



# ULTRA-SET® SINGLESTEP2™

## ADVANCED TRI-LINKING™ ADHESIVE, MOISTURE CONTROL & SOUND REDUCTION MEMBRANE

TECHNICAL DATA SHEET 03/14/2024

### SMART ADVANTAGES

- Easy clean before and after cure
- Lifetime warranty for unlimited moisture vapor protection
- Superior sound dampening performance

### DESCRIPTION

Ultra-Set® SingleStep2™ is a high performance adhesive, moisture control, and sound reduction membrane all in one. Bostik's breakthrough AXIOS® Tri-Linking™ Polymer Technology used in this formulation maintains the superior long term durability, moisture control and sound abatement properties of high end urethane adhesives. However, it is easier to spread and clean off of prefinished flooring before and after cure. This adhesive contains 1% recycled rubber material, has zero VOC's (as calculated per SCAQMD Rule 1168) and does NOT contain any water. Ultra-Set® SingleStep2™ comes with Bostik's BLOCKADE® antimicrobial protection, which inhibits the growth of bacteria, mold or mildew on the surface of the cured membrane. The cured membrane resists stains caused by mold.

### THICKNESS CONTROL™ SPACER TECHNOLOGY

Ultra-Set® SingleStep2™ contains Bostik's patent-pending Thickness Control™ Spacer Technology. This proprietary feature helps ensure proper membrane thickness is maintained between the hardwood flooring and substrate. Installers can use mallets to engage the tongue and groove or even walk on their work during the installation process without significant reduction in the film thickness that could compromise moisture protection and sound control.

Ultra-Set® SingleStep2™ has extremely low moisture vapor permeability and is not adversely affected by moisture. As a result, costly and time-consuming concrete moisture testing is not required when the slab is properly prepared, fully cured and dry to the touch.

### SUPERIOR MOISTURE-VAPOR PROTECTION

Ultra-Set® SingleStep2™ has extremely low moisture vapor permeability and is not adversely affected by moisture. As a result, costly and time-consuming concrete moisture testing is not required when the slab is properly prepared, fully cured and dry to the touch.



### SUPERIOR SOUND CONTROL

Ultra-Set® SingleStep2™ provides a premium sound reduction barrier over the substrate that typically outperforms 1/4" thick cork underlayment. This eliminates the costly labor and materials required to transport and install these secondary acoustical sheet membranes. Independent testing laboratory results are summarized on the table to the right.

### ANTI-FRACTURE PERFORMANCE

This high performance formulation may be used to adhere all engineered, solid, bamboo, cork, and parquet. Ultra-Set® SingleStep2™ has no restrictions on board width or length. It may be used over all properly prepared substrates common to hardwood flooring installations including: concrete, plywood, well bonded vinyl/VCT and ceramic tile, cement backer board, gypsum underlayments (dry, above grade), cement patch/underlayments, radiant-heat flooring, properly prepared terrazzo, and recycled rubber underlayments. This adhesive can also be used to install plywood as described, as well as ceramic tile, marble, and stone inlays for light commercial and/or residential applications.

This supersedes and replaces in its entirety all previously published versions of this document. B191500

## ULTIMATE VERSATILITY

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## LEED® CONTRIBUTION

This 0 VOC formulation (as calculated per SCAQMD Rule 1168), may contribute toward LEED® v4 IEQ Credit – Low-Emitting Materials, Interior Adhesives & Sealants. Also containing recycled rubber, this formulation may contribute toward LEED® v4 MR Credit – Building Product Disclosure and Optimization – Sourcing of Raw Materials; Recycled Content.

## DIRECTIONS FOR USE

Read and understand data sheet completely before beginning installation. Follow industry standards, as well as flooring manufacturer's recommendations for acclimation, design, layout and application of wood flooring material. If jobsite conditions are outside of flooring manufacturer's recommendations, take necessary corrective actions. Whether the moisture content of substrate exceeds or is within the flooring manufacturer's recommendations, to address current or possible future subfloor moisture, sound, and cracks (up to 1/8"), apply Ultra-Set® SingleStep2™ as directed.

## SURFACE PREPARATION

Surfaces must be absorptive, clean, free from loose materials, oil, grease, sealers, curing compounds, waxes, silicates, laitance, and all other surface contaminants that may inhibit proper bond. Completely remove cutback adhesive residue or other surface contaminants by diamond grinding to open the pores of the concrete. All surfaces to be treated must have a concrete surface profile (CSP) of 1-3 (similar to a broomed finish), as defined by ICRI (International Concrete Repair Institute, Guideline No. 03732). Maximum acceptable floor variation is 3/16" in 10 feet. Areas requiring patching or leveling must be done using a Portland cement-based material (e.g., Bostik Webcrete® 95, Webcrete® 98, SL-100™, SL-150™, SL-175™, SL-200™, SL-Rapid™ or UltraFinish™ Pro).

