

Wood Floor Installations over Stained Concrete

Stauf warrants the performance of PIC-850, SMP-940, PUM-950, SMP-960 and CBR-970 Wood Flooring Adhesives over stained concrete if the steps listed below are followed. Do not use Stauf's M2A-900 and WFR-930 for these jobs. Stauf will not warrant the floor if the concrete sealer releases from the stained surface over time. Remember that an installation is only as good as the sub floor. If there is a poorly bonded sub floor surface (e.g. paint, urethane, stain, etc.), it will not maintain a bond when the wood naturally expands and contracts. That's true for any floor, stained or not.

The following steps must be taken for a successful installation (as they should be with any similar installation where a foreign substance has been applied to the concrete).

1. Follow normal wood flooring installation guidelines from the floor manufacturer and the National Wood Flooring Association (NWFA) for a sound, level, dry sub floor.
2. Since the stain composition is usually unknown (epoxy? water? urethane? solvent?), the sub floor surface must be tested for bonding, as follows. If these tests fail, do not glue down flooring to sub floor.
 - a. Glue three (3) boards to the sub floor.
 - b. After 24 hours, begin to remove one board using a claw hammer.
 - i) If it is very difficult to remove and either splinters the wood or takes up concrete when removed, you now have good adhesion and can confidently install the wood flooring
 - ii) If the wood comes up in large pieces, this is not a good bond so wait 24 hours and try again.
 - c. After 48 hours, remove the second board using a claw hammer.
 - i) If the 2nd board is so difficult to remove and either splinters the wood or takes up concrete when removed, you now have good adhesion and can confidently install the wood flooring
 - ii) If, however, the 2nd board comes up easily or in large pieces, you must wait another 24 hours and try again.
 - d. After 72 hours, use a claw hammer to remove the remaining board.
 - i) If after 72 hours the 3rd board is difficult to remove and either splinters the wood or takes up concrete when removed, you now have good adhesion and can confidently install the wood flooring.
 - ii) However, if the flooring still comes off in large pieces with a claw hammer, a chemical reaction is preventing proper adhesion and you cannot glue wood flooring without mechanically treating the concrete (bead blast, sand, grind with buffer, etc.).. After this is done, another bond test must be performed.

Visit the Stauf web site for more information or call Stauf Technical Services at 901.820.0007.