

## QL SERENE DRYBACK INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

### GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

- Site conditions and substrate must be in accordance with specifications outlined in ASTM F710; particularly those relating to moisture, moisture testing, and alkalinity.
- The flooring is only intended for interior use in above-grade, on-grade, and below-grade applications.
- Acclimate the flooring, adhesives, and the jobsite for as long as necessary to reach service-conditions. Cartons should be stored flat and fully supported. Flooring must be installed in climate-controlled structures with a fully operational permanent HVAC system. Ensure a temperature of 65° - 85°F is maintained for a minimum of 48 hours before, during, and indefinitely thereafter.
- Do not double stack pallets.

### PREPARE SUBSTRATE AND CONFIRM PRODUCT

The substrate must be:

- Clean
- Smooth
- Dry
- Flat (to 3/16" in a 10' radius)
- Free of contaminants and bond-breakers
- Well fastened
- Structurally sound
- Properly cured

The product is only recommended for use over properly prepared substrates. Always perform a final acceptance inspection of the substrate to ensure all substrate requirements have been fully met. The following substrates are NOT APPROVED: lightweight concrete with a compressive strength of less than 2,500 psi, OSB, plywood-panels not of underlayment grade, Masonite, parquet, particleboard, fire-retardant/knotty/treated plywood, rubber tile, self-stick tile, sleeper substrates, strip wood, asphalt tile, concrete with a compressive strength of less than 3,000 psi, carpet/carpet pad, radiant heat systems with surface temperatures exceeding 85°F, cement backer units/board, chipboard, cushion-back sheet vinyl, floating floors, surfaces exposed to solvents or adhesive removers (including soy or citrus), fiber-cement board, hardwood, engineered hardwood over concrete.

Verify that the material is of the correct style, color, quantity, and run numbers, and ensure that the correct adhesive has been selected for area of usage. A bond test shall be performed before the installation begins. Also, confirm that all pre-installation requirements, substrate requirements, and substrate preparations have been satisfactorily met and completed. Installation of the flooring indicates acceptance of current substrate conditions, and full responsibility for completed work. Check material for visual defects before installation. Installation of the flooring acknowledges acceptance of the materials.

### BALANCE AND DEFINE THE LAYOUT

Find and mark the center point on both sides of a room. Connect these points using a chalk line to create the centerline of the area. Measure along the centerline and mark the center point. At the center point, create a 90° perpendicular line across the room. This can be accomplished using the Pythagorean Theorem 3, 4, 5 method or by using bisecting arcs.

Measure or Dry-lay from the centerline to the walls to determine the size of the perimeter pieces. If the perimeter pieces are too small in either direction, move the centerline over by one-half the width of a tile and snap a new line. This becomes the new starting line.

## QL SERENE DRYBACK INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

### ADHESIVE

The circumstances of a particular project will determine the appropriate adhesive. Use a new trowel with the proper notch to apply the adhesive as specified by the adhesive manufacturer. Do not apply more adhesive than can be covered within the working time of the adhesive. Different adhesives have different installation practices as outlined below:

- **Pressure Sensitive Installations:** The adhesive is allowed to go dry-to-touch, allowing the installer to work on top of freshly placed material without creating issues.
- **Wet-Set Applications:** The installation must be performed so the installation occurs with the installer working on the substrate and not atop of newly placed material. This is critical to prevent or minimize adhesive oozing to the surface, product shifting, and adhesive displacement. The installation should occur by defining incremental work-sections. To do so, snap chalk lines in regular intervals and in multiples of the flooring width. Work-sections should be no larger than can be comfortably reached. The installation progresses row by row, until a work-section is complete. A new work-section is then defined, installed, and completed. This pattern is continued until the project is complete.

### INSTALL PRODUCT

Begin the installation at the starting line and continue working outward. It is imperative that the first rows are precisely aligned with the starting line. As additional pieces are set, be certain that all joints are tight with no openings. The ends of the product should align perfectly. Material should be set in a pyramid fashion when installing with pressure sensitive adhesive and row by row when with wet-set adhesive.

The flooring must be rolled using a three-section 100-pound roller in the length and width directions immediately after installation. Use a hand roller in areas too small or inaccessible to a 100-pound roller

**NOTE: Various Federal, State, and Local government agencies have regulations governing the removal of in-place asbestos-containing material. If you contemplate the removal of a resilient floor covering structure that contains (or is presumed to contain) asbestos, you must review and comply with all applicable regulations. Do not sand, dry sweep, dry scrape, drill, saw, bead blast, or mechanically chip or pulverize existing resilient flooring, backing, lining felt, asphalt “cut-back” adhesive, or other adhesive. These products may contain asbestos fibers and/or crystalline silica. Avoid creating dust. Inhalation of such dust is a cancer and respiratory tract hazard. Smoking by individuals exposed to asbestos fibers greatly increases the risk of bodily harm. Unless positively certain that the product is a non-asbestos containing material, you must presume it contains asbestos. Regulations may require that the material be tested to determine asbestos content. RFCI’s Recommended Work Practices for Removal of Resilient Floor Covering are a defined set of instructions addressed to the task of removing all resilient floor covering structures. For further information, visit the Resilient Floor Covering Institute website at [www.rfci.com](http://www.rfci.com).**