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CERTIFICATE OF PERFORMANCE

IMPACT NOISE TESTING

6.5 mm SPC VINYL PLANK (5 mm + 1.5 mm IXPE)

HTT FLOORING PTY LTD

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HTT FLOORING PTY LTD

1.0 CONSULTANT'S BRIEF

Koikas Acoustics was requested by HTT Flooring Pty Ltd to conduct an impact noise test on the 6.5 mm SPC Vinyl Plank consisting of 5 mm vinyl finish and 1.5 mm of IXPE foam underlay.

The purpose of undertaking these impact noise test was to quantify the acoustic performance of the 6.5 mm SPC Vinyl Plank (5 mm + 1.5 mm IXPE) over the concrete sub base with suspending ceiling.

Test results were compared to the acoustic requirements of *Part F5 of BCA (Building Codes of Australia)* and the standards prescribed by the *Association of Australian Acoustical Consultants (AAAC)*.

All measurements were carried out in accordance with the guidelines and procedures outlined in *AS/NZS ISO 140.7:2006 "Field measurements of impact sound insulation of floors"* with the rating determined in accordance with *AS ISO 717.2-2004 "Rating of sound insulation in buildings and of building elements"*.

2.0 IMPACT NOISE COMPLIANCE TESTING

The impact noise testing of the ceiling/floor system with the 6.5 mm SPC Vinyl Plank (5 mm + 1.5 mm IXPE) was conducted inside the furnished living/dining areas of one residential unit (upper-floor level) to another unit (lower-floor level) directly below within a residential building in Sydney CBD on Wednesday, 3rd April 2019.

2.1 PARTITION SYSTEM

Koikas Acoustics has been advised that the ceiling/floor system is constructed with following building materials:

- 200 mm thick concrete slab;
- Approximately 80-120 mm thick suspended ceiling cavity, and
- 13 mm thick plasterboard ceiling.

Hereafter referred to as the “**existing ceiling/floor system**” (ECFS).

The test was conducted over the ECFS described above with the 6.5 mm SPC Vinyl Plank (5 mm + 1.5 mm IXPE) sample on top.

2.2 IMPACT NOISE REQUIREMENTS

2.2.1 BCA Requirement

For verification of the impact noise rating for floors, Part FV5.1 (b) of the latest update of the Building Code of Australia (BCA) 2016 states:

Impact: a weighted standardised impact sound pressure level with spectrum adaptation term (L_{nTw}) not more than 62 when determine under AS/ISO 717.2

2.2.2 AAAC Star Rating Performance Requirements

Reproduced from the Association of Australian Acoustical Consultants (AAAC) Guideline for Apartment and Townhouse Acoustic Ratings, the following Table (Section C) describes the acoustic ratings with reference to the Star Rating System.

Table 1. Star Rating requirements for Inter-tenancy Activities – Published by the AAAC					
INTER-TENANCY ACTIVITIES	2 Star	3 Star	4 Star	5 Star	6 Star
(c) Impact isolation of floors					
- Between tenancies $L_{nTw} \leq$	65	55	50	45	40
- Between all other spaces & tenancies $L_{nTw} \leq$	65	55	50	45	40

2.3 ASSESSMENT PROCEDURES & MEASUREMENTS

Spectrum sound level measurements of transmitted impact noise were recorded in 1/3 octave band centre frequencies between 50 and 10,000 Hertz.

A standardised BSWA Technology Co. Type TM002 S/N 440504 Tapping Machine was used to generate the sound field in the source rooms for the impact noise test. Impact noise measurements were carried out in accordance with the recommendations of *AS/NZS ISO 140.7:2006 “Field measurements of impact sound insulation of floors”*. This document provides information on appropriate measurement equipment and the proper implementation of measurement practices so as to achieve reliable results of impact sound insulation between rooms in buildings.

For determining a single number quantity for impact sound insulation between rooms in buildings when measurements are conducted “in-situ”, $L_{nT,w}$ (weighted standardised impact sound pressure level), the relevant standard is *AS/NZS ISO 717.2-2004 “Impact sound insulation”*. The calculated $L_{nT,w}$ derived from applying the formulae in this standard allows for a comparison between these calculated levels and the nominated acceptable levels outlined in the *Verification Methods* of the *Building Code of Australia (BCA)*.

