



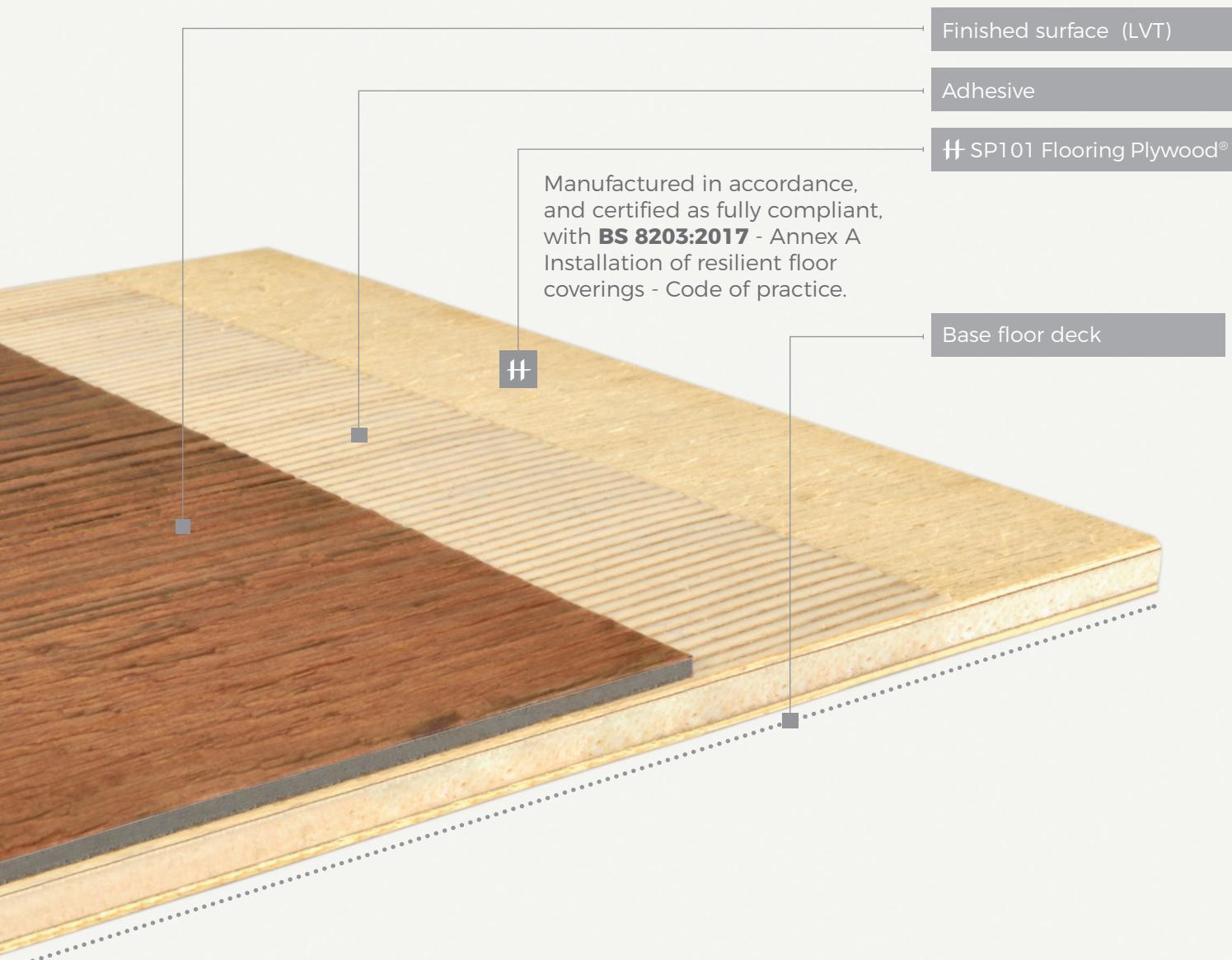
 Accurate dimensions

 Flatness and stability

 No core overlap

 Ease of use

 TFT Woodexperts Diamond Mark Certified



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SpecifiedBy 



BS 8203:2017

Code of practice
for installation
of resilient floor
coverings



Plywood Performance Specification

SP101 Flooring Plywood® is the first plywood panel to be manufactured in accordance, and certified as fully compliant with CFA Guidance and BS 8203: 2017 Code of practice for installation of resilient floor coverings- Plywood Specification.

The CFA recognised the need for a flooring industry standard for plywood and worked on a program of consultation with timber and panel experts to produce a Plywood Guidance Note which was subsequently issued in July 2013. The Guidance was very successful and became widely adopted throughout the industry.

Further work by the CFA, its manufacturing committee and BSI representatives was undertaken to introduce the guidance into British Standards. As a result the normative Annex A is now included in BS 8203 thus providing a performance specification for plywood.

