



# **SFR 1" ACOUSTITILE®**

## **TECHNICAL MANUAL**

### **Installation • Maintenance • Warranty**

**Manufactured in the U.S.A. by:**



Specialized Supplies & Services, Inc.

Revised on 07 June 2021  
Supersedes all previous versions.  
Check website for updates.

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## I. SURFACES & METHODS

INTERIOR INSTALLATION			EXTERIOR INSTALLATION		
24" x 24" x 1"	Method		24" x 24" x 1"	Method	
Surface	Quad Blok only	Quad Blok +Full Glue	Surface	Quad Blok only	Quad Blok +Full Glue
QTscu Sound Control Underlayment <sup>1</sup>	Approved	Approved	QTscu Sound Control Underlayment <sup>1</sup>	Not Approved	Not Approved
Concrete	Approved	Approved	Concrete		Approved
Asphalt	Approved	Approved	Asphalt		Approved
Plywood	Approved	Approved	Plywood		Not Approved
Compact Gravel	Not Approved	Not Approved	Compact Gravel		Not Approved
Wood or Tile	Approved	Bond test <sup>2</sup>	Wood or Tile		Not Approved
Resilient Flooring	Approved	Bond test <sup>2</sup>	Resilient Flooring		Not Approved
Carpet	Not Approved	Not Approved	Carpet		Not Approved
			Roofing		Not Approved
1. QTscu Sound Control Underlayment must be installed per applicable technical manual and full-adhered with E-Grip III Note: Bond test recommended for all approved surfaces. Installer responsible to determine suitability.					

## II. TOOLS / MATERIALS REQUIRED

- Two tape measures - 25' and 50'
- Chalk line - white only!
- Saber saw (Jig saw) or band saw
- Blades for saber saw (7-10 teeth per inch, wood type)
- Utility knife with heavy-duty blades
- Framing square/metal straight edge
- Silver or gold color paint pencils
- Standard size caulk gun
- 4" slot blade screwdriver
- Notched trowel -1/8" square notch
- Safety glasses
- 1-1/2" flexible putty knife
- Coveralls
- Kneepads
- Solvent-safe rubber gloves
- Rags
- Trash bags
- Push broom or shop vac
- Mineral spirits
- Installation instructions
- String line
- Cutting table (shipping pallet)
- Dustpan
- 2-3 lb. sledge hammer or rubber mallet
- 2'x 4' to use as tapping block
- 75-100 pound three section floor roller

## III. SITE WORK

**NOTE:** Dimensional tolerance for tiles is +/- 1/8" in thickness and +/- 1/8" in width. From time to time during installation, it may be necessary to measure and hand select tiles to ensure course lines remain straight. Additionally, color tone and shading may vary to the extent that some hand selection is required to maintain maximum uniformity throughout the site.

**A. Site Elevation**

1. On grade installation - The finished installed height of the tile surface will be equal to or slightly higher than the perimeter grade unless approved by the project engineer.
2. Above grade installation - The finished installed height of the tile surface will usually require the use of perimeter reducers to transition to floor elevation unless installation terminates at a wall.
3. Tiles must be fully supported by the substrate. Substrate irregularities, unevenness, roughness, etc. should not be apparent after tile installation.

**B. Site Slope/Drainage**

1. When preparing a new hard base, if applicable, a minimum slope equal to 1 in. per 8 ft. of run shall be applied to the finished surface with slope toward the drain basin and drain trough or down-grade side of the site.
2. An acceptable drainage system needs to be put in place to eliminate standing water.

**IV. BASE OPTIONS****A. Hard Base Construction**

1. Concrete Base:
  - a. Concrete shall have a minimum compressive strength of 3000 psi. New concrete slabs should cure for a minimum of 28 days. It must be fully cured and permanently dried. Care should be taken to provide for the stated slope. The surface should be flat to the equivalent of 3/16" (4.8 mm) in 10' (3.0 m). A light broom finish is best for maximum adhesion of the Tile.
2. Paved Asphalt Base:
  - a. Use a coarse asphalt aggregate mixture; the preferred aggregate size for the adhered system is 3/8" to 1/2". Do not use asphalt mixtures with a high percentage of fines; they may become less stable hot weather and may become soft enough to allow the tiles to slide in high use areas.
  - b. The soil sub-grade must be compacted with a minimum of two passes using a 10-ton vibratory roller with no soft or moving areas upon completion. The crushed stone base must also be compacted with a minimum of two passes using a 10-ton vibratory roller. The binder and wear courses of the asphalt must both meet 95% of the theoretical maximum density of the Job Mix Formula.

