

# A GUIDE TO INSTALLING FORTIFLASH® FOR FLOORS

## CLASS I VAPOR RETARDER AND WATERPROOF MEMBRANE FOR FLOORING

THE DETAILS SHOWN HERE REFER TO GENERALLY ACCEPTED INSTALLATION PRACTICES OF WOOD PANEL SUB-FLOORS ATTACHED OR FLOATED OVER CONCRETE

**FortiFlash 40** is a Class I vapor retarder and waterproof membrane for use over concrete under wood panel sub-floors. It inhibits moisture migration from concrete to the wood sub-floor as well as the finished floor.

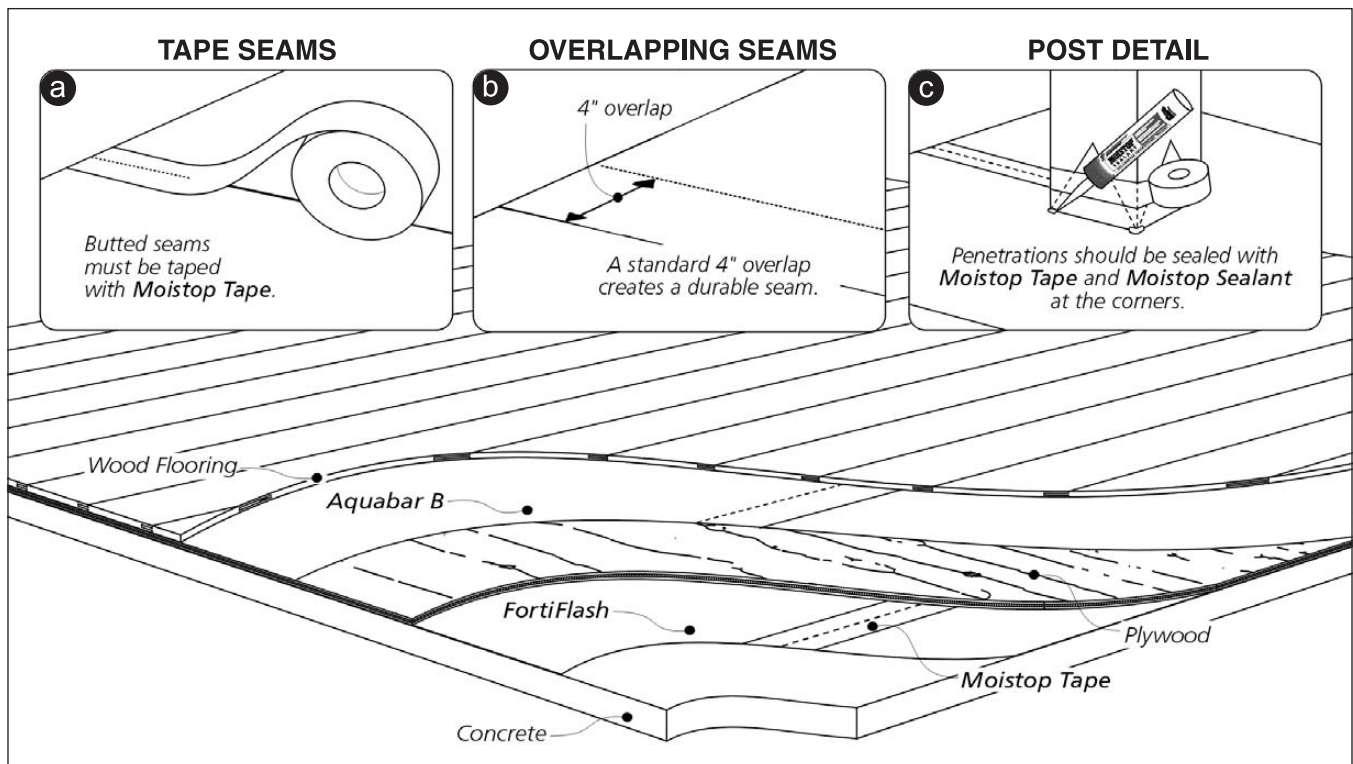
### CONCRETE SUBSTRATE SPECIFICATIONS

- Always follow local building codes, NWFA Guidelines and wood floor manufacturer's instructions for proper concrete slab conditions.
- Concrete slab must not be subject to hydrostatic pressure.
- Concrete must be cured a minimum 30 days prior to moisture testing.
- A slab is suitable for installation of **FortiFlash 40** Class I membrane with a moisture reading of at most one of the following:
  - by the Calcium Chloride test, ASTM F-1869, reading of  $\leq 10$  lbs
  - by the Relative Humidity test, ASTM F-2170, of  $\leq 85\%$
  - by the Calcium Carbide test, ASTM D-4944 (modified),  $\leq 4\%$
- Concrete surface areas requiring patching or leveling use cement based products.
- Concrete must be dry, flat, structurally sound, level,

and free of all surface debris, dirt, oil, sealers, loose or chalky concrete, and other contaminants. Vacuum and damp mop to remove dust.

