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE

<b>Installation:</b>	Conform to AS 1884 – 1985
<b>Types of subfloors:</b>	Concrete – timber
<b>Installation system:</b>	Full spread, heat-welded seams
<b>Pattern match:</b>	No match
<b>Coving:</b>	Readily coveable with pre-formed cove fillet
<b>Adhesives:</b>	SV-100
<b>Trowel Size:</b>	1.5mm deep, 1.5mm wide, 2.5mm apart (S-891 notched steel trowel)
<b>Special Precautions:</b>	Do not roll material face in. Do not use solvents to clean surface
<b>Recommendations:</b>	Allow to acclimatise to room temperature (18°C). Roll entire floor area with 45kg roller. Do not allow heavy rolling loads for at least 24 hours after installation
<b>Weld Rod:</b>	Use matching weld rod as per colour chart

# INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

## INITIAL PROTECTION:

Armstrong highly recommends the installed floorcovering be protected from construction site debris, dirt, soil, traffic and stains, all of which can damage the unprotected flooring.

Armstrong recommends the use of Armstrong Topgard loose laid over the floorcovering. The floorcovering must be clean, free of all debris and must be dry. Do not tape the Topgard to the surface of the floorcovering.

Responsibility for the protection of the finished work until handed over to the client should be arranged prior to installation.

## TO THE INSTALLER:

Please note that if material has been cut, fitted, or installed, NO ADJUSTMENTS or CLAIMS (if any) will be considered due to the failure to comply with any of the following. Before cutting and installing Armstrong floorcoverings make sure that you:

1. Check for obvious manufacturing defects in good daylight conditions.
2. Check that the material is the correct colour, pattern and quantity ordered by customer.
3. Material should be allowed to acclimatise to job climatic conditions for 24 hours at 18°C. Never install the material if the temperature in the room is less than 15°C as per Australian Standard AS 1884 – 1985 Section 3 – 1.
4. Use only Armstrong recommended adhesive specifically formulated for each Armstrong product.
5. All rolls of Armstrong products are marked with a 'Batch Number'. When using more than one roll make sure the rolls have the same 'Batch Number'.
6. After loosely laying the first two strips, before adhering, step back and inspect the overall effect. If acceptable, then go ahead and adhere, but if there seems to be a problem or doubt of any kind then stop immediately and call the distributor or Armstrong Customer Service on 1800 632 624.
7. Do not cut or install any damaged or defective material unless accepted, agreed and approved by all parties concerned.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Existing resilient flooring backing, or lining felts should **NOT BE SANDED**. These products may contain asbestos fibres that are not readily identifiable. You should note the details in the 'WARNING' panel set out later in these instructions **BEFORE YOU PROCEED ANY FURTHER**. If you have satisfied the requirement of the warning then, providing it does not conflict with any applicable laws, the following procedure is suggested to remove existing resilient floorcoverings.

The wear layer should be cut into narrow strips, being careful not to score the subfloor. The narrow strips should then be peeled from the backing by pulling or rolling around a core which will control the stripping angle and create a uniform and more constant tension.

After the wear layer has been removed, the remaining felt should be scraped by using scrapers (MUST NOT SAND). Any unevenness in the subfloor due to scraping should be levelled and smoothed using an underlayment as per manufacturers recommendations.

## SUBFLOORS

The condition of the subfloor not only has an important bearing on the appearance of the finished installation, but can dramatically affect the life and serviceability of the floorcovering. It is essential, therefore, that the subfloor be dry, hard, rigid, smooth, level, clean and free of dust and grease.

## CONCRETE SUBFLOORS

Concrete subfloors must be cured and completely dry. The surface must be steel trowelled to a smooth dense surface free of trowel marks and irregularities, as per Australian Standards.

Concrete slabs in contact with fill, hardcore or the ground must have a damp-proof membrane to prevent entry of moisture. Water proofing additives and curing compounds do not replace the damp-proof membrane. New slabs should dry for at least one month per 25mm thickness.

Care must be taken to ensure that the surface of the concrete is free of parting or curing compounds, oil, grease, paint, dust and any other substances which may prevent the adhesive from forming a secure bond. The surface of the concrete must be smooth and level, completely free of cracks, holes and protrusions.

If the surface is not satisfactory it should be repaired and levelled with a cementitious underlay, applied according to manufacturers recommendations.

