

# ***VaporShield95™***

## ***LOOSE-LAY MOISTURE BARRIER***

### ***FOR INSTALLATIONS OVER CONCRETE FLOORS***

#### **General Information**

TRAXX VaporShield95 rolled moisture barrier is a loose-lay underlayment for use over concrete floors where high Relative Humidity (up to 95% RH) or high pH readings are present. It is designed to suppress the upward movement of water vapor and alkalinity from the concrete slab into the finished flooring, which can cause floorcovering damage, emulsification of the floorcovering adhesive, and mold/fungal conditions.

VaporShield95 can be installed over on-grade and below-grade concrete slabs, elevated precast slabs, slabs on metal decks, elevated structural concrete, and lightweight concrete.

**Note: TRAXX VaporShield95 is not designed or warranted for use in resisting liquid water pressure, a condition referred to as Hydrostatic Pressure. Therefore, do not use VaporShield95 where standing or glistening water is present on the slab.**

#### **Approved Floor Coverings for use with TRAXX VaporShield95™ Moisture Barrier**

Carpet Tile	Static Dissipative/ Conductive Tile
Vinyl Composition Tile (VCT)	Engineered Wood (Floating/Direct-Glue)
Luxury Vinyl Tile (LVT)	Solid Wood over Sleeper Floors
Luxury Vinyl Planks (LVP)	Solid Vinyl Tile (SVT)

TRAXX VaporShield95 has been approved for use with the large variety of floorcoverings stated above to suppress moisture vapor in concrete slabs. It is the responsibility of the contractor or architect to ensure that the specified floorcovering is dimensionally stable. If you have a floorcovering not on this list, please contact TRAXX Corporation for specific installation advice. For Sheet Vinyl or Ceramic Tile installations, it is recommended to use TRAXXShield100 Rolled Moisture Barrier, due to its peel-and-stick installation method.

#### **I. Moisture Testing on the Concrete Slab**

- TRAXX VaporShield95 can suppress 95.0% Relative Humidity and pH of 12. It is required to perform RH testing for documentation of the installation, and it must be conducted in accordance with the latest version of ASTM F2170, *Standard Test Method for Determining Relative Humidity in Concrete Floor Slabs Using in situ Probes*.

## **II. Preparing the Concrete Slab**

1. The concrete slab must be free from contamination of oils and solvents, as this condition could cause damage to VaporShield95. Oils and solvents must be removed before flooring installation. Contact TRAXX Corporation if contaminants are suspected, or when chemical abatement of old flooring has been performed.
2. In cases where residual adhesive is present, the concrete surface must be scraped and the adhesive removed. TraxxShield Primer can be used over cutback adhesive residue after scraping. Do not use solvent-based adhesive remover chemicals, as they could contaminate the concrete surface.
3. It is required that the concrete slab is smooth and level so that imperfections do not telegraph through the finished flooring. Be sure to patch all cracks and joints which are 1/8" or greater. Use a high-quality, cement-based patch/leveling compound which is warranted by the manufacturer for high moisture applications. All patching materials must be cured and surface-dry before installing VaporShield95.
4. Upon completion of preparing the concrete slab surface, it should be dry, smooth, clean, and structurally sound within the finished flooring manufacturer's specifications.

## **III. Installing TRAXX VaporShield95 Rolled Moisture Barrier**

1. Per the floorcovering manufacturers' instructions, finished floorcovering requires at least 48 hours of acclimation in order to minimize expansion and contraction after installation. Do not install floorcovering until proper acclimation occurs.
2. In planning your laydown of VaporShield95, keep in mind that rolls are 5- feet wide X 144- feet long (720 sq. ft. per roll).
3. Roll out the first run of VaporShield95 net fit to the wall in manageable lengths – roughly 30-feet maximum. The smooth poly-coated side will lay face-down on the concrete.
4. Roll out the second run and lightly butt the first run at the seam. Be sure seams do not overlap, and that no bubbles or wrinkles appear in the rolling process.
5. Now apply the TRAXX 2-1/2" seam tape at the surface holding the seamline together. Run the tape along the entire length of the seam allowing no gaps and no wrinkles. Hand roll the tape to ensure it properly sets. Plan 1 roll of seam tape for 1 roll of VaporShield95 membrane.
6. Be sure that end cuts are staggered so that cross seams are not in line.
7. TRAXX 4-inch Double-Sided Tape should be installed under VaporShield95 at doorway transitions, and around pillars to hold the membrane in place.

#### IV. Installing the Finished Flooring

1. Follow the finished flooring manufacturer's acclimation and installation instructions.
2. It is highly recommended to **use premium commercial-grade adhesives (Acrylic Pressure-Sensitive, 2-part epoxy, 2-part polyurethane)**.  
**CAUTION:** Clear Thin Spreads have a higher risk of emulsifying when soaked with water and chemicals during cleaning over non-porous substrates.
3. VaporShield95 is a **NON-POROUS** underlayment. Apply the floorcovering adhesive directly onto the VaporShield95 surface according to the Adhesive Manufacturer's trowel recommendations for **NON-POROUS** surfaces.
4. Always use a new trowel.
5. **IT IS STRONGLY RECOMMENDED TO DO A 3-FT. SQUARE TEST USING THE ADHESIVE APPLIED TO VaporShield95 TO TEST THE ADHESIVE COVERAGE AND BONDING OF THE FLOORCOVERING.**
6. For those adhesives requiring a Wet-Set application, always follow the Adhesive Manufacturer's Instructions for NON-POROUS substrates for correct open times to flash off.
7. Do not use solvent-based adhesives.
8. Do not tear or damage the VaporShield95 during the finished flooring installation.
9. Ensure that the seams of VaporShield95 are offset from the seams of VCT, LVT, or SDT tiles. Vinyl planks should be installed at 90 degrees to the VaporShield95 seam pattern.

#### V. Initial Maintenance & Cleaning of the Finished Floor

Upon completion of finished flooring installation, TRAXX Corporation requires a minimum of 5 days (120 hours) before any cleaning or maintenance. Failure to do so may result in improper drying and curing of the floorcovering adhesive. Longer curing times may be required by the adhesive manufacturer. TRAXX Corporation is not responsible for improper installation of the finished floor, nor cleaning/maintenance performed before curing of the floorcovering adhesive.