

# Vinyl Soundproofing Underlayment - VCU Installation Instructions for Glue Down, VCT & Linoleum

## Prep Work

- Failure to follow installation instructions could result in voided warranty
- Floor should be permanently dry – check for moisture vapor emissions – should not exceed 3 lbs
- If relative humidity is over 75%, product should not be installed

1. Inspect concrete sub floor for any open cracks and fill with high-grade epoxy filler. Remove any excess concrete lumps or residue that may interfere with the installation of the underlayment.

## Wood Floor

Sub floor should be properly sloped, structurally sound, level, and clean. Good grade plywood that does not exceed deflection of L/360 of span including live and dead loads should be used.

The **VSU**<sup>®</sup> system consists of a baseboard and a top-board, each with a layer of interactive adhesive. Small irregularities in the sub floor, such as joints and cracks, but also wooden substrates are leveled out perfectly by **VSU**<sup>®</sup>. The base-board is also equipped with an isolating and leveling layer (silver foil), which has to be laid facing down on the sub floor. The adhesive layers of both boards have to face each other by tapping them with a rubber hammer; the glue layers will react and form a unity.

2. **VSU** tiles must acclimatize in their sealed packaging, in the room where they are installed for at least 48 hours, at a temperature of at least 65° F. Before starting your installation of **VSU**<sup>®</sup> make sure your sub floor is permanently dry, and clean, (no dust). (Fig. A)

## Material needed for installation

- 4 mil poly plastic sheet / vapor barrier (required)\*
- Perimeter isolation foam (optional)\*
- Acoustical Sealant (optional)\*
- Aluminum Tape\*
- Double side tape (optional)

## Material available from Sound Seal

6 mil poly plastic sheeting is required over a sub-floor heating system

## Tools needed for installation

- Utility Knife
- Rubber mallet
- Measuring tape

## Installation Instructions

1. Install 4 mil poly sheeting (vapor barrier) over all areas where **VSU**<sup>®</sup> is going to be installed. Use double side tape to attach poly sheeting at walls. Overlap poly sheet joints at least 8 inches. These overlaps must be sealed over their total length with aluminum tape. Installation of **VSU**<sup>®</sup> over a sub-floor heating system requires a 6 mil poly sheeting. (Fig. B)
2. Install the precut 3/8" thick perimeter isolation barrier vertically around the perimeter of the entire floor, piping, and all other obstacles. Never mechanically fasten the isolation foam with screws, nails or staples as this will severely diminish the acoustical value of the entire sound rated floor system. (Fig. C)
3. Install the first row of **VSU**<sup>®</sup> baseboards as follows: The first baseboard of the first row has to be shortened to 3/4 of its length. All baseboards of the first row to be cut in half parallel to the length of the boards. Then install the first row with the protection foil facing against the perimeter foam. This also applies for the actual floor covering, which is to be fitted on the **VSU**<sup>®</sup>, keeping the same clearances from all walls, pipes, or other obstacles. The second row: The first whole baseboard has to be cut to 1/4" of its length. Then place the following baseboards in brick-fashion. (Fig. C)

**The top-boards:** Just before the installation of the top boards remove the protective film of the baseboards.

Always start the first row with a full size top-board and the next row with a half size one. Working this way all the joints of the base boards will be covered, giving that extraordinary stability to the **VSU**<sup>®</sup> system.

**Important:** Do not walk on the layer of adhesive.

**Note:** It is important that joints from the baseboard are staggered from the top board. (Fig. C & D)

## Finished Floor

4. Tap or roll all the top boards with a rubber hammer or a 100 lbs roller. Always check the finished **VSU**<sup>®</sup> sub-floor for irregularities. Any irregularities of the joints can easily be sanded away with a 120-grain fine sand paper. Vacuum clean the finished **VSU**<sup>®</sup> sub-floor before gluing the floor covering. When PVC Strips floor covering are to be glued on **VSU**<sup>®</sup>, fit the **VSU**<sup>®</sup> 24 hours before. The floor covering is to be glued on to the total surface of the **VSU**<sup>®</sup> and is not to exceed the edge of the **VSU**<sup>®</sup> sub floor: So the floor covering stops and starts where **VSU**<sup>®</sup> stops and starts. For the best result and because of possible influences of air humidity, glue the floor covering on the **VSU**<sup>®</sup> sub-floor no later than 48 hours.
5. Trim back the perimeter isolator to the height of the finished floor using a utility knife. **Install base boards 1/16" off the finished hardwood floor to prevent flanking paths. Caulk gap using Sound Seal acoustical caulk, if desired. (Fig. E)**