When curing compounds, hardeners, sealers or parting compounds have been used, they have to be completely removed by sanding, sandblasting or grinding prior to the installation of Armalon NG and Armatrans as this will impair the bond of the adhesive. *A MOISTURE TEST SHOULD ALWAYS BE CARRIED OUT PRIOR TO INSTALLATION.*

## HEATED SUBFLOORS

Armalon NG and Armatrans can be installed over heated subfloors. However, it is imperative that the temperature at the surface of the slab does not exceed 28°C. Prior to the installation the heating should be turned on for a number of days to remove traces of residual dampness that may be present in the subfloor. The heating should be turned off 48 hours prior to and during the installation and shall not be turned on until 48 hours after the installation is completed, in order to allow the adhesive to set.

# IMPORTANT: PLEASE READ CAREFULLY BEFORE YOU START

## TIMBER SUBFLOOR

All timber subfloors must have at least 450mm of good cross ventilation under the floor to prevent distortion and movement of flooring membrane as well as excessive movement of underlay. New timber subfloors should be rigid, sound and constructed of seasoned timber and free from excessive cupping and warping.

Old timber subfloors should have all loose boards re-nailed and badly worn or damaged boards must be replaced. If necessary, sand floor to a level finish without undulations. Overlay subfloor with hardboard or approved fibrous cement vinyl flooring underlayment. The underlay sheets must be installed and fastened as per manufacturers recommendations.

The sanded areas must be sealed prior to the installation of the floorcovering, as recommended by the manufacturer.

Underlay must be installed over structural particleboard using the adhesive and nailing fixing system specified by the underlay manufacturer.

## EXISTING RESILIENT FLOORS

Armstrong recommends the removal of existing resilient floors. If this is not practical, adequate care should be taken to ensure the existing resilient floor is to an acceptable standard to receive new floorcoverings.

The existing resilient floor must be smooth (not textured, or embossed, enough to show through the final installation), completed and firmly bonded and properly installed on recommended subfloors. Existing resilient floor must **not** be cushioned, and must have no evidence of moisture, alkaline salts or hydrostatic pressure. Polish and other finishes should be removed from existing floor covering by thorough stripping. Indentations and damaged areas should be replaced or repaired. NOTE – Existing resilient flooring may contain asbestos fibres which are not readily identifiable. You should note the details under "WARNING" section set out later in these instructions before you carry out these steps.  
**ADDITIONAL OPEN TIME OF FLOORING ADHESIVE MAY BE REQUIRED TO REDUCE ENTRAPMENT OF AIR UNDER Armalon NG & Armatrans WHEN LAYING OVER EXISTING RESILIENT FLOORS.**

## JOB CONDITIONS

Job conditions should be as outlined in Australian Standard AS 1884 – 1985 – 3 – 1. Temperatures in areas to be covered should be maintained at a minimum 18°C for 48 hours prior to, during and after installation. Please note that cold subfloors have considerable influence on the open time of flooring adhesive.

## EXPANSION JOINTS

Armstrong does not recommend that resilient floorcoverings be installed across expansion joints. Various expansion joint covers are available and should be specified by the architect or agreed between the contractor and the purchaser.

## SEAMING INSTRUCTIONS

### HEAT WELD

- All factory edges should be removed, using the Armstrong S-33 edge trimmer during installation.
- Scribe seams using Armstrong S-83 Recess Scriber set to provide a gap of 0.5mm – 1.0mm. Cut on scribe line and roll cut edge into adhesive using hand roller. Roll entire floor using 45kg roller.
- Heat welding should only be done when adhesive is completely cured (24 hours)
- Rout or groove the seam in a "V or "U" shape to a minimum of  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the material depth using a grooving machine or hand groover with a sharp blade against a straight edge, so that both sides of the seam are grooved equally and uniformly.
- For best results and to reduce damage to the surface **use an Armstrong S-65 speed nozzle**
- Set temperature setting on the hot air welder, fitted with an **S-65 speed nozzle**, to deliver enough heat to fuse weld rod to sheet. Amperage of electrical supply, length of extension cord and wire size will affect the temperature setting. As a guide, a Leister weld gun fitted with an **S-65 speed nozzle** should be set to heat setting of around 7. Practice on a piece of scrap material until correct setting is achieved.
- Insert weld rod into the **S-65 speed nozzle** and immediately insert the rod into the groove.
- Hold the gun at the proper angle so that the tip of the **S-65 speed nozzle** is parallel with the material. A good weld will result when the rod just starts to flair, and no more, on each side of the seam. If the rod flairs excessively you are going too slow, the **Armstrong** weld rod should ultimately fall apart before scorching the material if the heat setting is correct.
- To change directions in welding, shave off excess welding rod and groove the end of the rod for approximately 20mm. Start welding from the opposite direction and continue welding until you overlap the initial grooved weld rod and continue for another 20mm before lifting weld off.
- Allow weld rod to completely cool before skiving (trimming)
- Once weld rod is cooled off, skive off in two passes. The first pass using a quarter moon (spatula) knife with a trim plate. The second pass should be flush with the material. Too much weld rod flair or an uneven seam will result in the top surface of the material being removed exposing the material backing.

