

**ecore™**

Commercial  
Flooring



## **Galaxy RX Rolls**

# **INSTALLATION AND MAINTENANCE MANUAL**

**Distributed in the U.S.A. by:**

**ecore™** | Commercial  
Flooring

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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

### INSTALLATION

Job Site Conditions	3
Subfloors	3
Subfloor Preparation	3-5
Storage & Handling	5
Roll Installation	6-7

### MAINTENANCE

Cleaning Procedures	8-9
Cleaning Product Chart	10

### WARRANTY

Warranty	11
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## INSTALLATION

### I. JOB SITE CONDITIONS

1. Installation should not begin until after all other trades are finished in the area. If the job requires other trades to work in the area after the installation of the floor, the floor should be protected with an appropriate cover. Kraft paper or plastic works well.
2. Areas to receive flooring should be weather tight and maintained at a minimum uniform temperature of 65°F (18°C) for 48 hours before, during, and after the installation.

### II. SUBFLOORS

Galaxy RX may be installed over concrete, approved Portland- based patching and leveling materials, such as Ardex K-15 or equivalent, and wood.

**NOTE:** Ardex Engineered Cements  
400 Ardex Park Drive  
Aliquippa, PA 15001  
(724) 203-5000

**NOTE:** Gypsum-based patching and leveling compounds are not acceptable.

1. Wood Subfloors – Wood subfloors should be double construction with a minimum thickness of one inch. The floor must be rigid and free from movement with a minimum of 18 inches of well-ventilated air space below.
2. Underlayments – The preferred underlayment panel is American Plywood Association (APA) underlayment grade plywood, minimum thickness of 1/4-inch, with a fully sanded face.

**NOTE: Particleboard, chipboard, Masonite and lauan are not considered to be suitable underlayments.**

3. Concrete Floors – Concrete shall have a minimum compressive strength of 3000 psi. New concrete slabs should cure for a minimum of 28 days before installing Galaxy RX. Concrete must be fully cured and permanently dry.

### III. SUBFLOOR REQUIREMENTS AND PREPARATION

1. Subfloors shall be dry, clean, smooth, level, and structurally sound. They should be free of dust, solvent, paint, wax, oil, grease, asphalt, sealers, curing and hardening compounds, alkaline salts, old adhesive residue, and other extraneous materials, according to ASTM F710.
2. Subfloors should be smooth to prevent irregularities, roughness, or other defects from telegraphing through the new flooring. The surface should be flat to the equivalent of 3/16" (4.8 mm) in 10' (3.0 m).
3. Mechanically remove all traces of old adhesives, paint, or other debris by scraping, sanding, or scarifying the substrate. Do not use solvents. All high spots shall be ground level and low spots filled with an approved Portland-based patching compound.
4. All saw cuts (control joints), cracks, indentations, and other non-moving joints in the concrete must be filled with an approved Portland-based patching compound.

## INSTALLATION

- Expansion joints in the concrete are designed to allow for expansion and contraction of the concrete. If a floor covering is installed over an expansion joint, it will likely fail in that area. Use expansion joint covers designed for resilient flooring.

**NOTE:** Expansion joint covers can be obtained from:

Balco, Inc.  
2626 South Sheridan  
P.O. Box 17249  
Wichita, KS 67217  
(316) 945-9328

Schluter-Systems L.P.  
194, Pleasant Ridge Road  
Plattsburgh, NY 12901-5841  
Phone: 1-800-472-4588

- Always allow patching materials to dry thoroughly and install according to the manufacturer's instructions. Excessive moisture in patching material may cause bonding problems or a bubbling reaction with the E-Grip™ III adhesive.

### HAZARDS:

**SILICA WARNING** – Concrete, floor patching compounds, toppings, and leveling compounds can contain free crystalline silica. Cutting, sawing, grinding, or drilling can produce respirable crystalline silica (particles 1-10 micrometers). Classified by OSHA as an IA carcinogen, respirable silica is known to cause silicosis and other respiratory diseases. Avoid actions that may cause dust to become airborne. Use local or general ventilation or provide protective equipment to reduce exposure to below the applicable exposure limits.

**ASBESTOS WARNING** – Resilient flooring, backing, lining felt, paint, or asphaltic “cutback” adhesives can contain asbestos fibers. Avoid actions that cause dust to become airborne. Do not sand, dry sweep, dry scrape, drill, saw, beadblast, or mechanically chip or pulverize. Regulations may require that the material be tested to determine the asbestos content. Consult the document “Recommended Work Practices for Removal of Existing Resilient Floor Coverings” available from the Resilient Floor Covering Institute.

