

**DESIGN MATERIALS INSTALLATION SPECIFICATION
ON FLATWOVEN & TUFTED WOOL CARPET**

FOR A GENERAL GUIDELINE WE RECOMMEND CRI-104, MINIMUM STANDARDS OF COMMERCIAL CARPET INSTALLATION. A COMPLETE PDF FILE OF THESE GUIDELINES ARE AVAILABLE ON-LINE AT; www.carpet-rug.com

APPROVED INSTALLATION METHODS;

- **DIRECT GLUE-DOWN INSTALLATION**
- **DOUBLE GLUE-DOWN INSTALLATION**
- **STRETCH-IN INSTALLATION**

SITE CONDITIONS -All Installations

■ **Temperature and Humidity** – Carpet must be installed when the indoor temperature is between 65-95°F, with a maximum relative humidity of 65%. If ambient temperatures are outside these parameters, the installation must not begin until the HVAC system is operational and those conditions are maintained at least 48 hours before, during and 72 hours after completion. Inside temperature should never fall below 50 degrees.

■ **Floor Preparation** – Carpet must be installed over properly prepared substrates that are suitable for the specific product and installation method selected. There is a minimum of 18” of air space under wood sub-floors.

■ **Concrete floors**, even with adequate curing time, can present an unacceptable moisture condition by allowing excessive amounts of moisture vapor to pass through to the surface. This can be a problem even on suspended concrete floors. Test all concrete floors for moisture emission rates using an anhydrous calcium chloride moisture test kit. As a general guideline, an emission rate of 3.0 lbs. or less is acceptable. **Alkalinity**, a pH reading above 9 requires corrective measures and is not suitable for installation.

TRIMMING AND SEAMING

■ **Trimming** – Carpet edges at seams must be trimmed far enough into the material to maintain the structural integrity of the carpet and to join edges without gaps or overlaps. Never cut carpet directly on top of carpet without use of a board. ‘Top Cuts’ can easily occur on flat-weaves and loop pile carpeting.

■ **Sealing Edges** – Once the edges are trimmed, both trimmed edges of the carpet sections to be joined **must** be sealed with an appropriate seam adhesive. Latex seam sealer or thermoplastic adhesives are acceptable. Seam adhesive must be applied in a manner that encapsulates both primary and secondary backings without contaminating face yarns. **IMPROPER SEALED EDGES OFTEN LEAD TO SEAM DELAMINATION OR LOSS OF FACE YARN.** This will be considered an installation, related claim.

■ **Seams** – Flat-weaves should be seamed in the length. Place seams where main traffic runs **along** rather than across the seam. Cross seams will be more visible and should be avoided. Better results are obtained if incident light does not strike across the seam.

UNPROTECTED EDGES

■ At the **Transition** between carpet and other floor coverings, carpet edges must be protected and covered with appropriate molding. In transition areas, the edge of the hard surface must be a minimum of 1/16” higher than the carpeted flooring. Seam sealer must be applied to the edge of the carpet at the transition area.

■ **DMI expects all installers handling our materials, be familiar with the CRI-104, minimum guidelines for installing commercial carpeting. These guidelines are readily available to all dealers and installers. Many of those guidelines will prove helpful. We also recommend ‘Certified’ installers with experience in flat-weave and loop pile wool carpeting, they require more time and attention to detail for a successful installation.**

■ **Prior to Installation, all Material needs to be carefully inspected. All these products are made from ‘Natural’ fibers, containing various inherent irregularities synthetic fiber does not.**

■ **DMI will not cover the cost of Labor on visible claims, so it is important to inspect prior to investing your time. Carpet can only be returned prior to cutting and installing.**