

# Installation Guide

The following is a guide of how to install IOBAC paramagnetic resin over the following substrate. This is a guide listed out in bullet points for you to follow as a continuation to your IOBAC training.

## **Preparation of a Polished Concrete Subfloor up to 98% RH**

- Ensure the subfloor is of a sound condition with any indentations or cracks properly repaired with a suitable patch repair.
- Apply a light STR or Polyvac to the entire surface.
- Sweep the area clean of any contaminants and foreign objects that could result in the resin having raised or high points.
- If after the above steps the floor is level, sound and clean then the resin can be installed directly to this surface.

## **Preparation of an uneven/heavily damaged polished concrete subfloor up to 98% RH**

- If the Polished Concrete floor is extremely damaged or uneven then it may be necessary to use a levelling compound. Apply a suitable primer then once cured apply a high moisture tolerable levelling compound.
- Once your levelling compound has cured, apply a light STR or Polyvac to the entire surface removing any raised or high points ensuring a level and sound surface. When you have completed these steps continue to follow steps set out in "Preparation of a polished concrete subfloor up to 98% RH".

## **Preparation of a Plywood Subfloor**

- Ensure the Plywood to be of a sound condition and securely fixed with all joints butted tightly together.
- Feather finish all adjoining joints with a tight skim over the entire working area ensuring that all gaps and screw heads are sufficiently covered.
- Once the feather finish has cured apply a light STR or Polyvac to the entire working area removing any raised or high points to ensure a level and sound surface.
- Sweep the area clean of any contaminants or foreign objects that could result in the resin having raised or high points.
- Apply IOBAC resin.

### **Preparation of a Vinyl, VCT or Linoleum Subfloor**

- IOBAC can be installed directly to a sound clean Vinyl, VCT or Linoleum subfloor.
- If the current installation has been installed over a number of years with no obvious signs of damage from moisture penetration you can install direct to this surface. If you have a newly laid floor check RH (Relative Humidity) levels and installation history.
- Ensure that there is no bubbling to the Vinyl, VCT or Linoleum, any tears or damage/loose or cracked tiles will need to be repaired with an appropriate feather finish or patch compound.
- STR or Polyvac the vinyl, VCT or linoleum surface's with a copper disc or sanding pad to allow the resin a point of adhesion.
- If the vinyl has bevelled edges these will need to be smoothed with a feather finish prior to the installation of IOBAC resin. Once feathered STR or Polyvac to smooth.
- Sweep the area clean of any contaminants and foreign objects that could result in having raised or high spots.
- Apply IOBAC resin.

### **Preparation of a Terrazzo Subfloor**

- IOBAC can be installed directly to the surface of a Terrazzo floor, ensure the Terrazzo is of sound condition, level and clean of all contaminants.
- If you have cracked/damaged terrazzo tiles or the grout is missing these areas will need to be suitably repaired and levelled before the installation of IOBAC resin.
- Apply a light STR or Polyvac to the entire Terrazzo surface removing any contaminants and ensuring that the surface is prepared, level and sound. This will help the resin adhere to the Terrazzo floor.
- Sweep the area clean of any contaminants and foreign objects that could result in having raised or high spots.
- Apply IOBAC resin.
- If the Terrazzo floor is heavily damaged or uneven then it may be necessary to apply a levelling compound. Apply a suitable primer then once cured apply a high moisture tolerable levelling compound and follow steps set out in "preparation of an uneven/heavily damaged polished concrete subfloor".

### **Preparation of a Ceramic surface**

- If you have a Ceramic floor where you wish to install IOBAC you will need to identify any loose or hollow tiles. Remove the tiles and fill with a suitable patch repair compound levelling this off to the height of the remaining tiles.
- Apply a primer to the entire ceramic surface allowing to dry, then apply a 3mm moisture tolerant levelling compound over the ceramic tiles and repaired sections.
- Once your levelling compound has cured apply a light STR or Polyvac to the entire surface removing any raised or high spots ensuring a level and sound surface.
- Sweep the area clean of any contaminants and foreign objects that could result in the resin having high spots.
- Apply IOBAC resin.
- If you have a ceramic floor with no grout lines and the floor is level and of a sound condition then you can apply IOBAC direct to the ceramic. Apply a light STR or Polyvac to help the resin adhere to the surface of the ceramic before installation.

## Preparation of intended working area

- If you are starting a large area – tape the edges of the intended area that you will be installing that day so that you have a defined starting point for the following day's work.
- Ensure the tape has been removed once the IOBAC resin has been installed and before the resin has cured. This will leave a clean straight join for you to continue the following day.
- If you cannot tape the area due to the tape not adhering to the subfloor, mark the area intended for that day's work and flat trowel the edge of the IOBAC feathering it down. This will allow you to roll over the edge the following day bringing it level to the previous day's work.
- Once the edges have cured it may be necessary to lightly sand, STR or Polyvac the adjoining edges. Remove any resin that has peaked during application or during the removal of tape to ensure there is no transfer to the vinyl.
- If you have had to lightly sand the edges make sure to remove any dust or contaminants. This can be done with a slightly damp mop or cloth leaving a clean surface in preparation for the installation of the magnetic floor finish.