**LEAD WARNING** – Certain paints can contain lead. Exposure to excessive amounts of lead dust presents a health hazard. Refer to applicable federal, state, and local laws and the publication “Lead Based Paint: Guidelines for Hazard Identification and Abatement in Public and Indian Housing” available from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development.

- Maximum moisture vapor emission of the concrete must not exceed 5.5 lbs. per 1000 sq.ft. in a 24 hour period as measured by the calcium chloride moisture emission test conducted in accordance to ASTM F1869. Moisture can also be measured using the RH Relative Humidity test method per ASTM F2170 standard. Moisture content should not exceed 85% RH. If levels are high using either test method, then one of Ecore Commercial Floorings recommended vapor retardants must be used. If the emissions exceed the limitations, the installation should not proceed until the situation has been corrected.

**NOTE:** For moisture remediation, Ecore Commercial Flooring recommends the following two vapor retardant products.

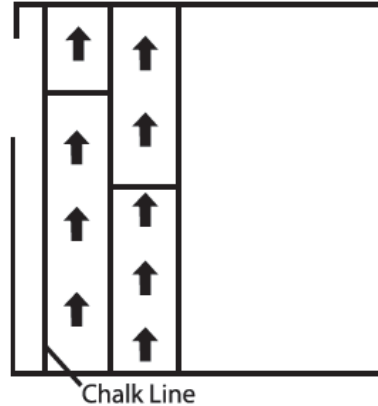
- ARDEX MC Rapid, Plus or Ultra - 724-203-5000, [www.ardex.com](http://www.ardex.com)**
- Bostik Durabond D-250 - 888-592-8558, [www.bostik-us.com](http://www.bostik-us.com)**

## INSTALLATION

8. It is essential that pH tests be taken on all concrete floors. If the pH is greater than 9, it must be neutralized prior to beginning the installation.
9. Adhesive bond tests should be conducted in several locations throughout the area. Glue down 3' x 3' test pieces of the flooring with the recommended adhesive and trowel. Allow to set for 72 hours before attempting to remove. A sufficient amount of force should be required to remove the flooring and, when removed, there should be adhesive residue on the subfloor and on the back of the test pieces.

### IV. MATERIAL STORAGE AND HANDLING

1. Material should be delivered to the job site in its original, unopened packaging with all labels intact.
2. Roll material should always be stored on end. Storing Galaxy RX laying down may cause wetting, which causes permanent memory of the material. Rolls should only be stored on a clean, dry, smooth surface.
3. **Inspect all materials for visual defects before beginning the installation. No labor claim will be honored on material installed with visual defects. Verify the material delivered is the correct style, color, and amount. Any discrepancies must be reported immediately before beginning installation.**
4. The material and adhesive must be acclimated at room temperature for a minimum of 48 hours before starting installation.
5. **All Galaxy RX rolls must be unrolled and installed in the same direction. Laying rolls in the opposite direction can cause visual variations between the rolls.**



**Diagram 1**

6. Lay the rolls to provide as few seams as possible with economical use of materials. All rolls being installed on a given day must be unrolled the day before and allowed to relax over night.

## INSTALLATION

### V. INSTALLATION – Galaxy RX ROLL MATERIAL

1. Make the assumption that the walls you are butting against are not straight or square. Using a chalk line, make a starting point for an edge of the flooring to follow. The chalk line should be set where the first seam will be located.
2. Remove the Galaxy RX from the shrink wrap and unroll it onto the floor. Lay the material on the floor in a way that will use your cuts efficiently. Cut all rolls at the required length, including enough to run up the wall a couple inches.
3. If end seams are necessary, they should be staggered on the floor and overlapped approximately 2". End seams will be trimmed after acclimation period using a square to ensure they fit tightly without gaps.
4. After allowing proper acclimation and rough cuts are made you may begin the installation.
5. Align the first edge to the chalk line.  
Note: it is very important that the first seam is perfectly straight.
6. Position the second roll so it is snug with the adjacent roll, but not compressed. After seams are trimmed, if necessary, the edges should fit snug with no visual gaps. Care should be taken to not over compress the seam. Over compressed seams will cause peaking.
7. Repeat for each consecutive sheet necessary to complete the area or those rolls that will be installed that day.

