

# PCS THERMAL SUBSTRATE BOARD

## FIXING INSTRUCTIONS

### FIXING TO WOODEN FLOORS

**BY ADHESIVE** - Our boards can be laid onto a level floor, with a suitable flexible rapid set cementitious tile adhesive – solvent based or ready mixed adhesives **MUST NOT** be used. Boards should be thoroughly bedded and laid in a chequer plate fashion, like bonding brickwork, making sure that there are no gaps between the boards. **DO NOT ALLOW THE ADHESIVE TO FORM A DRY SKIN.**

**BY MECHANICAL FIXING** - Our boards (other than 6mm boards) can be installed with mechanical fixings only to flat and level timber floors using approximately 12 fixings per 1200mm x 600mm board, with suitable screws and a 35mm fixing washer under the head. Tighten until the washer bites into the board. Specially developed tape, screws & washer kits are available from your supplier.

**IT IS IMPORTANT THAT THERE ARE NO ELECTRICAL CABLES OR PIPE WORK UNDER THE FLOOR THAT COULD BE DAMAGED BY THE SCREW FIXING. THE CORRECT SCREW LENGTH SHOULD BE USED.**

### FIXING TO CONCRETE FLOORS

Prior to the fixing of PCS Thermal Substrate Boards, all traces of loose material should be removed back to the concrete substrate. Asphalt coatings need not be removed. The floor should be level and dust free. New concrete or screed should be correctly cured prior to the fixing of PCS board. A suitable flexible rapid set cementitious tile adhesive should be used – solvent based or ready mixed adhesives **MUST NOT** be used. Apply the bed of adhesive to the floor using a 8mm square notched trowel. Boards should be thoroughly bedded and laid in a chequer plate fashion, like bonding brickwork, making sure that there are no gaps between the boards. **DO NOT ALLOW THE ADHESIVE TO FORM A DRY SKIN.** Any slight depressions in the concrete floor will normally be taken up with the thickness of the adhesive. Boards should be thoroughly bedded, ensuring that no voids remain beneath them. Butt the boards tight together, laid in a chequer plate fashion, like bonding brickwork, making sure that there are no gaps between the boards.

### MOVEMENT JOINTS

PCS Thermal Substrate Boards must not bridge movement joints in the sub floor. The integrity of such joints should be maintained through the board/tile bed and should be sealed in the appropriate manner.

### TILE FIXING FOR FLOORS

When fixing to floors a minimum tile size of 150mm x 150mm is recommended and fixed using a solid bed fixing technique, ensuring no voids remain under the tiles. Once the tile bed has hardened sufficiently, the joints between the tiles can be grouted in the usual manner.

### TILE FIXING FOR UNDER FLOOR HEATING CABLE/MAT

Tiles can be laid directly on top of the under floor heating cable/mats, however care must be taken not to damage the heating cable. The tile adhesive must be forced onto, and where possible through, the heating mat so that no voids remain under the tiles. We recommend applying a good proprietary flexible self levelling compound onto the heating mat prior to fixing tiles. Only once the self levelling compound has fully cured should tile fixing begin.

### FIXING TO BRICK/BLOCK SURFACES

Make sure that the existing wall surface is sound and free of dust and grease. If the wall has a finished plaster surface and is in a good condition, it may be possible to dot & dab the PCS boards without removing the existing plaster (plastered walls **MUST** be sealed prior to dabbing and professional advice should be sought). To fix PCS Thermal Substrate Boards to walls PCS Dot & Dab Flexible Adhesive or low expansion PU foam should be used. With PCS Dot & Dab Flexible Adhesive a solid bed of adhesive should be used around the edges of the board with centre dots at a maximum of 300mm centres. Maximum adhesive thickness is 30mm. Offer up the board vertically to the wall surface and bed firmly into place. For a waterproof finish, seal the edge with a good sealant before butting up the next board.

### FIXING TO STUD PARTITIONS

Vertical studs at minimum 600mm centres, noggins at a minimum 600mm centres. All edges must be supported by noggins and board must be fixed using approx 12 fixings on a 1200mm x 600mm board. Washers with a minimum diameter of 30mm must be used under the head of a steel screw. Screw down until the washer bites into the board. Tape all joints.

### TILE FIXING FOR WALLS

Once the adhesive for securing the boards has hardened, cover joints with an alkaline resistant fibre glass mesh tape. Tiles can then be fixed directly to the board surface and grouted in the usual way.

### PLASTERING

Prior to skim coating with plaster, the surface of the PCS Thermal Substrate Board should first be primed using a PVA wash, applied in accordance with the adhesive manufacturer's instructions. Only then should a plaster skim coat be applied to the tacky PVA surface.

### NOTE

All information is given as guidance and if adhered to will perform as intended. We fully guarantee the quality of our boards but as we do not have knowledge of site conditions and capability of the installer, we cannot accept liability for damage which may arise as a result of installation. For further information, please do not hesitate to contact us.