### FORTIFLASH 40 FITTING

- For ease of installation, do not remove the release paper on **FortiFlash 40** prior to fitting. Fit to wall plates under drywall and door jambs.
- Fit **FortiFlash 40** in the largest sections possible, allowing for door openings, wall partitions and plumbing. This can be done by measuring or fitting **FortiFlash 40** directly over the surface to be covered, or use standard scribing-paper methods with **FortiFlash 40** to transfer measurements accurately. Once the largest sections have been properly positioned, use a sharp utility knife to cut out any openings and fit into place.
- **FortiFlash 40** is not compatible with EPDM or flexible (plasticized) Polyvinyl Chloride (PVC) based membranes. **FortiFlash 40** is not compatible with



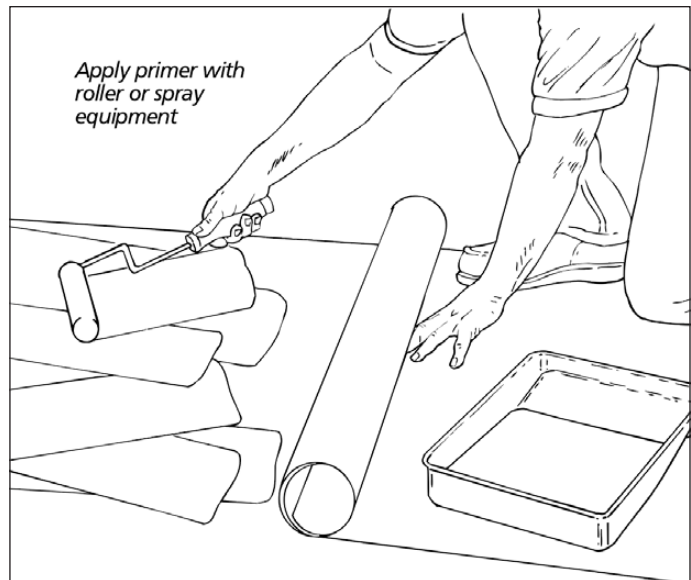
**CONTINUED ON BACK...**

## CONTINUED FROM FRONT...

some sealants. Consult sealant manufacturer and test for interaction with any sealant to be used.

### INSTALL FORTIFLASH 40 OVER CONCRETE

- After fitting, roll back half of the **FortiFlash 40** membrane to expose the concrete sub-floor.
- Test for adhesion. If **FortiFlash 40** does not adhere to concrete the surface must be primed.
- Prime this area of the slab with **Fortifiber Primer**, easily applied with brush, roller or sprayer; no substitutions. Apply **FortiFlash 40** after primer becomes tacky. Primer activates the bond between **FortiFlash 40** and the concrete to achieve the best possible bond.
- Peel away the release paper and press membrane firmly over substrate.
- Repeat above steps with other half and install the next roll of **FortiFlash 40**.
- Seams between rolls must be overlapped a minimum of 4" or butted and taped with Fortifiber's **Moistop® Tape**; no substitutions.
- After covering the entire area, apply sufficient pressure to adhere, then use a 100 lb. roller over the entire membrane to ensure full contact between **Moistop Tape**, **FortiFlash 40** and concrete. Seams and cutouts around posts, pipes and other protrusions must be overlapped and taped to seal.
- To remove air pockets, use a sharp knife to slit the pocket and compress with a trowel or J-roller and seal with **FortiFlash 40** or **Moistop Tape**. If **FortiFlash 40** folds and seals to itself, cut out damaged area and install a repair piece using tape and seam technique.
- Do not puncture **FortiFlash 40** with flooring cleats or staples when installing flooring. Never adhere flooring directly to **FortiFlash 40** membrane.
- Fortifiber's **Aquabar®** Class II vapor retarder must be applied over wood sub-floor as a secondary vapor retarder; no substitutions.
- Install flooring over **Aquabar** following wood floor manufacturer's instructions.



### SCREED SYSTEMS OVER CONCRETE

Screeds may be mechanically attached through **FortiFlash 40** to concrete following fastener manufacturer's recommendations. Follow wood floor manufacturer's or NWFA Guidelines for proper installation of screed systems over concrete and for proper selection and installation of wood flooring over screeds or screed with wood sub-floor panels.

### FLOATING FLOOR OR FLOATING SUB-FLOOR SYSTEMS

Any floating floor or floating sub-floor system may be installed over **FortiFlash 40**. Follow wood floor manufacturer's or NWFA Guidelines for proper installation of floating floor or floating sub-floor systems. Do not puncture **FortiFlash 40** with cleats or staples used to install flooring over nail down floating sub-floor systems.

### FORTIFLASH 40 FOR FLOORS WARRANTY

This product may be eligible for a 10 year limited warranty when installed following Fortifiber's installation instructions in a floor system installed following NWFA guidelines and accepted industry practices. Please see our website at [www.fortifiber.com/warranty.htm](http://www.fortifiber.com/warranty.htm) for details.

Call 1-800-773-4777 Nationwide for  
Technical Assistance or visit our website  
at [www.fortifiber.com](http://www.fortifiber.com)



**Fortifiber Building  
Systems Group®**

*Protecting Your World from the Elements®*

NATIONAL SALES OFFICE - Fernley, NV

(8/17/14)