### INSTALLATION – GLUE DOWN Galaxy RX Rolls

1. After performing the above procedures, begin the application of the adhesive. We recommend E-Grip III, a one-component moisture-cured polyurethane adhesive. E-Grip III should not be mixed. It is specially formulated for use right out of the pail. Apply E-Grip III to the substrate using a 1/16" square- notched trowel.
2. Fold over the first drop along the wall (half the width of the roll). Rolls are 6 feet wide and 30 feet long. When roll is folded over this will leave an exposed area of substrate that is 3 feet wide and 30 feet long.
3. Spread the adhesive using the proper size square-notched trowel. Take care not to spread more E-Grip III than can be covered with flooring within 30 minutes. The open time of the adhesive is 30–40 minutes at 70°F and 50% relative humidity.

**NOTE:** Temperature and humidity affect the open time of the adhesive. Temperatures above 70°F and/or relative humidity above 50% will cause the adhesive to set up more quickly. Temperatures below 70°F and/or relative humidity below 50% will cause the adhesive to set up more slowly. The installer should monitor the on-site conditions and adjust the open time accordingly.

4. Lay the flooring into the wet adhesive. Do not allow the material to “flop” into place; this may cause air entrapment and bubbles beneath the flooring.
5. Immediately roll the floor with a 75–100 lb. roller to ensure proper adhesive transfer. Overlap each pass of the roller by 50% of the previous pass to ensure the floor is properly rolled. Roll the width first and then the length.
6. Fold over the second half of the first roll and half the width of the second roll. Taking roll sizes into account, this will provide an exposed area of substrate of 6 feet wide and 30 feet in length per roll. Spread the adhesive, roll the flooring, and repeat for each consecutive drop.
7. Continue the process for each consecutive drop. Work at a pace so that you are always folding material back into wet adhesive bed.

## INSTALLATION

**NOTE:** Never leave adhesive ridges or puddles. They will telegraph through the material.

1. Do not allow E-Grip III to cure on your hands or the flooring. Immediately wipe off excess adhesive with a rag dampened with mineral spirits! Cured adhesive is very difficult to remove from hands. We strongly suggest wearing gloves while using E-Grip III.
2. Hand roll all seams after the entire floor has been rolled.
3. Keep traffic off the floor for a minimum of 24 hours. Floor should be free from rolling loads for a minimum of 48-72 hours.

### INSTALLATION – Welding GalaxyRX Rolls

1. Groove seams in sheet flooring as required, and heat weld with manufacturers welding rod.

## MAINTENANCE FLOOR CARE FOR Galaxy RX

### Introduction:

Developing a suitable maintenance program is important to the long-term performance of any resilient floor covering. Ecore Commercial flooring is maintained using standard cleaning products, basic maintenance equipment, and traditional cleaning methods.

The maintenance of Galaxy RX rubber flooring improves over time with the establishment of a consistent maintenance program. Each installation is unique and we offer several options to consider when developing a suitable ongoing maintenance program based on the area of use, the type and amount of traffic, furniture and equipment placement, and the availability of staffing and maintenance equipment.

The use of floor finish is recommended in highly trafficked areas where heavy soiling may occur and in environments that are more challenging to maintain because of limited access or where furniture and equipment are present and cannot practically be moved for cleaning. Some of these areas include hospital patient rooms and corridors, school classrooms, cafeterias, airport security checkpoints, and animal clinics. In these types of areas the application of floor finish can ease the maintenance routine and provide a uniform gloss and appearance to the floor.

We have included a list of recommended cleaners and floor finishes.

### Initial Cleaning

1. Thoroughly sweep or vacuum the flooring to remove all loose dirt and grit.
2. Prepare a cleaning solution using one of the recommended pH neutral cleaners (maintenance product reference chart below). The dilution ratio depends on light to heavy soil conditions.
3. Apply the cleaning solution with a nylon or rayon mop.
4. Let the cleaning solution dwell for 5 to 15 minutes. **IMPORTANT – do not let the solution dry.**
5. Scrub the flooring using a single disc rotary machine (175 – 350 RPM) equipped with a red pad.
6. Remove the cleaning solution using a wet vacuum or a mop.
7. Rinse the floor thoroughly with clean water.
8. Allow the flooring to dry completely. **NOTE:** The cleaning process may need to be repeated on heavily soiled floors.
9. If applying floor finish, apply two coats of a recommended finish according to label instructions or follow the cleaner maintainer application instructions found below.
10. When applying floor finish, allow the floor finish to dry completely between coats.

