INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

Conditions and Requirements: Concrete floors shall be constructed in accordance with the American Concrete Institute (ACI) 302.1 R-95 Guide for Concrete floor and Slab Construction. Floors must be finished and cured according to ACI with a minimum compressive strength of 3500 psi. Floors must be clean, dry and smooth. Any surface materials, such as paint, wax, grease, oil, adhesive residues, etc. must be removed. Floors must be free of any sealers, curing, hardening or parting compounds that would adversely affect the adhesive used with the flooring. An adequate moisture vapor retarder shall be installed prior to pouring of on or below grade slabs. Moisture vapour transmission shall not exceed 5 lbs./1,000 sq. ft/24 hours, per ASTM F 1369 Calcium Chloride Test. In addition the concrete's internal relative humidity must not exceed 75% as tested per ASTM F 2170 in-situ relative humidity testing. As a general rule, a 4" thick slab will require a minimum 3-month drying time before performing moisture tests. Concrete surface pH must be tested in several locations and be below a pH of 9.9. It is recommended that independent moisture testing be performed by companies specializing in this type of work/testing (not by the flooring contractor) and that if remedial moisture reduction systems are required that they be provide by companies specializing in moisture remediation and providing full warranty coverage.
Wood floors must be double construction with a minimum thickness of 1". The top layer shall be APA Underlayment Grade Plywood or other underlayment panel approved and warranted beneath resilient flooring.
Maintain room temperature, adhesive and flooring material at 20° - 25°C for 72 hours before, during and after installation.
Do not start installation if any conditions are not correct. Bring deficiencies to the attention of the general contractor, architect, designer or other appropriate parties. Beginning of flooring installation means acceptance of existing substrate and site conditions on the part of the flooring contractor.

Preparation: New subfloors should be sanded to remove any paint, wax, grease, oil, plaster, sealers, curing compounds and other foreign materials that may be present from the construction process. Old existing subfloors, in particular subfloors with adhesive residue contamination must be mechanically abraded via bead blasting or diamond cup grinding. No exceptions. A thorough vacuuming should be done to ensure a dust-free substrate.
Remove all subfloor ridges and bumps. Fill low spots, cracks, control joints and other defects with a Portland cement-based latex underlayment material. Follow manufacturer's printed mixing and application instructions. High spots may need to be ground down to ensure a surface flatness of 3/16" in 10 ft. Always allow patching material to dry/cure completely before installing the Tajima Dolce Resilient Floor Tile.

Adhesive: Tile shall be adhered with Mapei Ultrabond ECO 710 adhesive or equivalent. Apply adhesive with a 1/32" x 1/16" x 1/32" notched trowel. Follow manufacturer's printed mixing and application instructions.
Tile installed in areas that will be exposed to severe or abnormally-heavy rolling loads and/or excessive surface moisture (such as the grocery store produce sections, loading docks, etc.) shall be adhered with EP Group 96 Plus 2-component polyurethane adhesive or equivalent. Follow manufacturer's printed application instructions. Flooring must be rolled in its entirety with a 100 lb roller.

Tile Layout: In laying out the installation of the Tajima Dolce Resilient Floor Tile the use of a transit or laser is recommended to strike guidelines. The lines should be positioned so that tile will be used economically, with as little waste as possible. Care should also be taken with the tile layout to provide for the largest size border pieces and as a uniform size as possible.

Laying Tile: Ensure that tile is all from the same dye lot/batch. Mix tile from cartons to ensure shade variations are consistent. Failure to follow this may result in out of shade tile. Tiles should be laid following previously established guidelines. Lay tile in a pyramid fashion, making sure each tile is firmly butted to the tiles laid before, in some cases tile run-off may occur due to uneven subfloor surfaces. To correct this, snap a new chalk line ¼ inch less than the next full tile size. Cut tile to fit along the new chalk line. Continue installing tile from this new straight line.
Terminate flooring at centerline under doors or where adjacent floor finish is different.
Install reducer strips at unprotected or exposed edges where flooring stops.
Scribe flooring to walls, columns, cabinets, floor outlets and other stationary objects to produce tight joints.
Install flooring under movable partitions and under open cabinets without interrupting tile pattern.
Roll and cross-roll entire flooring with a 100 lb floor roller. Failure to do so may result in trowel ridge telegraphing and poor adhesive bond.
Tajima Dolce Resilient Floor Tile may be cut with traditional tools and methods, such as tile cutters and utility knifes.

Protection: Use plywood panels to protect flooring from damage that may occur when moving heavy objects directly over flooring.
Prohibit heavy traffic and pallet jack type rolling loads on floor tile for 72 hours after installation.