

# **Schlüter®-DITRA-SOUND**

Underlayment bonded impact sound insulation

**6.3** Product data sheet

±3.5 mm

# **Application and Function**

Schlüter DITRA-SOUND is a bonded impact sound insulation for tile coverings, made of a heavy polyethylene mat, which has an anchoring fleece laminated on both sides to bond with the tile adhesive.

This system was tested by an independent testing institute in accordance with the standard DIN EN ISO 140-8 (BS EN ISO 140-8).

An impact sound improvement value ( $\Delta$ LW) of 13 dB was measured in fully installed Schlüter-DITRA-SOUND assemblies. The actual improvement offered by the respective assembly depends on the local conditions (structural design) and can deviate from this value. The measured test values therefore may not apply equally to every building situation.

The substrate must be level and ready to bear weight. Schlüter DITRA-SOUND is installed in adhesive that must be suitable for the substrate. The adhesive is applied with a notched trowel (recommended size  $3 \times 3$  mm or  $4 \times 4$  mm). The underside of Schlüter DITRA-SOUND (i.e. the printed side) is fully embedded in the adhesive, ensuring the mechanical anchoring of the fabric in the adhesive. The curing time of the adhesive must be taken into consideration.

The tiles are installed directly over Schlüter DITRA-SOUND in accordance with the applicable regulations, using the thin-bed method. The adhesive bonds with the fleece fabric on the topside of the mat. This results in the complete bonding of the entire system.



The transmission of noises caused by footsteps or dropped objects to adjoining or underlying rooms is referred to as impact sound transmission. The floor/ceiling structure absorbs the structure borne noise and transmits the resulting impact sound in the form of airborne noise.

The human ear perceives impact sound that is muffled by 10 dB as airborne noise which is reduced by 50%.

Impact sound (e.g. the noise generated by hard shoes) is also reflected back into the room. This effect is multiplied in the case of light constructions and hard surfaces, leading to the so called drum roll effect. It can be completely eliminated by the high density of the heavy mat.



#### **Summary of Functions:**



# a) Impact sound insulation

The heavy mat material absorbs much of the impact sound created by walking, for example, and reduces

the drum roll effect. The insulation panel, therefore, is ideally suited for renovation and refurbishment projects in buildings, but also for new construction projects.



# b) Crack bridging

Schlüter DITRA-SOUND can be used to bridge cracks, which are not expected to widen significantly or show height

displacement. This ensures that cracks in the substrate are not transferred to the tile covering. If applicable, it may be necessary to install a feature to prevent height displacement.



# c) Load distribution (load transfer)

Schlüter DITRA-SOUND is a heavy mat that cannot be compressed. Accordingly, tile coverings installed over Schlüter DITRA-SOUND

are highly durable. If high traffic loads are expected (maximum 5 kN/m<sup>2</sup>; e.g. in commercial applications), the tiles must be sufficiently thick and pressure stabilised for the corresponding application area. In areas with high traffic loads, it is particularly important that the tiles are fully embedded in the tile adhesive. As a rule, the impact of hard objects must be avoided on all ceramic coverings. Tiles should at least have a dimension of 5 x 5 cm.

# **Material**

Schlüter DITRA-SOUND is a heavy polyethylene mat with a thickness of approximately 3.5 mm. A fleece fabric is laminated on both sides of the mat. Polyethylene is not UV stable in the long term so the product should not be stored in places with prolonged exposure to direct sunlight.

### Material Properties and Areas of Application:

Schlüter DITRA-SOUND does not rot, is waterproof and crack bridging. Furthermore, it is largely resistant to the effects of watery solutions, salts, acids and alkalis, many organic solvents, alcohols and oils. The suitability of the material must be verified based on the specific chemical stresses, including the anticipated concentration, temperature and length of exposure. The water vapour permeability of the material is relatively low. The material is physiologically harmless. Schlüter DITRA-SOUND can be used in a wide range of different applications. In special cases, the suitability of the material must be verified based on the anticipated chemical and mechanical stresses. The information provided below is intended as a general guideline.

In conjunction with Schlüter KERDI, Schlüter DITRA-SOUND provides a waterproof assembly for ceramic tile and natural stone applications.

### Note

The thin-bed adhesive and covering materials used in conjunction with Schlüter DITRA-SOUND must be suitable for their respective applications and meet the relevant requirements. The use of quick setting thin-bed adhesive may be an advantage for specific projects. It is recommended to use walking boards or other protective coverings if material must be transported over areas where Schlüter DITRA-SOUND has already been installed.

#### Notes regarding movement joints:

Schlüter DITRA-SOUND must be separated above the existing movement joints in the substrate. In accordance with the applicable construction standards, movement joints must be continued in the tile covering. The same standards specify that coverings made of large format pavers over Schlüter DITRA-SOUND must be divided into fields with movement joints. Please refer to the installation information for the various profile types in the Schlüter DILEX product range. Depending on the anticipated movements, profiles such as Schlüter DILEX-BT or Schlüter DILEX-KSBT should be installed over structural movement joints.

#### Notes regarding edge joints:

The build up of tensions must be ruled out at the edge of coverings; e.g. at upright construction elements or floor/wall transitions. The edge joints and connection joints must meet the applicable professional regulations. Their dimensions must be sufficient to rule out the build up of tensions. In this case, Schlüter DITRA-SOUND-RSK 630 should be installed as an edge strip. Please refer to the installation information for the various profile types in the Schlüter DILEX product range for instructions on creating edge or connection joints at transitions to walls or skirtings.

