



Global IFS Magna-Lock

Frequently Asked Questions

GENERAL INFORMATION

How is this different from traditional installations?

Magna-Lock finishes are designed for use on a raised access floor with a GIFS steel top sheet. The magnets are adhered to the underside of the finishes and are non-progressively attached on top of the RAF.

Where are your products made?

All Magna-Lock finishes are made in the USA.

How easy is it to reconfigure my space with Magna-Lock? (*What if I grow tired of the look?*)

Reconfiguring a space with Magna-Lock is a breeze. Magna-Lock is designed for easy removal and configuration. Any Magna-Locked finish can be quickly replaced with another plank/tile if they are damaged or occupants are looking for a change.

Can this be used for walls?

Magna-Lock finishes have been used on walls successfully, they have proven to vertically hold their weight. Upon special request a steel top sheet can be placed on a wall to attach Magna-Lock finishes anywhere in the room.

PRODUCT CONSTRUCTION

How does Global IFS attach the magnet to the surface finish?

Our magnet is adhered to the back of our finish with a non-toxic and VOC free, industrial-grade adhesive. The adhesion of all Magna-Lock finishes have been extensively tested to ensure that the bond will not deteriorate over time.

What is the Magna-Lock system?

Magna-Lock is simple and is composed of two parts: the finish and the RAF. High quality finishes are adhered to a magnet that is attached to a steel-topped RAF.



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Frequently Asked Questions

Solid hardwood vs. engineered hardwood?

Magna-Lock currently does not offer a solid hardwood option. Solid hardwood is extremely sensitive to changes in temperature and humidity, and its behavior is much less predictable. On top of being more environmentally friendly, engineered hardwood is more dimensionally stable than solid hardwood, meaning its more resilient to adverse environmental conditions and less likely to warp. To ensure a superior performing system, Global IFS does not apply the magnets to solid hardwood finishes.

INSTALLATION

How long does it take to install?

Magna-Lock LVT and wood installs in half the time of its traditional counterparts. For Magna-Lock terrazzo, the difference in installation times grows even larger because of our prefabrication process and minimal onsite cutting.

Additionally, you can avoid the extra time and cost associated with thin set preparation required to level the slab that is required for traditional installation of LVT, wood or terrazzo. Using RAF as the subfloor for the installation of magnetic finishes means the subfloor is already laser leveled.

At which stage of the construction is the finish installed?

Magna-Lock finishes are installed just before occupancy. The raised access floor is constructed early in the process without the finish. Doing so allows contractors to work in the space without concern over damaging the finished floor. This means contractors can avoid spending money on protecting finishes and worrying about expensive finishes being damaged. Other access floor manufacturers install their finishes at the time the access floor is installed, much earlier in the process, which leaves these expensive finishes exposed to potential damage.



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Frequently Asked Questions

Do I need to grout my Magna-Lock? What are the advantages of not grouting?

No grouting is required during the installation of Magna-Lock products. The planks/tiles are cut so precisely that they can be non-progressively and tightly installed in any space with no need for unsightly grout lines. Grout is available upon special request.

The advantages of no grout:

- Faster install
- Saves time
- No grout lines
- No grout colors
- No messy cleanup after grouting
- Save money and time by not having to maintain or replace grout
- Underfloor access is not hindered by grout so nothing is being wasted

How do I transition from one material to another?

Transitions are usually specified by the architect. There are many different types of transitions available on the market. We can assist the architect in finding transitions that will coordinate with our finishes. Some companies who make transitions in heights that will work with our finishes include Mannington, Johnsonite, Schlutter and Genotech.

What products can be Magna-Locked? How do I get my finish Magna-Locked approved?

New finishes will undergo a series of tests for adhesion and strength. If the customer will supply the finish or pay for the material our engineers can evaluate the product. This testing can take approximately 4-6 weeks. After a final consultation with GIFS and confirmation from the client the product may enter production. These products may require longer leadtimes than normal and potentially custom pricing.

What is the acceptable humidity range for Magna-Lock wood?

Like all hardwood projects, Magna-Lock wood plank must be kept at a specific humidity and temperature range for optimal performance. Based on recommendations from ASHRAE and our suppliers, Magna-Lock recommends the indoor environment be kept between 55-80 degree and 35-60% humidity. Before, a functional HVAC system must be in place for at least two weeks.

What loads can I roll/move across a Magna-Lock installation?

These test results will be published soon. Please check with Braxton Allred for detailed test results.



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SUSTAINABILITY

I am going green. How does your system compare to others in an environmental sense?

Magna-Lock is reusable. We are gathering recycled content by finish. Please check with Braxton Allred for detailed recycled content.

HEALTH & SAFETY

Will the magnetic waves disturb my electronics?

Magna-Lock will not interfere with electronics. Below is a letter certifying its safety from our supplier:

“The multi-pole nature and lesser strength of ferrite magnets compared to other types of permanent magnets make them very effective for holding applications but very weak at a distance.

Given an individual is not directly handling or making contact with our magnetic sheeting, it is reasonable to say that magnum magnetics flexible magnetic sheeting products should not disturb the operation of life supporting electronic equipment such as pacemakers or implantable cardioverter-defibrillator (icd). We recommend individuals with life supporting electronic equipment consult with their physician if they have any questions or concerns regarding the safe distances they should maintain with their specific life supporting electronic device(s).

The Magna-Lock product should not interfere with general office electronics. We also expect that the magnet shouldn't cause any interference to WIFI signal transmission unless you are trying to transmit a WIFI signal through the magnet/tile itself, in which case, the density of the magnet/tile may decrease the WIFI's signal strength”.

SAMPLING

What is the global IFS sampling program for the Magna-Lock products?

Please contact your local Global IFS representative for samples.