



# Vapor-Lock™

**HARDWOOD ADHESIVE, MOISTURE CONTROL & SOUND REDUCTION MEMBRANE**

## KEY FEATURES

- Thickness Control™ Spacer Technology
- Lifetime warranty for unlimited moisture vapor protection
- Sound control membrane

## DESCRIPTION

Bostik's Vapor-Lock™ is a high performance adhesive, moisture control, and sound reduction membrane all in one. Its superior properties provide a tough, flexible, tenacious bond to a variety of surfaces, and it is not adversely affected by exposure to moisture, water or alkalinity. Vapor-Lock™ exhibits exceptional green grab or high tack immediately after troweling, making installation easier and more secure. This adhesive contains 1% recycled rubber material, has 0 VOC's (as calculated per SCAQMD Rule 1168) and does **NOT** contain any water. Vapor-Lock™ contains Bostik's BLOCKADE™ antimicrobial protection, which inhibits the growth of bacteria, mold, or mildew on the surface of the cured adhesive.

## THICKNESS CONTROL™ SPACER TECHNOLOGY

Vapor-Lock™ 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 rubber 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.

## MOISTURE PROTECTION

Vapor-Lock™ has very low moisture vapor permeability and is not adversely affected by moisture vapor. As a result, it will reduce moisture vapor transmission through the concrete. When applied as directed as a moisture vapor membrane, it will prevent damages caused by high subfloor moisture vapor. As a result, costly and time-consuming concrete moisture testing is not required for solid or engineered hardwood flooring when the slab is properly prepared, dry to the touch, and fully cured. For bamboo flooring, Vapor-Lock™ may be used for concrete slabs with elevated moisture levels up to 15 lbs. per 1,000 square feet per 24 hours (using an anhydrous calcium chloride test kit according to ASTM F-1869 test method), and up to 87% RH (tested in accordance with ASTM F-2170). For bamboo flooring on substrates that have an MVER of greater



## ACOUSTIC PERFORMANCE CHART

| Subfloor Type | Flooring Type   | Ceiling Type          | Results | Test  |
|---------------|-----------------|-----------------------|---------|-------|
| 6" Concrete   | 3/8" Engineered | 5/8" Suspended Gypsum | 69      | IIC   |
| 6" Concrete   | 3/8" Engineered | No suspended ceiling  | 49      | IIC   |
| 6" Concrete   | 3/8" Engineered | No suspended ceiling  | 21      | Δ IIC |
| 6" Concrete   | 3/8" Engineered | No suspended ceiling  | 50      | STC   |
| 6" Concrete   | 3/8" Engineered | 5/8" Suspended Gypsum | 66      | STC   |

than 15 lbs or 87% RH, use Bostik MVP4® prior to the application of Vapor-Lock™, or use Bostik Ultra-Set® SingleStep2™ or GreenForce® for unlimited moisture vapor protection.

## SOUND CONTROL

Vapor-Lock™ 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 laboratory testing results are summarized on the table [above].

## ANTI-FRACTURE PERFORMANCE

Vapor-Lock's™ elastomeric characteristics establish an anti-fracture membrane that can bridge cracks up to 1/8" (3mm), which can occur in the substrate prior to or after installation. This superior elasticity allows the adhesive to move with the wood as it expands and contracts with changes in humidity and temperature over the life of the floor.

## ULTIMATE VERSATILITY

VaporLock™'s high performance formulation may be used to adhere engineered, solid, bamboo, cork, and parquet hardwood, and cork or rubber underlayments. Vapor-Lock™ 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, OSB, 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.

## 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 and 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 the 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 Vapor-Lock™ as directed.

## SURFACE PREPARATION

Surfaces must be absorptive, clean, and 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). Seal any cracks larger than 1/8" or expansion joints with Bostik 915FS™ or 955-SL™.

**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 1/4" 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" methods 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. 100%

coverage and transfer is required for moisture vapor protection. As you work, immediately clean any adhesive from prefinished flooring with Bostik's Ultimate™ Adhesive Remover or mineral spirits (be careful not to harm finish), then dry buff with a non-abrasive towel. 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. Apply adhesive/membrane to substrate and then set plywood into the wet adhesive/membrane. Allow the adhesive/membrane to fully cure before nailing or using Bostik's adhesive/membrane to install flooring. If nailing to the plywood, nails must not protrude through to the adhesive/membrane.