Total Passing Sieve	Percent by Weight
1/2"	100
3/8"	80-100
#4	45-90
#8	30-65
#50	5-25
#200	2-8
Asphalt Cement	6-8

- c. New asphalt should be allowed to cure for 28 days before adhering Acousti Tile.

**V. INSTALLATION**

- A. Acousti Tile may be installed over most concrete, wood, or tile which is level, in good condition, and clear of dirt and loose debris.
- B. Installation should not begin until all other trades are finished in the area.
- C. Areas to receive flooring should be weather tight and maintained at a minimum uniform temperature of 65° F for 48 hours before, during, and after the installation.



- D. For installations requiring adhesion to concrete, Moisture must be measured using the RH Relative Humidity test method per the ASTM F2170 test standard. Moisture content should not exceed the allowable limit of the selected SFR adhesive.

1. SFR Rubber Adhesive III – RH limit of 85% – normally selected
2. SFR Rubber Adhesive 95 – RH limit of 95% – higher RH applications
3. SFR Rubber Adhesive 99 – RH limit of 99% – highest RH applications

If RH levels exceed the selected SFR adhesive's RH limit, stop and correct situation.

- E. In the event that a moisture mitigation system is required, it must conform to the ASTM F3010 Standard Practice for Two-Component Resin Based Membrane Forming Moisture Mitigation Systems for use Under Resilient Floor Coverings.
- F. For installations requiring adhesion to concrete, pH tests must be and be within the allowable limits of the selected SFR adhesive. If the pH is greater, it must be neutralized prior to beginning installation.
- G. Areas to receive flooring should be weather tight and maintained at a minimum uniform temperature of 65°F for 48 hours before, during, and after the installation.
- H. Unpack tiles and allow them to sit in the area to be installed. Tiles and adhesive must be acclimated at a uniform room temperature for a minimum of 48 hours prior to installation.

**NOTE:** Dimensional tolerance for tiles is +/- 1/8" in thickness and +/- 1/8" in width. From time to time during installation, it may be necessary to measure and hand select tiles to ensure that course lines remain straight. Additionally, color-tone and shading may vary to the extent that some hand selection is required to maintain maximum uniformity throughout the site.

**NOTE:** SFR Acousti Tile is manufactured from recycled materials and slight variance in shade and color chip dispersion is normal. It is the installer's responsibility to inspect all products to insure the correct style, thickness, and color. Any moderate to severe discrepancies should be reported immediately before beginning the installation. No labor claims can be paid on material installed with visual defects.

**As with any flooring product, dry laying and full inspection of all tiles will allow for a quality installation. Tiles should be inspected from several angles and adjusted as necessary.**

## VI. SITE LAYOUT

- A. Sweep area clear of all dust and loose debris.
- B. Determine a starting point for the first course of tile to best suit the site area. Because most walls are not straight or corners square, tile installations generally start in the middle of the room, so measure the width and length of the space, divide the room into 4 equal quadrants and snap chalk lines that are perpendicular (90 degrees) to each other.
- C. Place the first tile's edges where the two perpendicular chalk lines meet.

Hint: Adjust the starting point to balance the tiles side-to-side and not end up with small cuts of tile against the walls.

- D. **It is important to start the installation from a perfectly straight chalk line or attached channel or timber.**