2.3.1 Ambient Background Noise Measurement

A measure of the underlying ambient noise was taken in the receiving rooms to account for the perceived noise in the space. Inaccuracies in the measurements and calculations can occur in areas of high ambient noise however the location of the site and receiver rooms meant little ambient noise was evident in this case.

Ambient noise levels in each 1/3 octave frequency bands were measured to take into account the effect of ambient noise during the recording of the transmitted impact noise levels.

2.3.2 Reverberation Time Measurements

To determine the $L_{nT,w}$ reverberation time measurements need to be performed in the receiving rooms. The reverberation time in the receiver room is calculated to ‘standardise’ the airborne/impact noise transmission measurements to reference reverberation time of 0.5 seconds as required by AS/NZS ISO 140.7:2006 Section 3.4, and AS ISO 140.4-2006 Section 3.4.

Reverberation time measurements were conducted using the balloon source method. This

consisted of bursting a large balloon and measuring the decay of sound pressure level using a spectrum analyser. This transient response was analysed by the sound level meter and a measure of the reverberation time in 1/3 octave bands was used to calculate the standardised impact noise rating.

2.3.3 Instrumentation and Calibration

NTi XL2 Type Approved (TA) precision spectrum analyser S/N A2A-06312-E0 was used to measure the impact noise levels. The equipment used for taking noise level measurements is traceable to NATA certification. Field calibrations were taken before and after the impact noise measurements with a NATA calibrated pistonphone. No system drifts were observed.

2.4 MEASURED RESULTS

The results of the impact noise tests are summarised in Table 2 Below.

Table 2. Impact Noise Insulation Performance Summary for Ceiling/Floor System			
System Tested	L'_{nTw} ³	FIIC ^{4,5}	AAA Star Rating ⁶
Existing ceiling/floor (ECFS) ¹ - for comparison purpose only	57	44	2
6.5 mm SPC Vinyl Plank (5 mm + 1.5 mm IXPE) ² + existing ceiling/floor (ECFS) ¹	44 ²	58	5 ²

Detail calculations of the partition system's impact noise insulation of the ceiling/floor systems are attached as **Appendix A**.

The following are also noted:

1. All tests were undertaken with the existing ceiling/floor system (**ECFS**) consisting of 200 mm thick concrete sub-base with approximately 80-120 mm suspended ceiling cavity and one layer of 13 mm thick plasterboard ceiling.
2. The 6.5 mm SPC Vinyl Plank (5 mm + 1.5 mm IXPE) has met both the BCA 2016 minimum requirement ($L'_{nTw} \leq 62$) and the AAC Star rating of 5 (i.e. $L'_{nTw} \leq 45$) for impact noise insulation.
3. The lower the L'_{nTw} rating the better the impact insulation.

4. The relation between Field Impact Insulation Class (FIIC) and Impact Insulation Class (IIC) can be described by the formula $FIIC + 5 \approx IIC$.
5. The higher the IIC and FIIC the better the impact insulation.
6. The higher the AAAC Star Rating the better the impact insulation.
7. The information contained herein should not be reproduced except in full.
8. The information provided in this report relates to acoustic matters only. Supplementary advice should be sought for other matters relating to flooring installation, construction, design, structural, fire-rating, water proofing, and the likes.
9. Product installation details and methodologies must be sought from product supplier, installer or other experts. Koikas Acoustics is not liable for any product defects.
10. The acoustic ratings provided in this report are indicative and for comparative purpose only. Acoustic ratings will vary depending on the testing environment/conditions including, materials/structures of the existing ceiling/floor system, room volume, internal layout and workmanship. Even with the same testing environmental, acoustic ratings can vary from room to room and so building to building as no two buildings are identical.
11. Floor covering must not make contact with any walls or joineries (kitchen benches, cupboards etc). During installation of any hard floor coverings, temporary spaces of 5~10mm should be used to isolated the floor covering from walls and/or joineries and the resulting gaps should be filled with a suitable mastic type sealant or off-cut of underlay or the equivalent where available. The acoustic integrity could be degraded if the above precautions and treatments are not implemented.

3.0 CONCLUSION

Koikas Acoustics was requested by HTT Flooring Pty Ltd to undertake impact noise test of the 6.5 mm SPC Vinyl Plank (5 mm + 1.5 mm IXPE). The acoustic performances of flooring system were calculated and compared against the acoustic requirements of the current BCA and AAAC Star Ratings.