### Preventive Care

1. An effective barrier matting system should be installed at all entrances to reduce cleaning costs and extend the life of the floor.
2. Protect the flooring from damage by using good quality protective feet and casters for chairs, tables, and other furniture. Use products designed for resilient floors. Caster or wheel damage can be avoided with the use of chair pads

### Daily Cleaning

1. Thoroughly sweep or vacuum the flooring to remove all loose dirt and grit.
2. Prepare a cleaning solution using a recommended pH neutral cleaner. The dilution ratio depends on light to heavy soil conditions.
3. Damp mop the cleaning solution onto the floor.
4. Remove the cleaning solution using a wet vacuum or mop.
5. Rinse the floor thoroughly with clean water.
6. Allow the flooring to dry completely.
7. Remove minor stains and scuffs in conjunction with the damp mopping. Use a white or red pad if required.



## MAINTENANCE FLOOR CARE FOR Galaxy RX

### Periodic / Deep Cleaning

1. When routine / daily cleaning no longer provides adequate results, a more aggressive deep cleaning is required to thoroughly clean the floor.
2. Thoroughly sweep or vacuum the flooring to remove all loose dirt and grit.
3. Prepare a cleaning solution using one of the recommended pH neutral cleaners. The dilution ratio depends on light to heavy soil conditions. A stripper can also be used for a more aggressive cleaning.
4. Apply the cleaning solution with a nylon or rayon mop.
5. Let the cleaning solution dwell for 5 to 15 minutes. **IMPORTANT – do not let the solution dry.**
6. Scrub the flooring using a single disc rotary machine (175 – 350 RPM) equipped with a red pad.
7. Remove the cleaning solution using a wet vacuum or a mop.
8. Rinse the floor thoroughly with clean water.
9. Allow the flooring to dry completely.

**NOTE:** The cleaning process may need to be repeated on heavily soiled floors.

### Floor Finish Procedures

1. Select a recommended floor finish from the maintenance product reference chart.
2. Clean the floor performing a Restorative Cleaning as outlined below. Allow the flooring to dry completely.
3. Apply two coats of a recommended floor finish according to label instructions.

**NOTE:** In areas with heavy traffic or with consistent chair sliding such as classrooms, an additional coat of floor finish should be applied.

4. Do not exceed 4 coats.
5. The floor finish must dry completely between coats.
6. Restrict all traffic until the floor finish has dried completely.

### Dry Buffing Procedure

1. Dry Buffing can be performed when a cleaner maintainer or floor finish has been applied.
2. Thoroughly clean the floor prior to starting the buffing procedure.
3. Buff the floor using a single disc, high speed rotary machine (1000 – 1500 RPM) equipped with a white or tan buffing pad.
4. Occasionally repeat the buffing process at a frequency that will maintain the desired gloss level.

**Reminder – the floor should always be cleaned prior to dry buffing.**

### Restorative Cleaning

1. When the floors gloss level appears worn or uneven due to traffic the sealer can be removed and reapplied to restore the floors appearance.
2. Thoroughly sweep or vacuum the flooring to remove all loose dirt and grit.
3. Prepare a stripping solution using a recommended stripper. Follow the manufacturer's label instructions.
4. Apply the stripping solution with a nylon or rayon mop.
5. Let the stripping solution dwell for 5 to 15 minutes. **IMPORTANT – Do not let the solution dry.**
6. Scrub the floor using a single-disc rotary machine (175-350 RPM) equipped with a red pad.
7. Remove the stripping solution with a wet vacuum or a mop.
8. Thoroughly rinse the floor and allow it to dry completely.
9. Repeat the stripping process if necessary.
10. Re-apply the cleaner-maintainer or sealer as desired.

**NOTE:** Water-only maintenance and restorative cleaning protocols are available for Galaxy RX. Please contact Ecore Commercial Flooring for more information at 877-258-0843.

Galaxy RX APPROVED MAINTENANCE PRODUCTS		
<b>PRODUCT</b>	<b>Ecore Commercial Flooring 877-258-0843 ecorecommercialflooring.com</b>	<b>Johnson DIVERSEY Tel 800-558-2332 option 5 www.johnsondiversey.com</b>
<b>Neutral Cleaner</b>	<b>E-Cleaner</b>	<b>Diversey Stride or Profi</b>
<b>Finish</b>	<b>E-Finish</b>	<b>Diversey Carefree Matte</b>
<b>Stripper</b>	<b>E-Strip</b>	<b>Diversey LinoSAFE</b>
<p>The data presented is correct at the time of printing. However, Ecore Commercial Flooring reserves the right to update this information as and when necessary. For the latest information, please check our web site at <a href="http://www.ecorecommercialflooring.com">www.ecorecommercialflooring.com</a>, Providing this information does not imply any equivalence between each of the different manufacturers' products, or that other products would prove unsatisfactory.</p>		

### Floor Maintenance Product Definitions

**pH Neutral Cleaner:** Specifically designed pH neutral cleaner for the ongoing maintenance of resilient flooring. An integral part of comprehensive floorcare to emulsify dirt quickly.