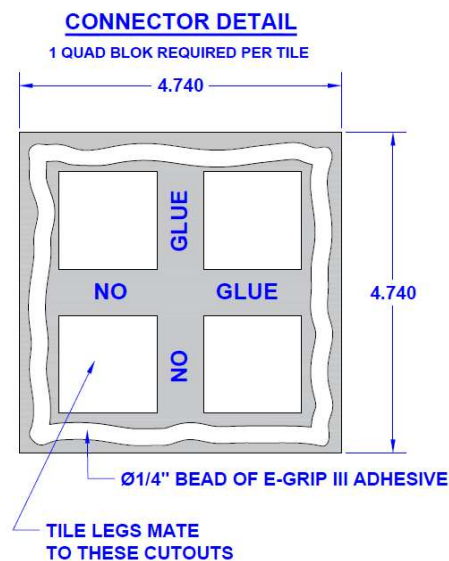
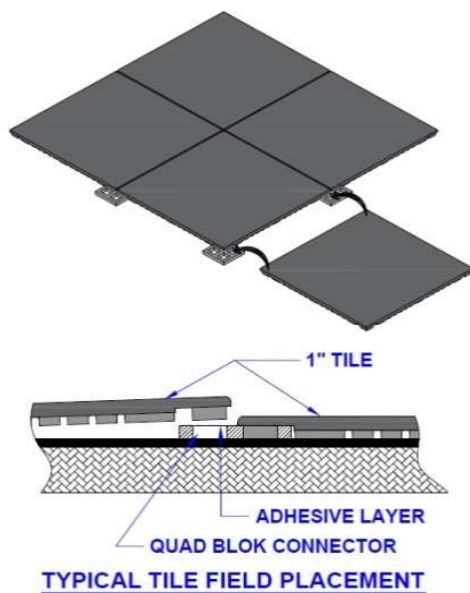


### VII. QUAD BLOK INSTALLATION (ALWAYS Required)

- A. Follow the Site Layout instructions to prepare the area for the installation of the 1" tiles.
- B. Once chalk lines are established, place the first tile at the intersection of two chalk lines, aligning adjacent edges of the tile with the chalk lines.
- C. Apply a continuous 1/4" diameter bead of SFR Rubber Adhesive III around the perimeter of the Quad Blok connectors. Working adhesive time is dependent upon environmental conditions. See NO GLUE zones in Connector Detail drawing below.
- D. Fit the first tile with four prepared Quad Blok connectors by lifting each tile corner slightly, sliding the connectors under each corner and engaging the four corner legs of each tile with the respective apertures in the Quad Blok. Continue to sequentially lay the tile and to set the Quad Blok connectors along one chalk line until the first course of tile is complete.

**NOTE: Cut the Quad Blok connectors in half to secure full perimeter tiles**

- E. Complete the other three quadrants in a similar fashion.
- F. Roll with a 75–100 pound flooring roller after gluing tiles into Quad Bloks. Roll again 1 hour later.
- G. Allow 24 hours for adhesive to cure before opening area for foot traffic, 48 hours for heavy loads and 72 hours before placing equipment.
- H. One 10.1 ounce tube of SFR Rubber Adhesive III is required for approx. 15 of the Quad Bloks.



Note: Adhesive spills must be removed while still wet. Use a dry rag to pick up the majority of the adhesive. Wipe the remaining residue with a rag dampened with mineral spirits, followed by a rag damp with water to remove the mineral spirits. Cured adhesive can only be removed from surfaces by mechanical means, such as scraping or sanding.

### VIII. FITTING AND CUTTING TILES AND ADHERING THE PERIMTER TILE COURSE

- A. Tiles installed against a wall will most likely have to be cut to fit. Use a heavy-duty utility knife and a straight edge. A saber saw with a coarse 7-10 TPI wood cutting blade, variable speed and orbital settings also works well. A cutting table to support the work is required during cutting; a standard shipping pallet can be pressed into service as a cutting table.



- B. **DO NOT leave a cut edge of a tile exposed to foot traffic.** Any tile that has its factory molded, radius edge removed for any reason should be backed along that edge using a 1" masonry or timber edging, unless that edge is to be placed against a wall or other vertical member.
- C. If the tile is being installed wall-to-wall, the perimeter tiles **are also** installed with Quad Bloks connecting the perimeter tiles to the interior tiles, with the walls serving to contain the perimeter row of tile. Any perimeter tiles that are not contained by walls, such as at a doorway, or in a free-standing or "area rug" configuration, should be adhered to the substrate. Ramps will be adhered as well and provide a transition from the tile to the original floor level. The perimeter tiles and ramps must be adhered using SFR's Rubber Adhesive with a 1/8" square-notched trowel.
- D. Once tiles are laid into the wet adhesive, roll the floor with a 75-100-pound flooring roller. Adhesive should be allowed to cure for 24 hours before walking on the tile.