The calculated acoustic rating of the tested flooring system was summarised and presented in **Table 2** of this report. Detailed graphically presentation of the acoustic performance of the tested flooring is attached as **Appendix A**.

The acoustic ratings provided in this report are indicative and for comparative purpose only. Acoustic ratings will vary depending on the testing environment/conditions including, materials/structures of the existing ceiling/floor system, room volume, internal layout and workmanship. Even with the same testing environment/conditions, acoustic ratings would still vary from building to building.

It is recommended that in-situ testing be conducted prior to any full fit-out as the sub-base ceiling/floor system and the wall junctions could impact the noise transfer to the unit below.

This report should be reproduced in full including the attached Appendix.

Floor covering must not make contact with any walls or joineries (kitchen benches, cupboards etc). During installation of any hard floor coverings, temporary spaces of 5~10mm should be used to isolated the floor covering from walls and/or joineries and the resulting gaps should be filled with a suitable mastic type sealant or off-cut of underlay or the equivalent where available. The acoustic integrity could be degraded if the above precautions and treatments are not implemented.

APPENDIX A

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APPENDIX A

FIELD MEASUREMENTS OF IMPACT SOUND INSULATION OF FLOORS



Date of Test : Wednesday, 3 April 2019
 Project No. : 3093
 Testing Company : Koikas Acoustics
 Checked by : Nick Koikas
 Place of Test: Residential building in Sydney NSW
 Client : HTT Flooring Pty Ltd
 Client Address : -

Description of Floor System	Name	Thickness (mm)	Density (SI)
SPC Vinyl Plank (5 mm + 1.5 mm IXPE)		6.5	--
200 mm concrete slab		200	2540
80~120 mm suspended ceiling cavity		80~120	--
13 mm plasterboard ceiling		13	--

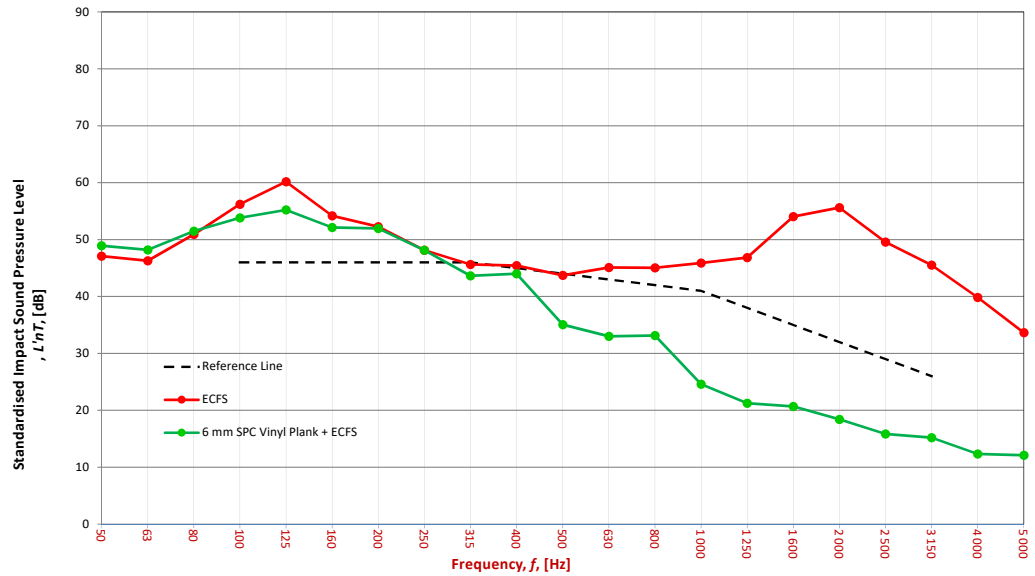
Room Dimensions
 Width : 8 m
 Length : 5 m
 Area : 40 m²

Sample Dimensions
 Width : 1 m
 Length : 1 m
 Area : 1 m²

Receiver Rm	Location	Width	Length	Area	Height	Volume
U 4503 living/dining area		8	5	40	3.2	128

