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## Fishman Sound Absorber

### Data Sheet, General Information, Installation Instructions, & Warranty

#### I GENERAL INFORMATION

**Fishman Sound Absorber** sound control underlayment is a flat, resilient underlayment that is used directly under a variety of floor finishes, including ceramic tile, LVT, wood, laminate, and stone, yielding exceptional results over both concrete and wood joist constructions. Sound Absorber is made from 92% resilient recycled rubber. It is available in 4' wide rolls, and in two standard thicknesses.

- 2mm (120 lbs – 4' x 75' = 300 sf roll size)
- 5mm (100 lbs – 4' x 30' = 120 sf roll size)
- 10mm (100 lbs – 4' x 15' = 60 sf roll size)

#### II ACCOUSTICAL INFORMATION

1. The STC (Sound Transmission Class) rating was calculated in accordance with ASTM E 90.  
As rated **STC 63**
2. The IIC (Impact Insulation Class) rating was calculated in accordance with ASTM E 492.  
As rated **IIC 50 – 72** varies due to floor and ceiling assembly

#### III JOB SITE CONDITIONS

Areas to receive Sound Absorber should be weather tight and maintained at minimum, a constant room temperature of 65°F (10°C) for 48 hours before, during, and after installation.

#### IV SUBFLOOR REQUIREMENTS & PREPARATION

##### A. GENERAL

**NOTE:** Please follow the subfloor requirements and preparation recommendations determined by the flooring manufacturer, when no such recommendations exist for the floor finishing product.

1. All subfloors/substrates must be inspected prior to installation.
2. Install Sound Absorber over concrete, gypsum, approved self-leveling materials, and wood.
3. Wood subfloors should be double construction, rigid, and free from movement.
4. Wood subfloors (when installed with grouted floor coverings like tile) must be prepared according to ANSI L/360 standards, as required by the floor covering manufacturer.

**NOTE:** Particleboard, often called “chipboard,” masonite, and lauan are not suitable underlayments.

5. Concrete floors must be fully cured and permanently dry. Subfloor shall be dry, clean, smooth, level, and structurally sound. It should be free of dust, solvent, paint, wax, oil, grease, asphalt, sealers, curing and hardening compounds, alkaline salts, old adhesive residue, and other extraneous materials, according to ASTM F710.
6. Subfloor should be smooth to prevent irregularities, roughness, or other defects from telegraphing through the material. The surface should be flat to the equivalent of 3/16" (3.9mm) in 10', as described in ACI 117R, or as recommended by the flooring manufacturer.
7. Mechanically remove all traces of old adhesives, paint, or other debris by scraping, sanding, or scarifying the substrate. DO NOT use solvents.
8. Grind all high spots until level and fill low spots with an approved patching/leveling compound.
9. All saw cuts (control joints), cracks, indentations, and other non-moving joints in the concrete must be filled with an approved patching/leveling compound. Allow patching material to dry thoroughly.
10. Any concrete subfloor can be a source of moisture-related flooring failures. It is the installer's responsibility to test the concrete or other cement-like material for moisture.
11. Maximum moisture vapor emission of the concrete must not exceed 5 pounds per 1,000 square foot in a 24 hour period, as measured by the calcium chloride test method in accordance with the ASTM F1869 standard. If vapor emissions exceed acceptable limits, the installation should not proceed until the problem has been corrected. (*refer to Fishman recommended adhesives*)
12. Moisture can also be measured using the RH, Relative Humidity test method, per the ASTM F2170 standard. Moisture content should not exceed 80% RH. If levels are higher using either test method, THE MANUFACTURER recommended vapor retardant must be utilized. (*refer to Fishman recommended adhesives*)
13. If using other approved adhesives, please refer to manufacture's acceptable limits.

## **V MATERIAL STORAGE AND HANDLING**

### **A. GENERAL**

1. Deliver the material to the job site in its original unopened packaging with all labels intact and stored appropriately to prevent damage.
2. Inspect all material for visual defects before beginning the installation. THE MANUFACTURER will honor no labor claim on material installed with any visually apparent defects.
3. Verify the material delivered is the correct type, thickness, and amount. Report any discrepancies immediately.
4. The material and any adhesive must be acclimated at room temperature for a minimum of 24 hours before starting the installation.
5. Roll material is stretched slightly when it is rolled at the factory. At the job site, the installer should allow all cuts to relax before gluing down. Shaking the material once it is unrolled can help it to relax more quickly.

## VI INSTALLATION

### A. **INSTALLING** Fishman Sound Absorber

1. Assume the walls you are butting up against are not square. Using a chalk line, create a starting point for an edge of the material to follow.
2. If you have not already done so, remove the shrink-wrap from the roll and unroll it onto the floor. Shaking the material once it is unrolled can help it to relax.
3. Place the Sound Absorber material so that it is perpendicular to the subsequent installation direction of the topping material.
4. Trim the ends of each section, as necessary, in order to fit the surface area to be covered. You may trim section ends to exact dimensions required (e.g. joints with walls, etc.).
5. Align the lengthwise edge of the material exactly with that of the neighboring section. Edges must contact but not overlap.