### IX. FITTING, CUTTING AND ADHERING RAMPS & TRANSITIONS

- A. Cut in the same way as the tiles. Corners should be miter cut.
- B. The most accurate cuts are made using a heavy-duty utility or carpet knife and a straight edge. A saber saw utilizing a 7-10 TPI wood cutting blade also does an acceptable job, especially for radius or free-form cuts. A saw with a 3-3.5 amp rated motor having a 1" stroke with variable orbital setting will produce the best results. A cutting table used to support the work is required during cutting. A standard shipping pallet works well.
- C. Cut away any protruding Quad Blok material
- D. Make sure that the subfloor is flat, clean, dry and free of contaminants such as waxes, finishes, sealers, or other extraneous materials that would prevent a good adhesive bond.
- E. Unpack the materials and allow them to sit in the area to be installed. Materials and adhesive must be acclimated at a uniform room temperature for a minimum of 48 hours prior to installation. Dry lay and make appropriate cuts before opening the adhesive.

**Note:** The toe edge of the ADA ramp contains a wire reinforcement material. Take care not to bend the edges as it will be difficult to get ramps with bent reinforcement to lay flat.

- F. Mark the areas where adhesive is to be applied and temporarily remove the ramps / transition.
- G. Spread SFR rubber urethane adhesive using a 1/8" square notch trowel. Do not spread more adhesive than can be covered in 30 minutes.
- H. Carefully place the ramps into the adhesive. Be sure to press down firmly to assure proper adhesive transfer to the back side of the ramp and roll with a 75-100 pound three sectional flooring roller.
- I. Use weight to evenly hold down the entire ramp / transition.

**Note:** Weight the entire toe edge of ADA transition to prevent it from lifting out of the adhesive.

**Note:** Adhesive spills must be removed **while still wet**. Use a dry rag to pick up the majority of the adhesive. Wipe the remaining residue with a rag dampened with mineral spirits, followed by a rag dampened with water. Cured adhesive can only be removed from surfaces by mechanical means, such as scraping or sanding.

- J. After 24 hours, remove the weight.
- K. Clean and maintain the area in accordance with the instructions in the Maintenance Section below.



### X. FULLY ADHERED INSTALLATION – Mandatory for exterior installations

- A. Follow the site layout instructions to prepare the site area for installation. The tiles, accessories, and substrates should be weather tight and maintained at a minimum uniform temperature of 65°F (18°C) for 48 hours before, during, and after the installation.

**NOTE: Dimensional tolerance for tiles is +/- 1/8" in thickness and +/- 1/8" in width. From time to time during installation, it may be necessary to measure and hand select tiles to ensure that course lines remain straight. Additionally, color tone and shading may vary to the extent that some hand selection is required to maintain maximum uniformity throughout the site.**

As with any flooring product, dry laying and full inspection of all tiles will allow for a quality installation. Tiles should be inspected from several angles and adjusted as necessary.

**NOTE: Acousti Tile is manufactured from recycled materials and slight variance in shade and color chip dispersion is normal. It is the installer's responsibility to inspect all products to insure the correct style, thickness, and color. Any moderate to severe discrepancies should be reported immediately before beginning the installation.**

NOTE: Use a 1/8" square notch trowel. Coverage rates for the SFR rubber adhesive are approximately 60 square foot per gallon using a 1/8" square notch trowel.

- B. For an interior installation, Moisture must be measured using the RH Relative Humidity test method per the ASTM F2170 test standard. Moisture content should not exceed the allowable limit of the selected SFR adhesive.
1. SFR Rubber Adhesive III – RH limit of 85% – normally selected
  2. SFR Rubber Adhesive 95 – RH limit of 95% – higher RH applications
  3. SFR Rubber Adhesive 99 – RH limit of 99% – highest RH applications

If RH levels exceed the selected SFR adhesive's RH limit, stop and correct situation.