## **WARRANTY**

### **Product:**

Armstrong warrants its regular (first quality) products to be free from manufacturing defects for five (5) years from the date of purchase. This warranty is extendable to **ten (10) years** should the recommended Armstrong engineered installation system be followed.

### **Installation:**

Armstrong warrants the installation integrity of these products for **ten (10) years** from the date of purchase. Installation integrity means that the products are installed according to Armstrong's expressed written recommendations using the Armstrong engineered installation system.

**NOTE:** Vinyl flooring manufactured in Australia after January 1, 1984, **DOES NOT** contain asbestos. However, regulations, codes and directives as to the best method of handling asbestos do exist and it is the obligation of the installer to ensure that practices used are safe, without risk to health, and meet all legal requirements.

**ALL ARMSTRONG WORLD INDUSTRIES (AUSTRALIA) PTY. LTD.  
FLOORCOVERINGS, ADHESIVES & ACCESSORIES ARE MANUFACTURED ASBESTOS FREE**



Do not sand, dry sweep, dry scrape, drill, saw, beadblast, or mechanically chip or pulverise existing resilient flooring, backing, lining felt or asphaltic 'cut-back' adhesives.

These products may contain either **asbestos fibres** or **crystalline silica**.

Avoid creating dust. Inhalation of such dust is a cancer and respiratory tract hazard.

Smoking by individuals exposed to asbestos fibres greatly increases the risk of serious bodily harm.

Unless positively certain that the product to be removed is a non-asbestos containing material, you must presume it contains asbestos. Regulations may require that the material be tested to determine asbestos content.

Note: Vinyl flooring manufactured in Australia after 1<sup>st</sup> January, 1984 **does not** contain asbestos.

### **Disclaimer – Asbestos issues**

The warnings and guidance contained in these instructions in relation to the potential for asbestos in floorcovering materials are given in good faith. However, regulations, codes and directives as to the best method of handling asbestos are under continual revision. It is the obligation of the installer to ensure that practises used are safe, without risk to health, and meet all legal requirements.

Armstrong World Industries (Australia) Pty. Ltd. accepts no liability for any loss, costs, expense or injury, however incurred, arising from the presence of any asbestos in any floorcovering materials or asphaltic 'cut-back' adhesives and/or any reliance placed upon the procedures and recommended practises contained in these instructions.

**Initial Care:** (upon installation): Must conform to Australian Standard AS1884-1985 Floor Coverings – Resilient sheet and Tiles – Laying and Maintenance Practices, Section 4.3. "Fast Start" does not constitute a pre-sealed surface.

MANUFACTURERS INSTRUCTIONS – to provide a working surface prior to hand-over:

1. Remove all debris. 2. Sweep / vacuum / dust mop. 3. Complete one of the following options.

Option 1 – Scrub floor using a neutral detergent (Armstrong ONCE 'N DONE). Rinse surface with fresh water. Ensure surface is completely dry then apply a minimum three (3) coats of high quality, metal cross-linked finish (Armstrong SHINEKEEPER). Allow the surface to dry completely between each coat. Dry burnish.

Option 2 – If floor is badly soiled: strip back floor surface using a low alkali stripper (Armstrong NEW BEGINNING). Rinse surface with fresh water. Ensure surface is completely dry, then apply a coat of high quality sealer (Armstrong PREMIUM SEALER). Allow the surface to dry completely then apply a minimum three (3) coats of high quality, metal cross-linked finish (Armstrong SHINEKEEPER). Allow the surface to dry completely between each coat. Dry burnish.

**For Further Armstrong Information  
Freecall 1800 632 624  
[www.armstrong-aust.com.au](http://www.armstrong-aust.com.au)**