

## INSTALLATION GUIDELINES FOR EARTHSISAL™ (FELT BACKED SISAL)

### PREPARATION:

- Measuring: natural floor coverings need to be acclimatised in the environment that they are to be fitted in and can be prone to some shrinkage during this period. It is important when preparing a cut plan to add at least 10cms to the overall length of the cut required to take this into account.
- Check the floorcovering is the correct product and color and that there are no visible defects before cutting or fitting. We cannot accept any returns after the floor covering has been cut or fitted.
- Acclimatisation: natural floor coverings should be acclimatised in the area in which they are to be laid for at least 48 hours. It is recommended that the floor covering is laid out and cut to shape, but left oversized to allow for shrinkage as the floor covering acclimatizes.
- Damp areas: natural floor coverings should not be installed into areas with high moisture levels as they will expand and contract and cause the floor covering to become misshapen. We would not advise that any of our natural floor coverings are fitted into "wet areas" such as bathrooms or kitchens. Please note that seagrass is particularly prone to damp and mold can start to form on the surface.
- Subfloor: Before laying the floor covering the subfloor should be checked to ensure that it is in good condition. The subfloor should be clean, smooth and uniform. An uneven subfloor will have an effect on the appearance and wear of the floorcovering. If floor boards are uneven with large gaps between boards we would recommend that a minimum of 6mm ply is fitted. N.B. when installing floor coverings onto concrete it is important that the subfloor is dry; use the appropriate moisture meter to check this.

### ACCESSORIES:

- A good quality 8mm contract underlay such as Ball & Young Cloud 9 contract range or 8mm Duralay. The underlay should be fixed to the subfloor with a tackifier or staples see below.

### INSTALLATION:

- Medium pinned gripper; **DOUBLE BANKED**, should be fitted around the perimeter of the room leaving an appropriate gap for the floor covering to form a gully.
- Make sure the subfloor is clean and dust free. For concrete subfloors apply tackifier evenly. Allow the tackifier to dry and then install the underlay. For floorboards use tackifier or where appropriate a combination of spray adhesive and where necessary staples.

- Now lay out the floor covering and position correctly. Allow the floorcovering to acclimatise for 48 hours.
- For areas that require a join we always recommend the use of a good quality “gold” heat seaming tape. Cut off the selvedge edge ensuring that you have a clean straight edge on both sides that are being joined.
- Now trim the edges of the floor covering and tuck in the edges into the gully after the gripper.
- All exposed edges should be protected by the use of an appropriate threshold, i.e. door ways etc.