# Substrates for Schlüter<sup>®</sup>-DITRA-SOUND:

Always check the substrates on which Schlüter DITRA-SOUND is to be installed to make sure they are level, load bearing, clean and compatible with the materials to be used. Remove all surface components that may weaken the bond. Uneven or sloping areas must be levelled prior to the installation of Schlüter DITRA-SOUND.

### Concrete

Concrete is subject to long term dimensional changes due to curing processes. If Schlüter DITRA-SOUND is used, tiles may be installed after three months.

#### **Cementitious screeds**

If Schlüter DITRA-SOUND is used, tiles may be installed over cementitious screeds after 28 days without the need to measure residual moisture.

#### **Calcium sulfate screeds**

According to the applicable rules, the residual moisture level of calcium sulfate screeds (anhydrite screeds) may not exceed 0.5 CM% when the tiles are installed. When Schlüter DITRA-SOUND is used, the tile covering is ready to be installed as soon as the residual moisture level drops below 1 CM%. Calcium sulfate screeds are sensitive to moisture, making it necessary to protect the screed from further moisture ingress.

#### **Heated screeds**

Schlüter DITRA-SOUND may be installed over heated screeds. For this type of construction, the general regulations for conventional heated screeds with tile coverings must be observed.

#### **Plywood panels**

These materials are heavily affected by moisture (or large fluctuations in humidity). It is therefore recommended to use plywood materials that are specially treated to prevent the absorption of moisture. The thickness of the panel should be selected to ensure sufficient impact resistance in conjunction with a suitable support structure. The panels must be sufficiently secured with screws. All joints should either be tongue and groove connections or covered with adhesive. Edge joints of approximately 10 mm must be kept open at the connections with adjoining construction elements. Schlüter DITRA-SOUND will neutralise the minor tensions occurring within the substrate.

# Hardwood floors

Schlüter DITRA-SOUND is generally suitable for the direct installation of ceramic coverings over hardwood floors, provided the floorboards have tongue and groove connections, are sufficiently load bearing and are securely screwed down. The wooden substrate should have reached a balanced moisture level prior to the installation of Schlüter DITRA-SOUND. Experts recommend the installation of an additional layer of plywood. Uneven floors must be levelled before the installation of other materials.

#### Synthetic coverings and coatings

All surfaces must be load bearing and if necessary, pretreated to allow for bonding with a suitable adhesive for permanent attachment of the anchoring fleece of Schlüter DITRA-SOUND. The suitability of the adhesive for the substrate and Schlüter DITRA-SOUND must be verified in advance.

# **Stairs**

Schlüter DITRA-SOUND allows for the installation of sound impact insulation on stairs. The material can be used on the substrate types described above.

# Installation

- The substrate must be free of adhesionresistant components and uneven spots (e.g. screed residues), load-bearing and flat. Before the installation of DITRA-SOUND, compensatory levelling measures must be carried out.
- The self adhesive edge strip Schlüter DITRA-SOUND-RSK should be used where the covering adjoins walls and other upright construction elements to avoid the build up of tensions or the formation of sound bridges.
- 3. The thin-bed adhesive used for bonding Schlüter DITRA-SOUND must be selected to suit the substrate type. The adhesive must bond well with the substrate and mechanically set and cure in the anchoring fleece of Schlüter DITRA-SOUND. Check for any incompatibilities of materials.
- 4. Apply the adhesive over the substrate with a notched trowel (recommended size 3 x 3 mm or 4 x 4 mm).
- 5. Cut panels of Schlüter DITRA-SOUND to size and fully embed the anchoring fleece in the applied adhesive. Immediately press the material into the adhesive with a float or a roller, working in a single direction. Observe the curing times of all materials. It is best to precisely align the Schlüter DITRA-SOUND panels to ensure a tight fit. The individual panels are set tightly next to one another. Scrape away any excess adhesive.
- 6. To avoid sound bridges, cover all joints with the self adhesive joint covering Schlüter DITRA-SOUND-KB.
- 7. It is recommended to use walking boards (especially in the centre of the assembly for material transport) to protect the installed Schlüter DITRA-SOUND mat from damage or to prevent it debonding from the substrate.

- 8. The tiles can be installed immediately after adhering the Schlüter-DITRA-SOUND mats, using an appropriate adhesive that meets the requirements of the covering. Use a notched trowel to prepare the adhesive for the corresponding tile format. The tiles are fully embedded in this layer. It is particulary important to fully embed tiles in accordance with the applicable professional standards if high mechanical impacts are expected. The curing times of the adhesive must be observed. The adhesive must be able to cure hydraulically or through another chemical reaction in an airtight space without water evaporation.
- 9. Observe the instructions regarding movement joint positions for intermediate, edges and connections in this data sheet and other professional standards.



# **Product Overview:**

# Schlüter<sup>®</sup>-DITRA-SOUND

Bonded impact sound insulation

Material	Heavy polyethylene mat	
Delivery format	$550 \times 750 \text{ mm} = 0.41 \text{ m}^2/\text{ unit}$	
Material thickness	Approximately 3.5 mm	
Weight	Approximately 5.5 kg/m <sup>2</sup>	
Thermal conductivity	0.40 W/(m•K)	
Area thermal insulation	0.007 m <sup>2</sup> •K/W	
Water vapour diffusion resistance rating $\mu = 86000$		
Equivalent air layer thickness	s <sub>d</sub> = 250 m	
Building materials class	B2 acc. to DIN 4102	







Adhesive tape to cover joints

Roll	Width
50 m	38 mm

# Schlüter<sup>®</sup>-DITRA-SOUND-RSK

Self adhesive edge insulation strip

Roll	Height	Thickness
10 m	30 mm	6 mm