## CLEAN UP

As you work, immediately clean any adhesive from prefinished flooring with Bostik's Ultimate™ Adhesive Remover or mineral spirits (be careful not to harm finish), then dry buff with a non-abrasive towel. Immediately clean all tools and equipment with Bostik's Ultimate™ Adhesive Remover or mineral spirits before material cures.

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

## STORAGE/SHELF LIFE

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

**Re-Seal Partially Used Container:** With pail upright place a sheet of plastic (e.g., trash bag) over the top of the pail. Secure lid tightly over the plastic on top of pail. Carefully turn pail upside down. Plastic will help prevent the material from bonding the lid closed. **Re-Open Partially Used Container:** Carefully turn pail right side up. Remove lid. Carefully cut and discard cured material and plastic from top of pail. Any uncured material may be used.

## LIMITATIONS

- Periodically check coverage of adhesive during installation; 100% substrate coverage and adhesive transfer to the back of the flooring is required to protect against damage 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.
- For bamboo flooring on substrates with any history of moisture problems, or for concrete slabs exceeding 15 lb MVER or 87% RH, use a high performance moisture vapor reduction product such as Bostik Ultra-Set® SingleStep2™, GreenForce®, or Bostik MVP4™/Adhesive System.
- Do not install solid wood or bamboo flooring over VCT/vinyl.
- Bamboo installations should follow solid hardwood flooring installation recommendations.
- Slab temperature should be between 50°F and 95°F (10°C and 35°C) 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.
- Completely remove all adhesive residue and other surface contaminants by diamond grinding, shot blasting, or scarifying.
- Do not use over perimeter bonded flooring material.
- 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 NWFAs specifications for proper acclimation, verification of moisture content of flooring with a moisture meter, and expansion relief around perimeter throughout installation.
- Do not use with vinyl-backed cork flooring or foamed-backed parquet.
- This membrane is designed to reduce moisture vapor emissions that originate/emanate from below the membrane only.
- This membrane does **NOT** reduce/affect issues originating from the sides, ends, or top of flooring (ie. puddles, water, leaks, 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

MAY BE HARMFUL IF SWALLOWED OR INHALED. CONTAINS POTENTIAL SENSITIZER. MAY CAUSE ALLERGIC SKIN OR LUNG REACTION. MAY IRRITATE EYES, SKIN AND RESPIRATORY TRACT. Do not breathe fumes. Do not get in eyes, on skin or on clothing. Do not swallow. Use only in a well-ventilated area or wear mask. Wash thoroughly after handling. Store container in a cool, dry area with lid tightly sealed. Do not reuse container.

## KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN

## FIRST AID TREATMENT

Contains petroleum resins, diisodecyl phthalate (DIDP), methylene diphenyl diisocyanate (MDI), quartz silica. If in eyes or on skin, rinse with water for at least 15 minutes. If on clothes, remove clothes. 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                          |          |
|   | Offices  | Yes                          |          |
|   | Hospital   | Yes                          |          |
|   | Exterior   | No                           |          |
|   | Wet Areas  | No                           |          |
| <b>Substrates</b>                                       | Concrete   | Yes                          |          |
|   | Plywood  | Yes                          |          |
|   | OSB  | Yes                          |          |
|   | Well-Bonded Vinyl  | Yes                          |          |
|   | Terrazzo   | Yes                          |          |
|   | Ceramic Tile   | Yes                          |          |
|   | Cement Backer Board  | Yes                          |          |
|   | Gypsum Underlayments*  | 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   | 6 to 8 hours                 |          |
|   | Normal foot traffic  | 12 to 16 hours               |          |
|   | Water Vapor Permeability <sup>4</sup>                                  | <0.6                         |          |
|   | Concrete Moisture Vapor Limits for subfloor moisture vapor protection: |                              |          |
|   | For engineered and solid hardwood                                      | None, dry to the touch       |          |
|   | For bamboo   |                              |          |
|   | ASTM 1869 Calcium Chloride Method                                      | ≤ 15 lbs/1000 sq.ft./24 hrs  |          |
|   | ASTM 2170 Relative Humidity Test                                       | ≤ 87% RH                     |          |
|   | Elongation   | >180%                        |          |
| 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                                       | 49 dB                        |          |
|   | 6" concrete slab with 1 layer 5/8" gypsum board ceiling                | 69 dB                        |          |
|   | ASTM E 2179 Increased Impact Insulation Δ IIC                          | 21 dB                        |          |
|   | ASTM E90-09 STC  |                              |          |
|   | 6" concrete slab with no ceiling                                       | 50 dB                        |          |
| 6" concrete slab with 1 layer 5/8" gypsum board ceiling | 66 dB  |                              |          |
| <b>Application Properties</b>                           | Application Temperature  | 50°F to 100°F (10°C to 38°C) |          |
|   | Ease of Troweling  | Easy                         |          |
|   | Odor   | Mild                         |          |
|   | Open/Working Time <sup>5</sup>   | 90 min                       |          |
|   | Color  | Brown with black specks      |          |
|   | Density (lbs/gallon)   | 14.7                         |          |
|   | Percentage of Water <sup>6</sup>                                       | 0%                           |          |
|   | Percentage of Adhesive Coverage Required:                              | For Moisture Protection      | For Bond |
| Engineered  | 95%  | 85%                          |          |
| Solid   | 95%  | >95%                         |          |
| <b>Chemical Properties</b>                              | Chemistry Type   | 1-Part Urethane              |          |
|   | Adhesive Type  | Moisture Cure                |          |
|   | VOC Compliant (calculated per SCAQMD Rule 1168)                        | Yes (0 g/L)                  |          |
|   | Flash Point  | >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>  |          |

\* 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 F1249 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 and/or sound reduction, 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 MEMBRANE INSTALLATION METHOD

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

Solid, engineered or bamboo wood flooring up to 5/8" thick.  
Coverage: 30-35 sq.ft. per gallon

Solid, engineered or bamboo 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 and moisture control membrane, refer to chart above.)

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

≤1/2" Parquet, or cork/rubber 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.

## LIMITED WARRANTY

Limited Warranty found at [www.bostik.com/us](http://www.bostik.com/us) or call 800.726.7845. TO THE MAXIMUM EXTENT ALLOWED BY LAW, BOSTIK DISCLAIMS ALL OTHER EXPRESS OR IMPLIED WARRANTIES, INCLUDING WITHOUT LIMITATION WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED IN THE LIMITED WARRANTY, THE SOLE REMEDY FOR BREACH OF WARRANTY IS REPLACEMENT OF THE PRODUCT OR REFUND OF THE BUYER'S PURCHASE PRICE. BOSTIK DISCLAIMS ANY LIABILITY FOR DIRECT, INCIDENTAL, CONSEQUENTIAL, OR SPECIAL DAMAGES TO THE MAXIMUM EXTENT ALLOWED BY LAW. DISCLAIMERS OF IMPLIED WARRANTIES MAY NOT BE APPLICABLE TO CERTAIN CLASSES OF BUYERS AND SOME STATES DO NOT ALLOW THE EXCLUSION OR LIMITATION OF INCIDENTAL OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES, SO THE ABOVE LIMITATIONS MAY NOT APPLY TO YOU. It is the buyer's obligation to test the suitability of the product for an intended use prior to using it. The Limited Warranty extends only to the original purchaser and is not transferable or assignable. Any claim for a defective product must be filed within 30 days of discovery of a problem, and must be submitted with written proof of purchase.

### OPEN TIME CHART

| Temperature   |      | Humidity   |            |            |
|---------------|------|------------|------------|------------|
|               |      | 40%        | 60%        | 80%        |
| 60° F (16° C) | Tack | 2.5 Hours  | 2.5 Hours  | 2 Hours    |
|               | Open | 1 Hour     | 1 Hour     | 45 Minutes |
| 70° F (21° C) | Tack | 2 Hours    | 2 Hours    | 1.5 Hours  |
|               | Open | 45 Minutes | 45 Minutes | 30 Minutes |
| 80° F (27° C) | Tack | 1.5 Hours  | 1.5 Hours  | 1 Hour     |
|               | Open | 30 Minutes | 30 Minutes | 15 Minutes |

NOTE: This chart is for reference only; actual jobsite times may vary.

### BOSTIK HOTLINE

Smart help  
1-800-726-7845

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