

# NobleSeal® SIS Under Hardwood Flooring



Technical Bulletin #002

[www.noblecompany.com](http://www.noblecompany.com)

## Description:

NobleSeal is suitable for use under many types of wood flooring. In our experience, IIC values for wood are from 1 to 4 higher than IICs for tile (i.e., wood creates less impact noise than tile).

## Installation Guidelines:

NOTE: Please read NobleSeal SIS Installation Instructions (which can be found online at [www.noblecompany.com](http://www.noblecompany.com)) prior to beginning the installation. Installation of wood flooring should follow applicable industry standards and instructions of the manufacturer of the wood floor surface. Wood should be acclimated to the environment in the room which the wood floor is to be installed. General guidelines for installations of SIS follow:

1. SIS can be loose laid under a floating floor.
  - a. There must be sufficient weight to keep the membrane in place.
  - b. Spot bonding may be necessary to keep the SIS from moving.
  - c. Do not penetrate SIS with mechanical fasteners. Penetrations can create flanking noise paths through which impact sound can travel.
2. Engineered wood floor systems, solid wood parquet, and some thin, solid wood strips and planks (generally 3/8" and below) can be installed with an adhesive. If the flooring manufacturer indicates that their wood floor can be installed with an adhesive, SIS may be a suitable substrate. A typical installation follows:
  - a. Bond NobleSeal SIS to the substrate with either of the following two methods:
    - Apply a latex modified thin-set mortar (use an 1/8" x 1/8" V-notch trowel and comb the thin-set in parallel lines), or
    - Use NobleBond EXT, a latex based sheet bonding adhesive, following instructions on the container.
  - b. SIS should be embedded into the bonding agent with a 100 lb. carpet roller (or suitable alternative method that insures 100% coverage of the bonding agent).
  - c. Bond the wood flooring to SIS using a suitable adhesive.

**CAUTION:** Wood floors are dynamic and can move vertically and horizontally when subjected to variations in temperature and humidity. If the environment is not controlled, vertical movement of the wood flooring could exceed the shear strength of the adhesive used to bond NobleSeal SIS. The potential for vertical movement of the flooring should be assessed prior to installation.

- Most adhesives will adhere to SIS, but solvent-based adhesives can attack the membrane. To test the effect on SIS, apply adhesive to a sample of SIS and inspect after 24 hours. An adverse reaction will result in the membrane swelling and/or softening.
- Perimeters and penetrations of the floor should be isolated to prevent flanking noise (See NobleSeal SIS Installation Instructions).

Contact Noble Company at 800-878-5788 for additional information.