- C. In the event that a moisture mitigation system is required, it must conform to the ASTM F3010 Standard Practice for Two-Component Resin Based Membrane Forming Moisture Mitigation Systems for use Under Resilient Floor Coverings.
- D. It is essential that pH tests be taken on all concrete floors. If the pH is greater than 9, it must be neutralized prior to beginning the installation.
- E. Using a 1/8" square notch trowel, apply the selected adhesive out slightly wider than the tile being placed. Do not spread more adhesive than can be covered in 30 minutes.
- F. **Quad Bloks must be used and installed per Quad Blok installation section above.**
- G. Place tiles with Quad Bloks into the fresh adhesive bed following pre-established course lines. If applicable, place ramps / transitions into the fresh adhesive in a similar manner.
- H. After placing tiles into adhesive bed, roll the tiles with a 75-pound three section flooring roller to ensure adhesive transfer to the back of the tile feet.
- I. Adhesive should be allowed to cure for 24 hours before allowing foot traffic. All heavy traffic and/or light rolling loads should be avoided for a minimum of 72 hours after installation to allow adhesive to develop strength.
- J. Tile cuts are typically laid out by referencing dimensions from the edges of the tiles, already in position, to a wall or other obstruction along or around which the tiles are to fit. These dimensions are then transferred to and laid out on the tile to be cut.
- K. Corner ramps should be miter cut.





### Maintenance

Specialized Supplies & Services, Inc. recommends our environmentally friendly SFR-Cleaner and SFR-Strip maintenance products.

Proper protection and maintenance post-installation should be specified by the architect/designer. Acousti Tile should not be subject to construction debris and potential damage caused from construction activities.

### FLOOR PROTECTION

The specifier should include specification details to protect the floor post-installation and until job construction is complete and thorough cleaning can be implemented.

### ASSIGNMENT OF CLEANING AND MAINTENANCE

The specifier should determine and assign the responsibility for the initial cleaning to the flooring contractor, general contractor, maintenance contractor, or owner.

Steps	Cleaning Product	Mixture	Equipment
Initial Cleaning	SFR Cleaner	10 oz. /gal. water	Soft Nylon Brush or 3M 5100 Red Pad or equal
Daily Cleaning	SFR Cleaner	2-4 oz. /gal. water	Microfiber Mop, Soft Nylon Brush or 3M 5100 Red Pad or equal
Heavy Soil & Restorative Cleaning	SFR Cleaner or SFR-Strip	10 oz. /gal. water 16 oz. /gal. water	Soft Nylon Brush or 3M Blue 5300, Brown 7100, or Black 7200 pad as req'd. (Do <b>not</b> use High Productivity Pad)

### CLEANING PROCEDURES

1. Initial Cleaning
  - a. Remove all surface soil, debris, sand, and grit by sweeping, dust mopping, or vacuuming with a high CFM vacuum. For large areas, use auto scrubbers to clean floors.
  - b. Scrub floor with SFR Cleaner (10 oz. /gal. of water), using buffer or auto scrubber with a soft nylon brush or pad per table above. Avoid flooding the floor.
  - c. Pick up solution with a wet vacuum. Rinse with clean water, picking up the rinse water with a wet vacuum and allowing it to dry thoroughly (6-8 hours).
2. Daily/Regular Cleaning
  - a. Remove surface soil, debris, sand, and grit by sweeping, dust mopping, or vacuuming.
  - b. Damp mop with a microfiber mop or auto-scrub with SFR Cleaner diluted (2-4 oz. /gal. of water) and pad per table above.
  - c. Rinse with clean water to remove residue.
3. Heavy Soil
  - a. Remove surface soil, debris, sand, and grit by sweeping, dust mopping, or vacuuming.
  - b. Scrub floor with SFR Cleaner using a low speed scrubber or auto scrubber with pad per table above.
  - c. Pick up solution with a wet vacuum, rinse with clean water, and allow to dry thoroughly (6-8 hours).





4. Restorative Maintenance
  - a. Remove surface soil, debris, sand, and grit by sweeping, dust mopping, or vacuuming.
  - b. Heavily scrub floor with SFR-Strip diluted per table. This cleaning may be performed with an auto scrubber or low speed scrubber with pad per table above.
  - c. Vacuum soiled solution with a wet/dry vacuum.
  - d. Pick up solution with wet vacuum. Rinse with clean water and allow floor to dry thoroughly (6-8 hours).

