

Wood Flooring

Moisture regulator / Wood Floor Bonding

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| Project | Tommy Hilfiger Canada Retail Stores |
| Market segment | Commercial Buildings – Retail |
| Background | High moisture levels in concrete slab on grade caused wood flooring to expand, buckle and delaminate in certain areas. |
| Problem | Eliminate infiltration of moisture originating from concrete slab. |
| Solution | Sika® Primer MB ^{CA} , Epoxy-Based Moisture Barrier. SikaBond®-T54, Solvent-Free Polyurethane Adhesive. SikaBond®-T55, Low VOC Polyurethane Adhesive. |

Amazing! Moisture barrier allows installation of wood flooring over damp concrete slabs!



The wood flooring installed in a retail outlet began to buckle and delaminate in certain areas just a few months following the store opening. Unfortunately, this problem also occurred in several other new Tommy Hilfiger retail outlets. The wood flooring was installed over a concrete slab on grade that appeared to be dry. However, several months later, testing showed that moisture levels in the concrete slab were too high for most moisture-sensitive finishes. This serious problem needed to be addressed immediately.

It was at that time that Sika Canada Inc. was approached to help solve the problem. After extensive fact-finding research, Sika Canada Inc. recommended a solution which has since been used in Tommy Hilfiger stores with optimal results.

Sika's action plan:

- Remove all existing wood flooring.
- Use a Tramex electrical impedance moisture-meter to measure moisture levels in the concrete slab.
- Prepare surface for application of moisture regulator by using the shotblasting method to remove any adhesive residue on the concrete slab and to open the pores.
- Vacuum concrete slab and let dry for 24 hours.
- Apply a coat of Sika® Primer MB^{CA} over entire floor area. Sika® Primer MB^{CA} regulates infiltration of moisture in cementitious substrates with a moisture content between 4 and 6%.
- Apply a second coat of Sika® Primer MB^{CA} on the following day and let dry for 24 hours.
- Re-install wood flooring using SikaBond®-T54 or SikaBond®-T55.

All Tommy Hilfiger of Canada retail stores now rely on Sika Canada's expertise and use the Sika solution (Sika® Primer MB^{CA} and SikaBond®-T-54 or SikaBond®-T-55) for their wood flooring bonding requirements.



Products used

Sika® Primer MB^{CA}

Two-component epoxy primer applied on substrate to protect wood flooring finishes from substrate moisture infiltration.

- Control of moisture infiltration.
- Solvent free and no VOC (100% solids).
- Easy roller application.
- Shorter construction periods.
- Excellent penetration and stabilization of the substrate.
- Reduction of adhesive consumption.
- Suitable for existing substrates, with proper surface preparation.
- Compatible with in-floor radiant heating systems.
- Low viscosity.
- Compatible with all SikaBond® wood flooring adhesives.

SikaBond®-T54

and

SikaBond®-T55

Single component, solvent-free and no VOC, ultra resistant polyurethane adhesive, with permanent elasticity, used for full bonding of wood floorings.

Single component, solvent-free and low VOC content, ultra-resistant polyurethane adhesive, with permanent elasticity, used for full bonding of wood floorings.

- Full bonding of engineered and solid wood floorings.
- Very easy to spread.
- Fast curing allows sanding of non-finished wood floorings after 18 hours.
- Permanent elasticity – expansion and contraction of flooring does not damage bond.
- Compatible with in-floor radiant heating systems.

Other products

Sika® AcouBond Products

Elastic Bonding and Sound Dampening for Wood Floors.

The system is made of:

- SikaLayer-03, a 3 mm proprietary specially slotted foam mat.
- SikaBond®-T53 or SikaBond®-T52, two unique adhesives which are permanently elastic, for a tenacious bond to wood flooring.
- FIIC 59
- FSTC 59
- The only sound dampening system for use with wood floorings bonded directly to concrete.
- Single step application method reduces time and cost up to 30%.
- Very easy to install; also eliminates labor-intensive installation of cork or other underlayments.
- Can be walked on during installation.



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