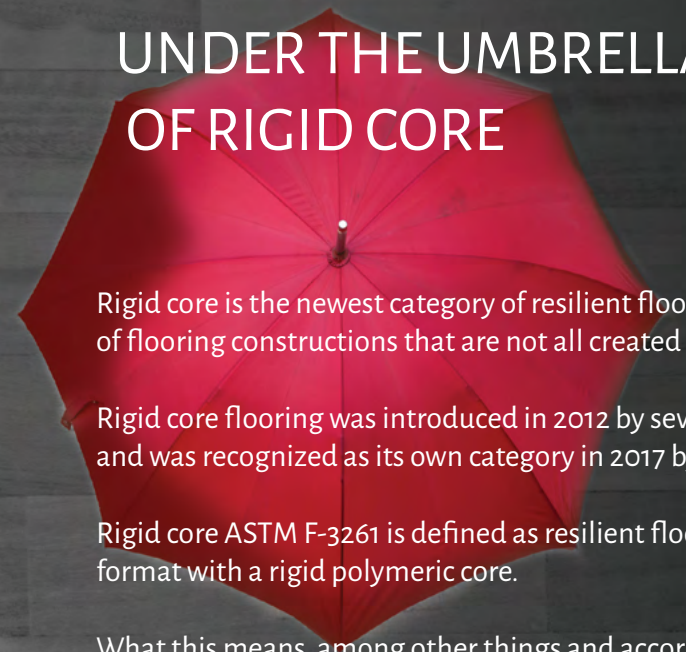
THE NEW RIGID CORE

Understanding the Category
& The Categorical Differences

UNDER THE UMBRELLA OF RIGID CORE



Rigid core is the newest category of resilient flooring and it covers a multitude of flooring constructions that are not all created equal.

Rigid core flooring was introduced in 2012 by several manufacturers and was recognized as its own category in 2017 by ASTM.

Rigid core ASTM F-3261 is defined as resilient flooring in modular format with a rigid polymeric core.

What this means, among other things and according to ASTM F-3261 3.1.6, is that the flooring is a resilient product with sufficient enough stiffness to bridge minor sub floor irregularities, and sufficient stiffness that it takes significant effort to deflect the product when supported between two fixed supports.

Attributes of rigid core include superior dimensional stability when subject to heat variances, strong indentation resistance and a waterproof core.

Today, the rigid core market includes WPC, SPC and solid rigid core. All three constructions meet the standards for rigid core, but there are inherent differences in the construction, design and performance, as well as differences by product and by company.

ALL RIGID CORE IS NOT EQUAL

THE CORE DIFFERENCE

The biggest difference between WPC, SPC and Regent™ Solid Rigid Core is found in both the composition and manufacturing of the core.

I. COMPOSITION

Regent™ Solid Rigid Core offers the highest PVC content while WPC and SPC's core are mostly made with limestone filler, a.k.a. dirt.

There is not a lot of structural integrity in dirt.
Dirt renders the core, and thereby the locking system, more brittle.

Regent™ Solid Rigid Core's high concentration of PVC increases the product density.
The result is a stronger, more dimensionally stable floor with a stronger lock.

II. ALL THE DENSITY, NONE OF THE FLUFF

Density is also affected in the manufacturing process.

The cores of WPC and SPC are air "fluffed."
Fluffing increases product thickness with less raw material.
This is a cost savings in the manufacturing process,
but it sacrifices product density.

Regent® Solid Rigid Core is all product, no fluff!
The difference in density is immediately evidenced in a rudimentary weight comparison between the products.

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SOLID RIGID CORE

IT'S GOOD TO BE DENSE

The density of a floor has a direct correlation to the product's dimensional stability, and dimensional stability affects a floor's performance.

For example, when flooring is subject to large variances in temperature, such that may occur in a ski cabin or a summer business closed for the season, expansion and contraction can happen, causing the floor to buckle, cup or separate.

The greater the density, the less dimensional change.

Regent™ Solid Rigid Core offers the greatest density on the market today and its superior density equates to superior temperature and superior water resistance. Regent™ maintains its dimension without expanding, contracting, cupping, curling or peeling, in the harshest of conditions.

In installation, greater density allows for additional forgiveness when it comes to subfloor irregularities. Regent™ requires fewer transitions, little to no acclimation and the floor itself contributes to an overall faster installation time.

PUTTING IT TOGETHER

Another difference in the WPC product; WPC is manufactured in stages. First, the core is made, cooled and chopped. Next, the vinyl layer is made cooled and chopped. Then, the film layer is added, and finally, a wear layer. All four finished layers are pressed together and the profile for the locking system is routed.

Regent™ Solid Rigid Core is created in a singular pass. As the core is extruded from the machine, the film and wear layer are pressed onto the hot product at once, and then the lock is routed. The resulting effect of this process is a superior indentation resistance over WPC.

LIFE IS BETTER UNCORKED!

Many of the rigid core flooring products are sold with an attached backing for comfort underfoot and reduction in sound transmission.

The most popular of the attached pads are cork , a curious choice! Cork is neither waterproof, nor is it dimensionally stable, so its inclusion mitigates any claim to waterproof and stability that a product might have.

Regent™ Solid Rigid Core is made with an IXPE pad. This premium waterproof underlayment provides both comfort underfoot and superior sound reduction. The entire product is stable and waterproof - not just the core.

Through composition and manufacturing, Regent™ Solid Rigid Core is proven outstanding in performance and manufacturing, another "Solution through Innovation" by Adore®.

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RISE ABOVE THE STANDARD

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