**PLEASE NOTE:** Concrete substrate should NOT be smooth and reflective; it must have a concrete surface profile of CSP 1-3 (similar to a broomed finish), as defined by ICRI (International Concrete Repair Institute, Guideline No. 03732). It also must be tested in accordance with ASTM F3191 and be found porous, where a ¼" drop of water must absorb into the concrete within 1 minute.

## INSTALLATION

The installation begins with a starter row secured to the subfloor; the starter row provides a stationary point to push against so flooring doesn't move during installation. Once the starter row is secured, apply adhesive/membrane to substrate using the appropriate trowel. See the chart on last page for proper trowel selection. Flooring may be installed using a "Wet-Lay" or "Walk-on-Work" method of installation. For either type of installation, spread the adhesive and begin to install the flooring immediately. Periodically lift boards immediately after installation to ensure proper slab coverage and transfer to the back of the flooring. If a thin skin forms on the adhesive on the slab prior to installation of the flooring, it may be possible to re-trowel the adhesive and obtain proper coverage and transfer. Re-trowel 90° to the ridges, and if no sign of the original trowel marks remains, install additional flooring and check coverage and transfer. Adhesive that has cured too much prior to installation of the flooring must be mechanically removed and fresh adhesive applied.

Although it is relatively easy to remove Ultra-Set® SingleStep2™ adhesive from the face of prefinished hardwood even after cure, it is recommended to clean with a non-abrasive towel as you work prior to cure. After a few rows have been installed, and as you move across the room, tape the boards together using removable 3M #2080 Blue tape to prevent boards from sliding and to secure close-fitting joints. Rolling is recommended for most installations. For some sensitive factory-applied finishes such as oil-based finishes, tape and rolling may not be recommended. Test to ensure that tape removal after rolling does not harm finish. Flooring that is not flat should be weighted or rolled to ensure proper contact between the flooring and substrate.

**Plywood Over Concrete:** Score 4' x 4' or 2' x 8' sheets of 3/4" exterior-grade plywood on the backside every 8" to 10" by using a circular saw and cutting one-half the thickness of the plywood; "scoring or kerfing" takes the tension out of the plywood and helps to prevent possible warping or curling. Using a recommended trowel, apply adhesive/membrane to substrate and then set plywood into the wet adhesive/membrane. For moisture protection, ensure 100% coverage and transfer. Allow the adhesive/membrane to fully cure before nailing or using Ultra-Set® SingleStep2™ adhesive/membrane to install flooring. Make sure that nails do not penetrate through the Ultra-Set® SingleStep2™ membrane.

## CLEANUP

While Ultra-Set® SingleStep2™ bonds tenaciously to concrete and flooring, it is designed not to bond with most finishes on pre-finished flooring making it relatively easy to remove from the finish even after cure. Although it is relatively easy to remove after cure, it is recommended to clean with a non-abrasive towel as you work prior to cure. After cure, adhesive may be removed with a plastic scraper and dry, non-abrasive towel, taking care not to damage the finish. Immediately clean all tools and equipment before material cures.

**TROWEL CLEAN-UP TIP:** Before use, cover areas of the trowel that are not used to spread the adhesive with duct tape or blue tape. After use, simply tear off tape before material cures, and clean the remainder of the trowel with a towel.

## STORAGE/SHELF LIFE

Store at temperatures between 50°F (10°C) and 100°F (38°C). Shelf life is one year from date of manufacturing in closed, original packaging.

**Re-Seal Partially Used Container:** Clean all adhesive residue off of the lip of the pail and the groove around the perimeter of the lid. Plastic (e.g., a trash bag) may be placed into the pail to cover the wet adhesive, especially in high humidity environments, but do not allow the plastic to extend outside of the pail and interfere with the seal of the pail with the lid. Use a rubber mallet to fully seat the lid on the pail. Do not turn the pail over.

**Re-Open Partially Used Container:** Remove the lid. Peel cured material away from pail and discard cured material and plastic from the top of the pail. Any uncured material may be used.

## LIMITATIONS

- Periodically check coverage of adhesive during installation; 100% substrate coverage and adhesive transfer is required to protect against damages from subfloor moisture.
- Due to limitations with solid and bamboo wood flooring (e.g., lack of dimensional stability), "below-grade" installations are limited to engineered hardwood flooring.
- On or below-grade substrates must have appropriate vapor barrier (6 mil poly or better) properly installed below slab.
- Do not install solid wood flooring over VCT/vinyl.
- Bamboo installations should follow solid hardwood flooring installation recommendations.
- Slab temperature should be between 50°F and 95°F during installation.
- Do not use on wet, dusty, contaminated, glassy smooth or friable substrates; do not use over substrates/slabs treated with

sealers or curing compounds; do not use in areas subject to hydrostatic head.