## Mixing of the 3 part IOBAC Paramagnetic Resin

- Allow yourself a clear area for mixing making sure that if you are mixing over a prefinished surface that it is sufficiently protected.
- Prepare the tins opening enough for that days intended work. We suggest that you measure the intended work area and allow enough units for the m<sup>2</sup>/ft<sup>2</sup> for that night/day's work. If you have an area that falls below or above a whole unit then reduce the area so that you do not mix more resin than needs to be installed picking up the shortfall on the next day/nights work, this will reduce the wastage of material.
- Line the tins up in the correct sequence for mixing, this will help with the speed and efficiency of getting the product prepared.
- Make sure you are wearing the correct protective clothing. Ensure that you have latex gloves on before handling the resin, a suitable dust mask would also be advisable when mixing large quantities.
- Mixing will require a minimum of 2 people.
- Empty Part A (resin) into a suitable mixing bucket using a spatula ensuring that you remove all of the resin from the 2.5ltr tin, continue to add Part B (The Hardener) into the mixing bucket along with part A, mix both parts together for 25-30 seconds or until you achieve a consistent translucent colour.
- Please make sure that all tins have been thoroughly emptied using a spatula as shown in your training. If resin is left in the tins this will reduce the overall coverage per unit (6.5m<sup>2</sup> or 70sqft).
- Continue mixing the resin whilst your colleague adds Part C (Paramagnetic Additive).
- The Paramagnetic Additive should be added to Part A+B (In the bucket) ensuring that the tin is rotated allowing the content to flow out of the tin in a controlled and even manner. You should avoid pouring part C (Paramagnetic Additive) too quickly into the mix as this will result in an uneven distribution of additive through the resin mix.
- Continue mixing all three parts for approximately 30-40 seconds or until you have a consistent, even grey opaque colour.
- Only one unit is to be mixed at any one time. Never mix two units together in the same container as this will cause the paramagnetic additive to sink to the bottom. This would also create an uneven spread of additive through the resin mix.

### **Applying IOBAC Paramagnetic Resin**

- To apply the IOBAC Paramagnetic Resin you will need a 3mm V Notch Trowel and a High Density Foam Roller sleeve and roller cage.
- Pour the resin from the mixing bucket onto the subfloor. Trowel the resin out in manageable sections always working your way backwards.
- Ensure you always work with a wet edge and make sure to trowel with even spreads. Do not leave areas of the resin to 'pool' as this may mirror through the vinyl.
- All edges should have sufficient resin applied leaving no dry patches.
- Once you have trowelled out an area of at least one unit or 6.5m<sup>2</sup> (70 square feet) you will be ready to roll the trowelled area.
- If you are installing a large area over a number of nights/days please ensure that you regularly change the trowel as this will wear down thinning out the resin (shown in pictures on page 5) and causing the magnetic grab between the top magnetic surface and IOBAC's surface to be reduced.

### **Rolling the Resin**

- Load the roller with resin never adding a dry foam sleeve to a finished trowelled area, roll any excess resin off in a suitable area.
- Roll in a smooth and controlled fashion applying very little pressure to the roller if you roll the resin with a fast action this can lift the resin and introduce air causing the resin to bubble.
- Once you start rolling do not stop in between rolls or leave the roller in the resin. Stopping will cause depressions which will cause unevenness in the resin.
- Do not roll over the same point too many times as this can also introduce air into the resin which may cause the resin to bubble on curing.
- Continue to follow behind your colleague who is trowelling but making sure to leave enough space for them to continue trowelling.
- Repeat both processes until you have reached or finished the desired work area.
- You will have an approximate working time of 10-15 minutes per unit (dependent on humidity).
- Allow the resin to cure over the next 60 minutes before installation of the magnetic floor finish. In some cases the resin may need additional time to cure so make sure to feel/touch the resin and ensure it is suitably cured. Curing times are dependent on humidity in the country or area you're working in.
- The resin should have a smooth slightly rippled dark appearance when trowelled and rolled correctly, if the trowel wears down or the resin is rolled to thin it will appear rough with the trowel marks showing.



### Installation of the Magnetized Floor Finish

- Once the IOBAC Paramagnetic Resin has cured sufficiently you are ready to install your magnetised top floor covering.
- Magnetized tiles are installed in the same way in which you would generally install standard tiles but without any adhesive (dry fitting).
- While you are installing the magnetic floor finish you may notice some contaminants have cured in the resin or that you have slight bubbling. You should remove this by using a long handled blade scraper or sandpaper. Make sure the resin is completely level before installing magnetized tiles.
- Ensure no small objects are stuck to the back of the magnetized tiles as this may result in small highpoints mirroring through the chosen floor covering.

# Installation Guide | Equipment

## Equipment required for mixing and installation

- 1x Battery Drill
- 1x Decorators Whisk
- 1x Flat Head Screwdriver (for opening tins)
- 1x Box of Latex Gloves
- 1x Dust Mask
- 1x 3mm (3/32 of an inch) V Notch Trowel
- High Density Foam Rollers (Quantity required dependent on the size of the area)
- 1x Roller Arm and Cage
- 1x Spatula (For removing the resin from the tins)
- 1x Long Handled Blade Scraper
- 1x STR Machine or Polyvac
- Part A (Resin)
- Part B (Hardener)
- Part C (Paramagnetic Additive)
- Mixing Bucket (A minimum of 2x fresh buckets are advisable per installation)
- Rolls of Fabric Tape for sectioning off areas



Along with this installation guide and your IOBAC training you should have a clean and efficient installation. Thank you for taking the time to read through this and using IOBAC for your project. If you do have any questions or queries please do not hesitate to contact a member of the IOBAC team on the details below or alternatively visit our website.

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