N.B. A normative annex defines guidance that **should** be followed.

This significant development for the industry ensures that manufacturers and installers have a clear reference on the specification of plywood that must be used for a successful and reliable installation. Trained fitters that are working to BS 8203 now need to ensure they are using the correct specification of plywood.

Manufacturers of LVT, adhesives and all other allied products have welcomed this addition to BS 8203 standard as it now ensures their products are used alongside plywood which is tested, approved and fit for purpose.

SP101 Flooring Plywood® is readily available from our network of distributors throughout the UK.

For more information visit: www.sp101.co.uk



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COMPARISON SHEET

SPECIFICATION CHARACTERISTICS:	SP101 FLOORING PLYWOOD®	GENERAL COMMERCIAL PLYWOOD
BS8203:2017 and CFA Guidance	SP101® is certified compliant with both	Most panels are not manufactured with any regard to this standard
Veneer Glue bond	EN 314 Class 3 Exterior fully tested and reliable	Supposedly EN314 Class 2 minimum, but not always tested. Glue lines are known to consistently fail in flooring applications
Moisture content	Very accurate and precise drying in manufacture resulting in a fully stable and conditioned panel	In some panels can vary a lot resulting in distortion. Poor drying can cause mould growth on the surface of boards
Thickness of face and back veneers	Minimum 0.75mm for maximum performance. Works well with all glues and resins and has been tested and approved by most manufacturers	Can be as low as 0.12mm and are readily permeable to moisture and glue. These thin veneers also telegraph the inferior core quality onto the faces
Core veneer quality	No core overlap or gaps therefore creating a high quality surface finish	Core overlaps and gaps are common in most plywoods and result in poor surface quality and thickness variation
Flatness and stability	Superior construction ensures SP101® is much more reliable and stable	Boards can be distorted due to manufacturing processes
Thickness and dimensional tolerances	Very tightly controlled to ensure optimum performance	Can vary considerably in some panels creating further surface preparation attention
Ease of working	Can be worked very easily, and will usually cut with a fitters knife	Can be difficult to work and may be unstable
TFT Woodexperts Diamond Mark Certified	Every technical detail is tested and certified by TFT Woodexperts to guarantee performance	Most panels do not carry third party verification
Floor Fitting Training Schools	Most UK training schools use SP101® in their classes in order to promote best practice to students	Training schools are reluctant to use any panels that do not meet industry requirements and are not guaranteed fit for purpose



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FSC stock available

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PRODUCT DATA SHEET



Plywood specifically designed for subfloor preparation

Guaranteed fit-for-purpose and quality assured.

SP101 Flooring Plywood® is developed specifically for the purpose of flooring underlay and is fully tested and approved to the necessary industry standards and requirements.

CFA Guidance on plywood specification has now been recognised by the British Standards Institution and has been incorporated as a normative annex into BS 8203 - Code of practice for the installation of resilient floor coverings.

This normative annex is intended to help the industry in specifying and using panels that are entirely suitable as a component of the high value finished floor.

SP101 Flooring Plywood® is the first plywood panel to be manufactured in accordance, and certified as fully compliant, with BS 8203.

SPECIFICATION DETAIL:

TFT Diamond Mark	Certified
Manufactured to	BS 8203:2017 EN 636-2
Appearance class	Based on Class 1 from EN 635-2
Glue bond	EN 314-2 Class 3 (exterior) LFE E1 emission
Wood species	Mixed tropical hardwood
Moisture content	8-10%
Thickness tolerance	5.5mm: ±0.2mm, 9mm: ±0.3mm
Dimensional square tolerance	Tight to EN 315
Veneers	Overlay quality without core overlap and gaps
Thicker outer veneers	Minimum 0.75mm
Average density	Approx 500 kg/m³
European Timber Regulation (EUTR) status	FLEG Licensed (Verified Legally compliant)
CE Marked	BS EN 13986
FSC® Stock	Available

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APPLICATION GUIDELINES



Always refer to BS 8203:2017 Code of Practice for the Installation of Resilient Floor Coverings

Following extensive consultation with industry experts we have detailed some suggested procedures to help achieve a professional and reliable installation of plywood in the subfloor preparation process. Hanson Plywood welcome the help, support and involvement of all suppliers of subfloor preparation products in ensuring SP101® can be used appropriately and successfully with all types of materials.

Please note that SP101® is stamped on the face side (better side) on 5.5mm only as this is the most common thickness used in the flooring industry.

All other thicknesses -
3.6mm, 9mm, 12mm, 18mm,
25mm are stamped on the reverse of the panel as these panels are also used in industries that require a clean unstamped face.