**Cleaner-Maintainer:** A blend of detergents, waxes, and polymers that both cleans and maintains the floor. It cleans away dirt and soil, and leaves behind a thin protective film that provides a light sheen to the floor when used on a regular basis.

**Floor Finish:** Matte or High Gloss Acrylic Floor Finishes will suspend dirt and soil on the surface of flooring for easier removal while providing an increase in gloss and adding protection to the flooring material.

**Stripper:** Strippers are more aggressive than cleaners and must be used for the removal of floor finish.

## WARRANTY

All Ecore rubber flooring is guaranteed to be free from manufacturing defects on both material and workmanship. If such a defect is discovered, the customer must notify Ecore through the contracting installer, distributor, or directly. If found to be defective within five years under normal non-abusive conditions, the sole remedy against the seller will be the replacement or repair of the defective goods, or at the seller's option, credit may be issued not exceeding the selling price of the defective goods.

Warranty shall not cover dissatisfaction due to improper installation, normal wear or quality of installation expected from the use or environment of installation, damage from improper maintenance or usage, or general misuse, including and without limitation: burns, cuts, tears, scratches, scuffs, damage from rolling loads, damage from cleaning products not recommended by Ecore, slight shade variations or shade variations due to exposure to direct sunlight, or differences in color between samples or photographs and actual flooring.

**Excluded from Warranty** – Warranty does not apply to the following.

1. The exact matching of shade, color, or mottling.
2. Any express or implied promise made by any salesman or representative.
3. Tears, burns, cuts, or damage due to improper installation, improper use, or improper cleaning agents or maintenance methods.
4. Wear from chairs or other furniture without proper floor protectors will void the warranty. Care should be taken to protect the flooring from damage by using good quality protective feet for chairs, tables, and other furniture. Chair mats may be required under chairs with casters/wheels.
5. Labor costs for installation of original or replacement material.
6. Sale of "seconds," "off goods," or other irregular (non-first-quality) flooring materials. With respect to "seconds" or "off goods," such are sold "as is," and Ecore makes no warranties whatsoever, express or implied with respect thereto, including warranties of merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose.
7. Problems caused by moisture, hydrostatic pressure, or alkali in the sub-floor.
8. Problems caused by uses, maintenance, and installation that are contrary to Ecore Commercial Flooring specifications, recommendations or instructions.
9. Material installed with obvious defects.
10. Damage to flooring products from high heels or spike heels.
11. Damage to flooring products from rubber mats, rubber backed mats, or car tires.
12. Installation of products with adhesives other than those recommended by Ecore Commercial Flooring.
13. Fading and/or discoloration resulting from heavy sunlight penetration and ultraviolet ray exposure from direct or glass-filtered sunlight.
14. Material that is not installed and maintained as recommended by Ecore Commercial Flooring.
15. Damage to flooring products from pallet jack and tow-motor traffic.
16. Environments where the product will be exposed to animal fats, vegetable oils, grease, or petroleum based materials. (i.e.: commercial kitchens or auto repair facilities)
17. Premature wear and deterioration from spikes and skate blade exposure.
18. Differences in color between products and photography.
19. Embossing/density deviations between product and samples, photography.

These warranties are in lieu of any other warranty expressed or implied. Ecore Commercial Flooring shall not be liable for any incidental or consequential damages which may result from a defect. Some states do not allow the exclusion or limitation of incidental or consequential damages, so the above limitation or exclusion may not apply to you. These warranties give you specific rights, and you may also have rights which may vary from state to state. To know what your legal rights are in your state, consult your local or state Consumer Affairs Office or your State Attorney General.

For complete and latest warranty information for products within the Ecore Commercial Flooring collection please visit [www.ecorecommercialflooring.com](http://www.ecorecommercialflooring.com).



800-258-08431 – [www.ecorecommercialflooring.com](http://www.ecorecommercialflooring.com)

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**ecore**

**715 Fountain Ave – Lancaster, PA 17601**

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