DIRECT ADHESIVE FIX INSTALLATION FULL TROWEL SPREAD THIS IS THE OPTIMUM METHOD OF INSTALLATION FOR T&G ENGINEERED PLANKS

Note: 12mm thickness is not recommended for direct fix over a concrete slab.

- 1. Substrate materials such as structural Plywood and P/Board should be flat, dry (<14%) free of moisture ingress and secure. Concrete Slab must be dry approx. 2.5% prior to installation. Substrate flatness is critical; sub-floor should not exceed 3mm over a 3m radius in all directions. For concrete slabs, any hollows or humps must be levelled prior to installation. Please follow manufacturer's guidelines for leveling compound application and drying times. Do not install if levelling compound is not dry.
- 2. All wood based sub-floor edges and surfaces must be lightly sanded to ensure flatness, particularly at the joins. Surface area must be sanded to remove any foreign substances such as waxes or paint. This will aid the adhesion process.
- 3. Inspect all planks carefully prior to install to detect any imperfections. FAULTY PLANKS SHOULD NOT BE INSTALLED and will not be covered by warranty provisions. If certain planks are displaying slight bow or twist set aside under load to assist with site acclimatisation, these planks can be recycled into the install later. If further assembly issues arise, please contact point of purchase immediately, do not install defective planks. If in doubt stop and follow up immediately to resolve the issue.
- 4. Whenever possible cover windows & door openings 24 hours prior to install to moderate the interior temperature, reduce excessive heat, and direct UV. Do not install in during temperature extremes, always follow adhesive manufacturers guidelines.
- 5. An optimum install requires full trowel adhesive using a minimum 4mm square notched trowel. A recognised wood flooring adhesive & moisture barrier (use same brand for both items) such as Sika, Mapei or similar system is required. The planks must be weighted to assist with high bond outcomes. Avoid foot traffic during the adhesive curing time. Note: Bead Gluing is not considered full contact bonding and is not covered by our warranty. For concrete slab installs, 3 in 1 adhesive with 'claimed' moisture barrier attributes must be applied with a compatible moisture barrier to comply with our warranty. No warranty applies without proof of an additional moisture barrier for the concrete slab. Keep photographic files to support your workmanship methods and slab testing data.
- 6. To optimise structural and visual performance, first and last plank length should not be less than 300 mm and short end joins on parallel planks should be at least 300 mm lengthways in distance from the adjoining plank. Refer, Figure 1.
- 7. Carefully plan the layout of plank lengths and visual aspects/knots prior to the final fix. This will assist in providing a balanced blend of grade, colour, and joint alignment. It is always a smart idea to make sure the owner's expectations are consistent with the installer's layout plan. Heavily featured planks can always be used under cabinetry or similar less obvious locations.
- 8. For optimum visual impact planks should run lengthways in the direction of the longest wall area, including hallways.

- 9. Large objects such as Kitchen Island benches can be installed onto a Direct Fixed floor or installed later. Please make sure the installed floor is well protected if other trades are still to complete their fit outs.
- 10. On Plywood and P/Board, secret nailing at 200-300mm intervals can assist with alignment issues and adhesion in difficult areas.
- 11. Perimeter expansion will vary from site to site. The installer will need to assess perimeter expansion opportunities to maximize the natural movement of the floor for expansion and contraction especially around door thresholds, service ducts and heating pipes. If required, a flexible caulking compound to a maximum of 5mm is suitable with direct fix elastomeric adhesive installations.
- 12. Please cover flooring with adequate protection if construction or painting is still occurring at the site. Floor protection such as compressed cardboard, thin MDF panels or similar are worthwhile but cannot be left in place for an extended period. Do not use adhesive tape directly on the surface of the pre-finished planks, the coating surface may get damaged when removed. Incidental scratching, chipping and indentations from external sources are site related and therefore will not be covered by our warranty.
- 13. Window and door openings must be covered by screens, blinds, or tinting treatments to inhibit direct UV heat and light. Avoid placing rugs and mats until the floor surface has acclimatised in its environment; allow 8 weeks.
- 14. Do not use a steam mop or wet mopping to clean the floor. Static or absorbent towelling mops should be used for all natural floor surfaces. When incidental spills occur simply wipe dry with absorbent cloth and use a light bristle broom for daily cleaning. Do not use generic supermarket floor cleaning solutions on the floor, we recommend professional floor care products such as Bona or Loba. Spray Mop Kits and refill floor cleaning products are readily available online or through popular retail outlets throughout Australia & New Zealand.
- 15. A Care and Maintenance guide is available for easy download from our website www.nfd.com.au

Oak flooring is a natural material that will expand and contract in shape if moisture or humidity is elevated. It may also shrink if moisture or humidity becomes extremely low. As a natural product damage from these circumstances may lead to irreversible damage if the interior temperature and humidity is constantly exposed to extremes. Please review the floor care guide to familiarise yourself with the requirements on how best to live and maintain your timber floor. By following our simple floor care and install guidelines a well-maintained timber floor can last a lifetime. Follow the steps and enjoy a lifetime of nature at its finest.