- Do not use over perimeter bonded flooring material.
- Completely remove all adhesive residue and other surface contaminants from the slab by diamond grinding, shot blasting, or scarifying.
- Use over gypsum-based/underlayments is limited to dry, “above-grade” installations where the gypsum has dried hard (not dusty/powdery), with a minimum compressive strength > 2,000 psi for engineered hardwood installations, or minimum compressive strength > 2,500 psi for solid hardwood installations.
- Please refer to flooring manufacturer’s recommendations and NWFA’s specifications for proper acclimation, verification of moisture content of flooring with a moisture meter, and expansion relief around perimeter throughout installation.
- Do not use vinyl-backed cork flooring or foamed backed parquet.
- This membrane does NOT reduce/affect issues originating from the sides, ends, or top of flooring (i.e. puddles, water leaks, wet mopping, hydrostatic-head, etc.).
- This membrane does NOT eliminate all possible moisture-related or install-related issues (i.e. improper acclimation of flooring, jobsite temperature/relative humidity, etc.).
- This membrane is designed to prevent excessive variance of moisture between the top, middle, and bottom of flooring that originates from the substrate.

#### PACKAGING

Available in 4 gallon pails (36 pails/pallet)

#### WARNING

IRRITANT. MAY IRRITATE EYES, SKIN OR RESPIRATORY TRACT. CONTENTS MAY BE HARMFUL IF SWALLOWED OR INHALED. Methanol may form during curing. Do not breathe fumes. Do not get in eyes, on skin or on clothing. Do not swallow. Handle with care. Use only in a well ventilated area or wear a mask. Wear protective clothing including gloves. Wash thoroughly after handling. Store in a cool, dry area. Do not reuse container.

**KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN**

#### FIRST AID TREATMENT

Contains quartz silica and diisodecyl phthalate (DIDP) inextricably bound in a polymer matrix. If in eyes or on skin, rinse with water for at least 15 minutes. If on clothes, remove clothing. If breathed in, move person to fresh air. If swallowed, call a Poison Control Center or doctor immediately. Do not induce vomiting.

**SEE SAFETY DATA SHEET**

**Chemical Emergency:** 800-424-9300 (USA), 703-527-3887 (International)

**Medical Emergency:** 866-767-5089

#### CHEMICAL & PHYSICAL PROPERTIES

<b>Use Environments</b>	Residential	Yes	
	Offices/Light Commercial	Yes	
	Heavy Commercial	Yes	
	Hospital	Yes	
	Exterior	No	
	Wet Areas	No	
<b>Substrates</b>	Concrete	Yes	
	Plywood	Yes	
	OSB	Yes	
	Recycled Rubber Underlayment	Yes	
	Well-Bonded Vinyl	Yes	
	Terrazzo	Yes	
	Ceramic Tile	Yes	
	Gypsum Underlayments <sup>1</sup>	Yes	
Cement Patch/Underlayment	Yes		
<b>Flooring Types</b>	Solid Hardwood	Yes	
	Engineered Hardwood	Yes	
	Bamboo	Yes	
	Cork	Yes	
	Parquet	Yes	
	Plywood	Yes	
	Ceramic Tile, Marble, Stone Inlays <sup>2</sup>	Yes	
<b>Cured Physical Properties</b>	Cure Time <sup>3</sup>		
	Light foot traffic	8 to 12 hours	
	Normal foot traffic	12 to 24 hours	
	Water Vapor Permeability <sup>4</sup>	< 0.4	
	Concrete Moisture Vapor Limits for subfloor moisture vapor protection:		
	ASTM 1869 Calcium Chloride Method	None, Dry to the Touch	
	ASTM 2170 Relative Humidity Test	None, Dry to the Touch	
	Elongation	>100%	
	Service Temperature	-40°F to 150°F (-40°C to 66°C)	
<b>Sound Reduction Performance</b>	ASTM E492-04 IIC		
	6" concrete slab with no ceiling	50 dB	
	6" concrete slab with 1 layer 5/8" gypsum board ceiling	70 dB	
	ASTM E 2179 Increased Impact Insulation Δ IIC	21 dB	
	ASTM E90-09 STC		
	6" concrete slab with no ceiling	51 dB	
6" concrete slab with 1 layer 5/8" gypsum board ceiling	67 dB		
<b>Application Properties</b>	Ease of Troweling	Excellent	
	Odor	Mild	
	Open/Working Time <sup>5</sup>	60 minutes	
	Color	Beige with black specks	
	Density (lbs/gallon)	14.25	
	Percentage of Water <sup>6</sup>	0%	
	Percentage of Adhesive Coverage Required:	For Moisture-Vapor Protection	For Bond
	Engineered	95%	>80%
	Solid	95%	>95%
	Application Temperature	50°F to 100°F (10°C to 38°C)	
<b>Chemical Properties</b>	Chemistry Type	1-Part AXIOS™ Tri-Linking™ Polymer	
	Adhesive Type	Moisture Cure	
	VOCs (measured per EPA Method 24)	Yes (0 g/L)	
	Flash Point, closed cup	>200°F (93°C)	
<b>LEED® v4 Contribution</b>	IEQ - Low-Emitting Materials for Interior Adhesives & Sealants	Up to 3 Points <sup>7</sup>	
	MR - Building Product Disclosure & Optimization	Up to 2 Points <sup>8</sup>	