### B. **GLUING** Fishman Sound Absorber

**NOTE:** This product is not to be used under glue-down LVT or LVP. When using grouted or fully adhered flooring materials, the Fishman Sound Absorber shall be fully adhered to the substrate with a suitable adhesive. No substitutions are permitted.

1. Fold the first drop lengthwise (half the width of the roll). Spread adhesive using the proper notch trowel below.
  - a. 2mm Sound Absorber – Use a 1/16" x 1/32" x 5/64" U Notched trowel
  - b. 5mm Sound Absorber – Use a 1/16" square notched trowel
  - c. 10mm Sound Absorber – Use a 1/16" square notched trowel

**NOTE:** Temperature and humidity affect the open time of adhesive. The installer should monitor on-site conditions and adjust open time accordingly.

2. Carefully lay the material into the wet adhesive. DO NOT let the material fall, because this will trap air beneath the material.
3. Fold over second half of first sheet and first half of second sheet (see below diagram A).

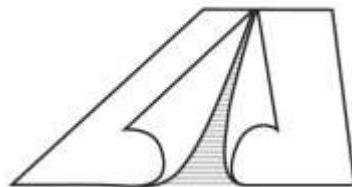


Diagram A

4. Spread the adhesive. At seam area, spread adhesive at 90 degrees to seam to prevent excessive adhesive oozing up to the surface of the material.
5. Continue the process for each consecutive drop. Always work at a pace so you are always folding material back into wet adhesive.
6. Never leave adhesive ridges or puddles, as they may telegraph through the material.

7. Use a 35 to 75 lb roller to roll over the floor within 45 minutes to ensure proper transfer of adhesive. Overlap each pass of the roller by 50% of the previous pass to ensure that the floor is properly rolled.

## VII ALTERNATIVE INSTALLATION METHODS

### A. USING TAPE (FOR FLOATING FLOOR COVERING INSTALLATIONS)

1. Dry lay the rolls onto the subfloor following the directions on previous page.
2. Use duct tape or a high-quality carpet tape to secure the butt joints and seams.

**NOTE:** Gluing down Sound Absorber is not required for floating floors.

## VIII FLOOR FINISH

### A. GENERAL

1. Follow the flooring manufacturer's directions for installing the flooring. Use their recommended adhesives, procedures, and equipment.
2. **Do not** mechanically fasten any material through Sound Absorber. Any mechanical connection, such as nails, screws, staples, etc., will transmit noise through to the building structure, compromising the performance of the product.
3. Sheet vinyl is not an approved installation method over the Sound Absorber. Please contact THE MANUFACTURER for factory laminated sheet vinyl products.

### B. INSTALLATION

1. Install self-locking floors, such as wood laminates, over approved Sound Absorber following the manufacturer's recommendations.
2. Glue standard wood flooring directly to Sound Absorber, using the flooring manufacturer's recommended urethane adhesive.
3. If a flooring manufacturer recommends the installation of a layer of plywood or cement board between the Sound Absorber and the finished flooring, glue the recommended board using a suitable adhesive.
4. Install grouted flooring materials with thin-set mortar applied directly over the approved thickness of Sound Absorber.
5. When the flooring installation is complete, trim any excess perimeter isolation strip material, so it is flush with the surface of the finished floor.

## **IX RECOMMENDED MATERIALS**

**NOTE:** All materials shall be delivered to the job site in the original containers with the manufacturer's identification on each package. Unauthorized modification to any product is not permitted. The following materials are listed because of their extensive testing and field experience with Sound Absorber products.

### **A. APPROVED ADHESIVES**

1. Refer to Mapei LOR's (Letter Of Recommendation)
  - **WOOD** – LOR 2016-373, use Ultrabond 980 for gluing underlayment to floor and then to glue Wood to underlayment (use manuf. recommended trowel)
  - **CERAMIC** – use Ultrabond 980 for gluing underlayment to floor and use Ultraflex 2 or better to adhere the Ceramic or Porcelain to underlayment (use manuf. recommended trowel)

### **B. THIN-SET MATERIALS**

1. ANSI A118.4 Standard Modified Dry-Set Cement Mortar
2. ANSI A118.15 Improved Modified Dry-Set Cement Mortar

## **X Limited Lifetime Warranty**

THE MANUFACTURER offers a limited lifetime warranty on the Fishman Sound Absorber Sound Insulation products against defects in material and workmanship, and Sound Absorber shall meet all published specifications and perform effectively. THE MANUFACTURER warrants that during the warranty period, Sound Absorber shall not harden, become brittle, chip, crack, tear, or exhibit any signs of excessive deterioration except for normal wear and tear. All other warranties, including implied warranties for a particular purpose, are expressly excluded. The sole remedy against the seller will be the replacement or repair of the defective goods; or, at seller's option, credit may be issued not exceeding the selling price of the defective good.

The recommendations for applications and installation contained within this document are based on our extensive experience and current technological practice. THE MANUFACTURER liability and responsibility in the event of damages is limited to the extent defined in our General Terms and Conditions of Business and is not in any way increased by advice given by our sales representatives or applications engineering staff.

*(Please refer to: L Fishman & Son, Inc. Disclaimer of Implied Warranties – copies available upon request)*