Tekcem

Tekfoam 10

Tekfoam 10 can be used under a layer of hard flooring such as wood or laminate. It can also be used under a screed in conjunction with a suitable isolating perimeter strip to provide acoustic separation between screed and structure. Tekfoam 10 has been designed to meet the requirements for a resilient layer below a screed in separating floors with either traditional or liquid screeds.

OVERVIEW

Tekfoam 10 is an extruded polyethylene sheet material available in rolls.

Tekfoam 10 has been designed specifically to acoustically "isolate" the transmission of structure borne vibrations (sound) between solid elements. Its closed cell structure is ideal at "cushioning" the vibrations.

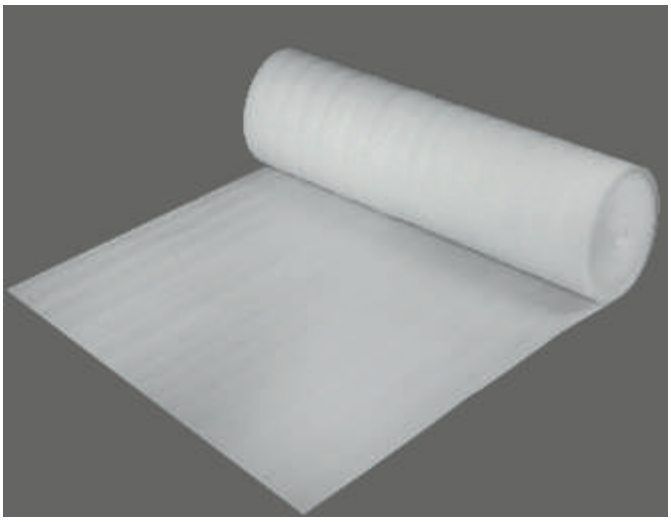
Tekfoam 10 has been engineered to comply with Building Regulation requirements for resilient layers in separating floors and can be used with a variety of structures and different screed types.

BENEFITS

- Excellent acoustic performance.
- Very good compression resistance under load.
- Light and easy to handle .
- Easy to install.

MATERIAL

Thickness	10mm
Colour	White
Roll size	1500mm by 40m
Roll weight (handling)	Approx 18kg per roll
Density	Approx 30kg/m^3
Tekfoam 10 is CFC and HCFC Free	



SUBSTRATES

Tekfoam 10 can be applied over any suitably smooth substrate. Care should be taken to ensure that there are no sharp steps or ridges in the substrate and that there are no sharp points or foreign objects such as stones that could provide very localised compression of the material. Such "pinch points" can dramatically reduce the acoustic benefits of Tekfoam 10.

HEALTH AND SAFETY:

No protective clothing is necessary to handle Tekfoam 10

SETTING NEW LEVELS

The Screed Development Centre
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ACOUSTIC DATA / TESTING

In order to obtain site data rather than purely laboratory based information two projects, with differing constructions, were tested. Both projects were installed normally by screeding contractors with no additional supervision or instruction and then the test areas were chosen at random.

EXAMPLE PROJECT 1

Thickness	Material	Surface mass (kg/m²)
55mm	Anhydrite flowing screed, including underfloor heating Pipes	110
50mm	EPS Insulation	
10mm	Tekfoam 10	3.6
215mm	Reinforced poured concrete	300
195mm	Cavity	–
12.5mm	Plasterboard ceiling	8
2.5mm	Skim	

Building regulations require that the impact sound performance of the floors should be no greater than 62 dB. The target requirement for this project was 5 dB better than this at 57 dB.

Two floors were tested. The measured values of the weighted standardised impact sound pressure level $L'_{nt,w}$ were 46 dB and 42 dB respectively. These substantially exceed the requirements of the Building Regulations and the enhanced project requirements.

EXAMPLE PROJECT 2

Thickness	Material	Surface mass (kg/m²)
65mm	Mesh reinforced traditional screed	110+
10mm	Tekfoam 10	
225mm	Reinforced poured concrete	550
146mm	Cavity	–
12.5mm	Plasterboard	10
0.5mm	Skim	

The target was again to achieve an impact sound rating of 5 dB better than the building regs at 57 dB.

One floor was tested. The value of the weighted standardised impact sound pressure level $L'_{nt,w}$ was 52 dB. This substantially exceeds the requirements of the Building Regulations and the enhanced requirement.

These results relate specifically to the exact constructions as tested but, in view of the high levels of performance achieved it must be concluded that Tekfoam 10 provides a very effective resilient layer and so acoustic Isolation. It would naturally follow that Tekfoam 10 could be specified wherever a resilient layer is necessary in order to comply with the requirements of Part E.

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