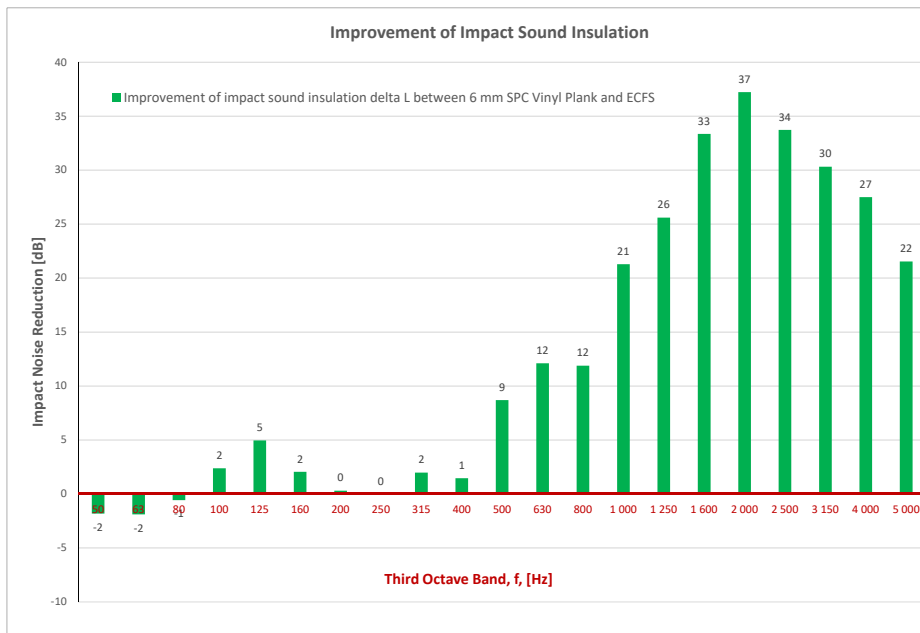
Room Surfaces		
Walls	Floor	Ceiling
Plasterboard	Carpet	Plasterboard

Frequency f Hz	L'nT (one-third octave) dB		
	Sub Base		Sub Base Floor Underlay
50	47.1		48.9
63	46.3		48.2
80	50.9		51.5
100	56.2		53.8
125	60.2		55.2
160	54.2		52.1
200	52.3		52.0
250	48.1		48.1
315	45.6		43.6
400	45.4		44.0
500	43.7		35.0
630	45.1		33.0
800	45.0		33.2
1 000	45.9		24.6
1 250	46.8		21.2
1 600	54.0		20.7
2 000	55.6		18.4
2 500	49.6		15.8
3 150	45.5		15.2
4 000	39.8		12.3
5 000	33.6		12.1



ECFS		
L'nT,w	57	AS ISO 717.2 - 2004
Ci	-7	AS ISO 717.2 - 2004
Ci(50-2500)	-7	AS ISO 717.2 - 2004
Ci(63-2000)	-7	AS ISO 717.2 - 2004
AAAC★	2 Star	AAAC Guideline
FIC	44	ASTM E1007-14

6 mm SPC Vinyl Plank + ECFS		
L'nT,w	44	AS ISO 717.2 - 2004
Ci	1	AS ISO 717.2 - 2004
Ci(50-2500)	2	AS ISO 717.2 - 2004
Ci(63-2000)	2	AS ISO 717.2 - 2004
AAAC★	5 Star	AAAC Guideline
FIC	58	ASTM E1007-14



Definitions of Noise Metrics

FIC:

Field Impact Insulation Class is a single-number rating of how well a floor system attenuates impact type sounds, such as footsteps. Calculated from third-octave band normalised impact sound pressure level data and referenced to 10 m² as described in ASTM E989. The higher the single-number rating, the better its impact insulation performance.

L'nT,w:

The Weighted Standardised Impact Sound Pressure Level when measured in situ referenced to a reverberation time (RT60) of 0.5 seconds. Used by the AAAC to determine their respective Star Rating.

Ci:

Spectrum adaption term is a low frequency correction factor. Typically for massive floors such as concrete, the values are about zero while for timber joist floors Ci is positive because of the low resonant frequencies. Considers frequency range between 100 -and- 2500 Hz.

Ci(50-2500): Same as above, but for the frequency range 50 -2500 Hz.

Ci(125-2000): Same as above, but for the frequency range 125 -2000 Hz.

AAAC Star R.	2	3	4	5	6
L'nT,w	65	55	50	45	40
FIC	45	55	60	65	70
Comments	Below BCA 62	Clearly Audible	Audible	Barely Inaudible	Normally Inaudible