## Warranty

**Specialized Supplies & Services, Inc. (the “Seller”) warrants that the Acousti Tile will be free from defects in materials and workmanship.**

### ***What does the warranty cover?***

- Surface wear due to ordinary abrasion from pedestrian traffic will not penetrate the wear course of the surface.
- The tiles, when installed according to the manufacturer’s specifications, will ensure the surface remains fixed and functional.

### ***How long does the warranty coverage last?***

This is a 15-year limited warranty, prorated as outlined in the warranty coverage schedule shown below. This warranty may be transferred with the property.

### ***What will we do?***

Any segment of a Acousti Tile surface that meets the warranty criteria will be repaired or replaced, at the Seller’s option and in conjunction with the warranty coverage schedule below.

### ***How do you submit a warranty claim?***

A warranty claim should be made directly to the Seller. Make claims via telephone by calling 866.795.2732. Please provide the following information: a description of the claimed defect and the date the defect was discovered, photographic images (if applicable) of the claimed defect, the date of the original installation, the project name and your name, address, and phone number. The Seller will provide notification of any additional information and physical evidence that may be required to process your claim.

### ***Warranty Coverage Schedule:***

The Seller shall be responsible for 100% of the purchase price of any product found to be defective or not in compliance with the warranty herein within the first six (6) years following the original shipment of the product. Where any product is found to be defective or not in compliance with the warranty herein more than six (6) years following the original shipment of the product, the Seller shall only be responsible for a portion of the cost of the purchase price of such products as follows (and the buyer shall bear and pay the remaining portion of such costs):



**Number of years from date of original shipment to date of claim**

**Percentage of purchase price of product for which Seller is responsible**

<b>0-6 -----</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>More than 6 and equal to 7 -----</b>	<b>60%</b>
<b>More than 7 and equal to 8 -----</b>	<b>40%</b>
<b>More than 8 and equal to 9 -----</b>	<b>30%</b>
<b>More than 9 and equal to 10 -----</b>	<b>20%</b>
<b>More than 10 and equal to 12 -----</b>	<b>10%</b>
<b>More than 12 and equal to 15 -----</b>	<b>5%</b>

### **Warranty Exclusions**

This warranty does not cover:

- Product failure caused by accidents, misuse, natural disaster, vandalism, improper installation, or maintenance and the like (see installation, care, and maintenance instructions).
- Color change caused by exposure to UV and/or normal abrasion from pedestrian traffic.
- Failure due to improper sub-surface preparation.
- Resilient flooring may suffer visible damage as a result of extreme high forces. Common contributors to this type of force include, but are not limited to, stiletto or high heels, and narrow tipped chair supports. Acousti Tile are not designed to perform under such concentrated high pressure and Specialized Supplies & Services, Inc. will not accept claims for this type of damage.

### **Additional Considerations:**

- The Seller's liability is limited to the material and transportation costs of repair or replacement of the product at the Seller's option and will extend only for the time remaining under the original warranty. The Seller shall be responsible for installation costs and the costs of other work in connection with such repair and replacement only if such work was performed by Seller in the original installation. Where tile is installed only in high traffic areas or installed in combination with other surfacing products not sold by the Seller, such tiles are excluded from this warranty.
- The Seller reserves the right to discontinue or change any design or color of any products at any time and without notice or liability. If, for any reason, products of the type originally purchased are no longer available at the time a warranty claim is made, Seller may substitute another product determined by Seller to be of comparable quality and price.
- The Acousti Tile warranty shall not cover dissatisfaction due to improper installation, damage from improper maintenance or usage, or general misuse, including and without limitation: burns, cuts, tears, scratches, scuffs, damage from rolling loads, damage from cleaning products not recommended by Specialized Supplies & Services, Inc., slight shade variations or shade variations due to exposure to direct sunlight, or differences in color between samples or photographs and actual flooring.
- Your exclusive remedy for any breach of warranty is as set forth in this warranty. This warranty gives you specific legal rights. You may have other rights which vary from state to state and province to province. THIS WARRANTY IS IN LIEU OF ALL OTHER WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE.



**305.752.0451 – [www.specializedweb.com](http://www.specializedweb.com)**

**Manufactured in the U.S.A. by:**



**Specialized Supplies & Services, Inc.**

**1529 NW 89th Ct – Miami, FL 33172**