

SP101 AND UNDERFLOOR HEATING (UFH)



Since SP101 is manufactured to the very highest standards and is fully certified as compliant with BS8203 Plywood Annex A, it is suitable and reliable as a component in built-up subfloors where both warm water and electrical under floor heating systems are installed.

The strictly defined manufacturing tolerances including moisture content, timber species, balanced construction, and specific EN 314-2 Class 3 glue used in veneers bonds, ensure SP101 has excellent dimensional stability under heat. The thermal effect from UHF operating temperatures on SP101 can therefore be considered as negligible.

In summary, SP101 is a relatively stable material which can be expected to perform much better under heat stress than other materials such as plastics, metals, and adhesives, all of which can be especially vulnerable to dimensional changes when subjected to constant fluctuations in subfloor temperatures.

Moisture

The presence of moisture in any built-up subfloor construction is always a significant consideration. It is well known that the control and mitigation of moisture throughout and after installation is of paramount importance to the appearance and performance of the finished floor. These considerations are particularly essential when installing under floor heating.

Moisture levels in newly built properties can be quite high and greater care will be needed to allow materials to be adequately dried prior to proceeding with installation.

In all instances UFH systems must be run through a full drying/commissioning cycle of heating up and cooling down before any subfloor preparation or installation of decorative floor coverings are installed. This period of commissioning is usually around 21 days.



For more information visit:
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NBS Source



TIMBER DEVELOPMENT UK



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Overview

Underfloor heating (UFH) is now a hugely popular, appealing and potentially cost-effective source of heating, hence its increased desirability within the UK market.

The type of floor-covering installation needs to be taken into consideration when designing the UFH. Insulation factors of floor coverings will obviously affect the performance of the UFH whilst some flooring installations may be affected by high subfloor temperatures and also by large fluctuations in subfloor temperatures. Subsequently, those in charge of operating the UFH should be aware that sudden large changes in subfloor temperatures must be avoided at all costs.

Design Considerations

Most floor coverings can be used over UFH, however this should not be taken for granted. The important principle to bear in mind is that UFH relies on the upper surface of the floor covering being warmed to a temperature of 23-29°C, which will result in an adhesive bond-line temperature that should not exceed a nominal 29°C. However, some manufacturers within the contract flooring industry prefer to recommend a maximum adhesive bond-line temperature of 27°C. Floor coverings and adhesives should therefore be specified and used by considering: heat output required; floor covering and resultant floor temperatures; and manufacturers' recommendations for all the specific products under consideration.



BS 8203 Code of Practice for the Installation of Resilient Floor coverings states: "When used with many flooring materials UFH can cause problems if the temperature at the interface between the subfloor and flooring exceeds 27°C or is subject to rapid fluctuations in temperature. In the majority of installations this temperature will not need to be exceeded if the building insulation meets the requirements of Part L of the Building Regulations."

Further detailed information is available within the CFA Guide to Contract Flooring in the underfloor heating section

Scan the QR code for full details:



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