<sup>1</sup> Dry, above grade

<sup>2</sup> Residential or light commercial only

<sup>3</sup> Humidity affects cure to a greater degree than temperature; the higher the humidity, the faster the cure. Under normal conditions, light foot traffic is acceptable after 6 to 8 hours; normal traffic after 12-16 hours.

<sup>4</sup> Per ASTM E-96 Standard Test Methods for Water Vapor Transmission of materials. Ratings are g/m<sup>2</sup>-24 hour-mmHG.

<sup>5</sup> Please refer to the Open/Working Time Chart.

<sup>6</sup> Per ASTM E203-01 Standard Test Method for water using Volumetric Karl Fischer Titration Method. Results rounded to the nearest tenth. Test Method has error range of +/- 0.2%.

<sup>7</sup> Per LEED® v4 BD+C rating system, taking into account all other interior adhesives & sealants applied on site.

<sup>8</sup> Per LEED® v4 Responsible Extraction Criteria - Sourcing of Raw Materials

## TROWEL SELECTION

In order to form a membrane that functions properly for moisture-vapor protection, the right trowel needs to be selected to achieve both 100% coverage of the substrate and 100% transfer to the back of the flooring. Jobsite conditions, profile of the substrate, depth of back channeling in the flooring, and other factors affect the amount of adhesive that must be applied to achieve proper coverage and transfer. Always pull a board at the beginning of and during the installation process to confirm adequate coverage and transfer. Trowel size may need to be changed to achieve the required coverage and transfer. See trowel suggestions below.

## ADHESIVE & MOISTURE-VAPOR MEMBRANE INSTALLATION METHOD

### Suggested Trowel (For use as an adhesive only, refer to adhesive only installation method.)

Engineered wood flooring up to 5/8" thick.  
Coverage: 30-35 sq. ft. per gallon

Engineered wood flooring >5/8" thick, or plywood.  
Coverage: 20 sq. ft. per gallon



1/4" x 1/4" V-Notch



1/4" x 1/4" x 1/4" Square Notch



1/2" x 15/32" V-Notch



1/4" x 3/8" x 1/4" Square Notch

Trowel size is suggested to maximize coverage of adhesive. Periodically lift a board to ensure the following conditions are being met: 100% coverage of concrete substrate and 95% transfer to the back of the flooring product. Uneven subflooring may require the use of either a leveling/patching material or a larger V-notched trowel for proper coverage of adhesive.

## ADHESIVE ONLY INSTALLATION METHOD

### Suggested Notched Trowel (For use as an adhesive & moisture-vapor control membrane, refer to chart above.)

Engineered hardwood flooring ≤1/2" thick.  
Coverage: 50 sq. ft./gallon

≤1/2" Parquet or cork underlayment.  
Coverage: 80 sq. ft./gallon

Engineered hardwood flooring >1/2" thick, solid wood or bamboo flooring ≤1/2" thick, and parquet ≤3/4" thick.  
Coverage: 40 sq. ft./gallon

Solid wood or bamboo flooring >1/2" thick, or plywood.  
Coverage: 35 sq. ft./gallon



3/16" x 5/32" V-Notch



1/8" x 1/8" x 1/8" Square Notch



1/4" x 1/4" x 1/8" Square Notch



1/4" x 1/4" x 1/4" Square Notch

Trowel size is suggested to maximize coverage of adhesive. Periodically check coverage of adhesive during installation: >80% coverage and transfer to the back of the flooring is required for all engineered wood flooring; >95% coverage and transfer is required for all solid wood flooring or bamboo flooring products.

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