5.5mm - stamped face up.

All other thicknesses -
3.6mm, 9mm, 12mm, 18mm,
25mm stamped face down.

The single most important factor affecting the performance of plywood in a subfloor is moisture, and with this in mind, we pay particular attention to this aspect in our guidance notes.

In common with other wood-based panel products, SP101® plywood is hygroscopic and its dimensions will change in response to changes in humidity. However, wood tends to shrink/expand much more across the grain than along the grain and the cross - laminated structure of plywood means that

the longitudinal veneers in one ply tend to restrain the perpendicular veneers in the adjacent ply.

Accordingly, the dimensional movement of SP101® is quite small: Typically, a 1% change in moisture content increases or decreases the length and width of plywood by about 0.15mm per metre run. The corresponding change in thickness is likely to be in the region of 0.3% to 0.4% per 1% change in moisture content. These figures should be taken as a guide only.

When overlaying a subfloor with plywood, a moisture test of the subfloor should be carried out using a wood moisture meter. A reading of the relative humidity in the air and the room temperature also needs to be carried out. Once all three readings have been taken, the installer should be able to make a decision on whether the timber subfloor is at the correct moisture content in relation to the humidity and temperature of the room.

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Prior to installing, a moisture test should be carried out on the plywood and a reading taken.

If it is within + or - 2% of the timber subfloor the plywood can be installed i.e.; if the subfloor has a reading of 10% moisture content, the plywood would need to have a moisture content of between 8% mc - 12% before it can be installed. If the reading is not within 2% of the subfloor, the plywood should be left in the room to acclimatise until it is within equilibrium of the subfloor.

Before laying sheets, the subfloor should be thoroughly cleaned and checked for removal of any debris allowing sheets to lay as flat as possible.

The correct thickness of plywood panel should be selected dependant on the quality of the surface to be overlaid and the overall height of the finished floor. It is recommended, where possible, that sheets are laid perpendicular to floor boards with the joints in the plywood staggered.

Typical fixings recommended are ring shank nails and countersunk screws.

Advice on suitability of fixing process should be taken with regard to the type of covering to be applied and any further surface preparation required. For best results fixings should be countersunk.

Fixings should be spaced at a maximum 100 mm centres around the perimeter of each plywood sheet, 12 mm from the edge and at a maximum 150 mm within the sheets.

When using levelling or seam filling compounds which contain water, the plywood and associated subfloor components will again need to be allowed a period to dry out and reach a moisture equilibrium before further finishing of the floor covering installation.

Please see note (below) on the correct type and use of moisture meters.

Moisture meter information

Basic moisture meters have only one scale, which is pretty crude and is usually based on readings for Pine; whereas more sophisticated meters such as the Protimeter Timbermaster have a range of 8 or 9 different scales for different wood species and this is therefore the sort of equipment recommended.

Readings can then be taken with the corresponding scale for the correct type of wood - in both the subfloor and the plywood. If these types of readings are not done, then the inaccuracy of a "basic" meter can actually be more than the "plus or minus 2%" as recommended; and so the REAL m/c's of the floor and the plywood may be considerably more than 2% adrift from one another.

When pushing the meter pins into plywood, it is possible that they may hit the glueline and give a "false" reading. Care should be taken to ensure pins are not pushed too far into plywood to enable an accurate reading of the face veneers.



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Explaining Density, Face Quality and Performance Assurance

SP101® is made from tropical hardwood that does naturally vary in colour and density. The differences in density may have implications on the way the product is machined or cut, but this is in no way detrimental to its technical performance in subfloors. It is not commercially viable to select logs that are always consistent in colour and density, as the amount of selection required would result in a product which is far too expensive.

Some fitters have expressed a preference for a panel which can be easily cut with a hand-held knife. However, this would require a consistently lighter and lower density panel which would potentially not meet the minimum density requirements of BS 8203 Plywood Annex A.



Filled areas on the faces of boards are normal and acceptable as veneers can naturally split in the drying process. The presence of these splits can be regarded as a positive sign that the veneers have been properly dried as a critical part of the production process. The detailed filling and sanding of any splits is a standard practice in preparing an overlay quality panel.



SP101 is always produced to a very high degree of technical detail which is consistent and reliable:

- Compliant with BS 8203 - 2017 Plywood Annex A
- EN314-2 Class 3 fully exterior glue
- Thicker face veneers
- Fully prepared overlay grade faces
- Industrially dried veneers to exacting moisture content
- Very accurate dimensional tolerances

It is important to appreciate this level of attention to detail in the production of SP101® in order to understand why SP101® is assured in its performance.

Over the course of its development for the flooring industry SP101® has become the most stringently tested and approved panel for specific flooring applications in accordance with BS 8203:2017.

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