

Tiling to raised flooring systems supported by pedestals

Steel encapsulated floor systems:

Heavy grade panel constructed from high density particleboard totally encapsulated in galvanised steel usually 600 mm square and between 30-40 mm thick. Each corner of the panel shall have a hole drilled to coincide with the pedestal head below. The raised flooring should be fixed in accordance with the suppliers' recommendations, ensuring that panels are level between each other and "lipping" between panels does not exceed 0.75 mm. The floor panels are screwed down to the support pedestal head using M6 self tapping screws.

Preparation for tiling:

Tiling directly to the access flooring panels is not advised, therefore a plywood overlay with an uncoupling membrane is recommended.

The most common solution is to overlay the access panels with plywood (Grade 3 as defined in EN 636-3). The plywood should be a minimum of 15 mm thick and screw fixed at centres no greater than 300 mm. The plywood should be sealed on the back and sides to prevent moisture ingress. A gap of 6 mm should be left at room perimeters and where other structural features occur, e.g. columns, steps, etc. In some applications to gain further rigidity, two layers of cross bonded plywood with a minimum thickness of 12 mm per board can be used, ensuring that joints between layers do not coincide.

Tiling:

Once the access flooring has been suitably prepared the tile covering can be applied using Schlüter®-DITRA 25 as an uncoupling system. Our recommendations for fixing would be as a standard timber substrate, utilising the waterproofing function of Schlüter®-DITRA 25 if required.

Suitable adhesives for bonding Schlüter®-DITRA 25 include:

- Cementitious C2 or C2F adhesives (as defined in BS EN 12004)
- Water based resilient flooring dispersion adhesive (e.g. ARDEX AF200 or similar)

*Priming of the plywood may be necessary, consult your chosen adhesive supplier for advice. In all instances the suitability of the adhesives should be verified for the application.

The adhesive to bond the tile covering to the Schlüter®-DITRA 25 should be selected in accordance with the type of tile being used and the service conditions of the final floor

