

# INSTALLATION PROCEDURES FOR MANNINGTON'S LATEX BACKING with M-Guard 418

## OVERVIEW

Mannington's M-Guard 418 is a very high solids ultra premium commercial carpet adhesive developed to be used with Mannington's latex and polyurethane backings **only**. M-Guard 418 adhesive can be used on concrete slabs that have up to 8 pounds of moisture vapor emission as tested by the calcium chloride ASTM-F-1869 test method. **NOTE:** M-Guard 418 should not be used on concrete slabs where hydrostatic pressure exist.

## INSPECTION

- MANNINGTON requires the carpet be inspected prior to installation for proper style, color and potential defects.
- MANNINGTON'S claims policy views installation of the carpet as acceptance of the merchandise and limits the type of claims that can be honored on installed carpet.
- Layout all carpet and allow to acclimate prior to adhering to the floor.
- Rolls should be installed by roll numbers in consecutive order. For patterned carpet install rolls by pattern size not by roll numbers. Do not mix dye lots.
- The carpet is to acclimate to at least 65° Fahrenheit for 24 hours prior to installation with relative humidity of 12-65%. These conditions must be maintained throughout the installation and for 72 hours after the installation has been completed.
- MANNINGTON carpets are to be installed by professional installers who have the training, skills and tools to properly install technically advanced commercial carpets.

## FLOOR PREPARATION

- MANNINGTON cannot be responsible for claims regarding sub-floor conditions beyond our control.
- Floors must be cured, dry and clear of any foreign debris. Cracks should be filled with a latex based, portland cement patching compound.
- Slab temperature must be at least 65° Fahrenheit.
- A calcium chloride test should be performed on the concrete to detect the presence of moisture. Acceptable results require that moisture content does not exceed 8 lbs. per 1,000 square feet per 24 hours. One calcium chloride test should be performed for every 300 yards of carpet. m-Guard 418 adhesive must be used for the 8 pound warranty.
- Calcium Chloride testing must be done according to the procedures outlined by ASTM-F-1869 for bond warranty to be valid.
- Mannington will also accept the Relative Humidity ASTM-F2170 test method, acceptable moisture levels are 85% maximum RH.
- M-Guard 418 should not be used on concrete slabs that do not have a vapor retardant membrane properly placed above the sand layer and next to the concrete.
- Vapor retardant membrane must be intact, not punctured, and of adequate design and thickness to control moisture under the slab.
- Alkalinity tests must also be performed. pH should register between 5 and 10. If pH exceeds 10 contact Technical Services at 800-241-2262 Ext. 3.
- Please note that calcium chloride and alkalinity tests state only the condition of the floor at the time of the test. Test results are not indicative, nor do they predict, how environmental conditions may impact moisture or alkalinity in the future.
- All tests should be documented and results saved.

## SEAM TRIMMING

All seams should be trimmed by row cutting. To row cut a seam simply:

- Begin by opening a row with a flat blade screwdriver.
- Using a loop pile or cushion back cutter with a sharp blade, follow the opened row with the cutter. Make sure the cutting blade is adjacent to the edge of the carpet that will be kept to make the seam.
- Change to cutting blade and row cut the opposite breadth.

- Continue this seam trimming procedure for all side seams.

When installing carpets without patterns, alternate seam trimming procedures may be used. However, we recommend row cutting as the superior methods of seam trimming, thus minimizing cutting thorough yarn tufts. Alternate methods of seam trimming include row/trace cutting, row/double cutting with National's #575 seam cutter and straight edging.

## **CROSS SEAMS**

After trimming cross seams may develop a slight upcurl at the edges. This condition can easily be corrected by hand back curling the edges before placing into adhesives. This will eliminate peaked cross seams.

## **ADHESIVES**

Mannington's **M-Guard 418** ultra premium adhesive **must** be used when installing Mannington's latex and polyurethane backings with concrete slabs that have up to 8 lb. vapor emissions.

- **Do not use this adhesive with vinyl backed carpets, sheet vinyl, VCT, etc.**

## **ADHESIVE SPREAD**

- After edges have been trimmed, carefully fold back seams one-half of their width, exposing sub-floor.
- Apply Mannington's M-Guard 418 adhesive with a minimum 1/8" x 1/8" x 1/8" "U" notched trowel. The spread rate should be approximately 6 - 8 yards of carpet per gallon of adhesive, depending on subfloor conditions.
- The adhesive has a 30-minute working time after spreading. Temperature and humidity will affect the set up time. A slight tack is desirable, but do not allow adhesive to skin over before installing carpet. Adhesive must transfer to carpet backing. If 100% transfer does not occur, it will be necessary to use a deeper notched trowel. **NOTE:** Increased humidity will require more open times for adhesive to tack.
- M-Guard 418 also works well as a "wet set" adhesive.
- Lay one breadth of the carpet into the adhesive and roll out air bubbles using a 35- 75 pound roller.
- Seal seam edge by applying a 1/8" bead of Mannington's EdgeGuard acrylic latex seam sealer. Use caution not to over apply seam sealer.
- Place opposite breadth into position and work seam with slight compression ensuring seam sealer transfer.
- Roll opposite breadth forcing air pockets out away from the seam.
- Re-Roll carpet 3 to 4 hours after installation to reset backing into adhesive.
- Re-Roll or tractor seams forcing air pockets out away from the seam. **NOTE:** Do not over roll seams while adhesive is wet.
- M-Guard 418 adhesive while still wet using soap and water
- Continue these techniques throughout the remainder of installation.

**NOTE:** M-Guard 418 will take extended dry times when used over wet slabs but should not affect the installation, M-Guard 418 will dry and develop strong bond.

## **TIPS**

- Cut seams using the row cut method.
- Placing slight back curl on cross seam edges prior to placing carpet into adhesive will help to minimize seam peaking.
- Use blowers to expedite tack times, especially in times of high humidity.
- Minimize foot traffic for 24 hours and no rolling traffic for 72 hours.
- Chair pads must be used.

The procedures listed above are our best recommendation for installing Woven Synthetic, Reinforced Unitary and polyurethane backed carpets. This document and other literature are available upon request. If you have further questions or require additional information, please contact our Technical Services Department at 800-241-2262 Ext. 3.