CHAPTER 7: Building Systems

INTERIOR FLOOR FINISHES

Performance Standards

1. Water-based coatings and adhesives
2. Nontoxic and non-polluting materials (low VOC)
3. Resistant to moisture or inhibits the growth of biological contaminants
4. Easy to clean with non-polluting maintenance products
5. Durable to withstand heavy use without requiring frequent replacement
6. Easy to maintain
7. Provide moisture testing of concrete floors to meet flooring manufacturer’s requirements

Examples

1. Soft surface flooring
   • Resilient
   • Carpeting
   • Rubber
2. Hard surface flooring
   • Tile
   • Terrazzo
   • Concrete
   • Wood
   • Resilient
   • Rubber
   • Resinous
   • Hardwood

Construction Guidelines

1. Recycled/recyclable
2. Minimize PVC content
Examples

1. Vinyl composition tile (VCT) and Vinyl enhanced tile (VET)
2. Linoleum and Sheet vinyl
3. Carpet (CAR) and carpet tiles
4. Rubber flooring

Performance Guidelines

1. Easy to clean and maintain
2. Acoustical benefits
3. Physical comfort (cushion)
4. Recycled content/Recyclable
5. Safety for small children
6. Consider meeting Carpet and Rug Institute Green Label Plus criteria
7. Research and use carpet reclamation programs where available for disposal of existing carpet.
8. Minimize PVC content where possible.
9. Review life cycle costs including materials, cleaning and maintenance

Construction Standards

1. Carpet: minimum recycled content guideline of 25%, minimum 17 ounce face weight.
2. Low-VOC emitting materials. Resilient VOC content limited to 340 GM/liter or less
3. Maximum acceptable moisture emission rate for concrete sub floors:
   a. Carpet and sheet vinyl – 3 lbs./1,000 sq. ft. per 24 hours or less
   b. VCT – 5 lbs./1,000 sq.ft.
4. Use water-based low VOC adhesives, sealants, and cleaning products
5. Sheet vinyl with backing: 0.080 inch thick
6. Linoleum: 0.10 inch (2.5mm) minimum thickness.
CHAPTER 7: Building Systems

HARD SURFACE FLOORING

Examples

1. Porcelain ceramic tile (CT) with recycled content
2. Quarry tile (QT)
3. Terrazzo tile with recycled content
4. Concrete finish
5. Wood (athletic)
6. Resinous Epoxy

Performance Guidelines

1. Easy to clean and stain resistant
2. Highly durable
3. Reasonably economical based on life-cycle cost analysis
4. Consider finishes and/or materials suitable for use in high traffic areas
5. Wood flooring: Use certified hardwood, salvaged wood and/or laminated or veneered wood products where possible.

Construction Standards

1. Low-VOC emitting materials: flooring, adhesives, grouts, caulk, or sealants
2. Comply with ANSI ceramic tile standard
3. Mortars and grouts should be based upon the installation conditions and as recommended by the Tile Council of America.
4. Use epoxy-modified grout mixture for high moisture areas
5. For concrete floors use two-component, water-based, low odor, dust proofing, color pigmented epoxy sealer, or stain
6. Wood gym floors:
   a. maximum 4.5 pounds per 1,000 sq.ft. moisture emission in slab
   b. two year guarantee
   c. second and better grade, maple strip flooring