

This guideline applies to Powerscape Peace[™], Powerscape Assurance[™], GIB Sound Barrier[®] and GIB Bedrock[®] floor underlays.

COMPATIBILITY

GIB Sound Barrier[®] Concrete and Timber are compatible with:

- Surface electric heating systems
- Hydronic (in-floor piped water) systems
- In-floor electric cable systems

GIB SOUND BARRIER[®] HEATING - ADVANTAGES

Surface Electric Heating

- The smooth GIB Sound Barrier[®] surface makes it easy to position and tape wires.
- The rigid GIB Sound Barrier[®] surface reduces the risk of levelling compound cracking and wire breakage.
- The large sheets with adhered joins and non-porous surface prevents levelling compound flowing down cracks and setting in contact with the floor beneath thus minimising the risk of forming an acoustic bridge.
- Choice: Surface electric heating may be installed either above or below GIB Sound Barrier[®] Concrete (see requirements). When used beneath, GIB Sound Barrier[®] maintains a fast response time, in comparison with some other acoustic overlays because of its favourable thermal conductivity properties.

Hydronic and In-floor Electric Heating

The thermal properties of GIB Sound Barrier[®] allows a fast heating response time when either hydronic or in-floor electric heating systems are used.

REQUIREMENTS

The following requirements need to be adhered to:

Maximum Temperature

Any surface in contact with GIB Sound Barrier[®] must not exceed 37°C.

Check with the floor heating system provider and installer that the system can be set using regulators and/or a thermostat to ensure this maximum temperature is not exceeded. Some systems will require that the thermostat is located between the GIB Sound Barrier[®] and the heat source to achieve this requirement.

Notes:

- In general, in-floor systems seldom exceed a surface temperature greater than 28°C; the maximum temperature for flooring particleboard is typically 35°C.
- Some older surface electric systems overheated the floor at the wire resulting in "hot spots". If retrofitting GIB Sound Barrier[®] above older electric surface floor elements, measurements should be made at various positions on the floor before installation to determine the maximum temperature for worse case conditions.

FLOOR SURFACE COMPATIBILITY

GIB Sound Barrier[®] Concrete

Surface electric heating: When installing surface electric heating beneath GIB Sound Barrier[®] Concrete, a levelling compound must be used over the heating element. It is essential that the levelling compound is compatible with GIB Sound Barrier[®] Concrete Floor Adhesive. In general, this will mean that the levelling compound be cementitious (i.e. cement based levelling compound) with porosity similar to a floated concrete surface. The surface of the levelling compound must not have a relative humidity exceeding 75%.

Hydronic systems: The concrete floor requirement is the same as for a standard, non-heated concrete floor.

In-floor electric heating: The concrete floor requirement is the same as for a standard, non-heated concrete floor.

GIB Sound Barrier[®] Timber

Surface electric heating elements must only be installed above GIB Sound Barrier[®] Timber. There are no other special requirements apart from those listed for maximum surface temperature.

CONCLUSION

GIB Sound Barrier[®] is compatible with radiant floor heating solutions provided:

- 1) The maximum temperature on the surface of the GIB Sound Barrier[®] does not exceed 37°C.
- 2) For concrete floors, the installation surface is compatible with GIB Sound Barrier[®] Concrete floor adhesive.

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