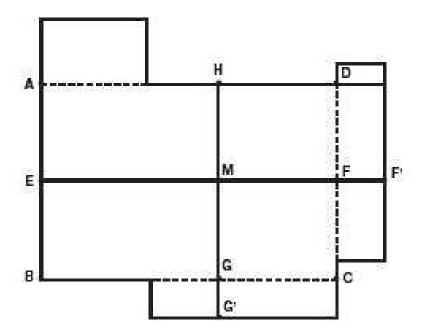## Layout

Colorex® SD/EC Modular flooring products are fit using conventional tile fitting techniques.

It is customary to start from the center of the room. In corridors and small spaces, it may be simpler to work lengthwise from one end, using the center line as a guide.

The center line is drawn as follows (Figure 1): A chalk line is snapped from center of wall A/B (Point E) to the center of wall C/D (Point F). The center of line E/F is found (Point M). Draw a perpendicular line through Point M using the 3:4:5 method to establish G/H.

Starting at Point M, measure out lengthwise and widthwise to the walls to make sure you will have at least a half of a tile at the border. Adjust lines E/F and G/H if necessary.

FLOORING SYSTEMS

Installing Colorex® SD/EC Modular Flooring

- Always refer to and follow the recommendations in the *General Installation Guidelines section* of the Forbo Installation Guide prior to installing Colorex® SD/EC Modular flooring.
- Always refer to and follow the recommendations in the *Substrate Evaluation and Preparation section* of the Forbo Installation Guide prior to installing Colorex® SD/EC Modular flooring.
- Beginning the installation is an implied acceptance of site conditions and liability for any failure directly related to inadequate site conditions becomes the responsibility of the installer and/or flooring contractor.
- Colorex® SD/EC Modular flooring may be installed on approved substrates on all grade levels.
- Store Colorex® SD/EC Modular cartons unopened.
- Use Forbo C 930 adhesive for conductive installations.
- Use Forbo T 940, Sustain 885m or 660 adhesive for non-conductive installations.
- Use a 1/16" x 1/16" x 1/16" square notch trowel to apply the adhesive. Replace the trowel blade when proper coverage is no longer attainable.
- Use material from the same batch/dye lot.
- Do not remove more tile from the carton than can be installed in approximately 1 hour.
- Colorex® SD/EC tile must be installed with arrows on the back running in the same direction, with material from the same batch.
- Do not allow heavy traffic or rolling loads for a minimum of 72 hours following the installation. For installations over non-porous substrates, additional time may be necessary because the adhesive may take longer to cure.
- Wait a minimum of five days following the installation before conducting initial cleaning. For installations over non-porous substrates, additional time may be necessary because the adhesive may take longer to dry and cure.
- Take pride in your work and be Professional at all times.
- **For additional information, contact Forbo's Product Support & Education Services at 1-800-842-7839 or www.forboflooringNA.com.**

Installation

- After establishing the starting lines, spread the adhesive using the recommended notch trowel.
- Be sure to spread adhesive all the way to the starting line without leaving any voids.
- Begin laying tiles at the starting point, ensuring that the tile is placed exactly along the layout lines. If the first few tiles are not installed accurately, the entire installation will be affected.
- The tiles must be installed into wet adhesive. Do not spread adhesive in an area larger than can be installed while ensuring 100% wet transfer to the backing of the material.
- The open time and working time of adhesives will vary depending on site conditions such as ambient temperature and humidity, the porosity of the substrate and air circulation. It is the installer's responsibility to make adjustments to specific conditions as may be necessary to ensure 100% wet adhesive transfer to the material backing. A general indication of proper open time is when a light touch produces transfer of adhesive to the finger, but a firm touch will flatten and "smear" the adhesive. For additional information, refer to the *Adhesives section* of the Forbo Installation Guide.
- A short open time will be necessary. The adhesive should be allowed to develop body before placing the flooring material into the adhesive, but **DO NOT ALLOW THE ADHESIVE TO DRY**.
- Check for adhesive transfer frequently. There must be **100% wet** transfer of adhesive to the material backing in order to achieve a secure bond. 100% wet transfer is a continuous film of adhesive, when wet, on both the backing of the material and the substrate with no trace of trowel marks or ridges. The flooring material **must remain in contact with the adhesive while the adhesive is drying and curing.**
- Immediately roll the flooring in all directions using a 100 lb. roller to ensure proper adhesive transfer. Additional rolling is required during adhesive setup to ensure that the material is flat and fully adhered.
- The use of a three-section wall roller or steel seam roller is required at walls, under toe kicks or anywhere the full weight of a 100 lb. roller cannot access or be applied.
- Proper tile placement and rolling will result in a complete "explosion" of the trowel ridges, creating a continuous flat film of adhesive. Complete transfer of the tile backing will appear as only the impression of the tile backing in the surface of the adhesive. No standing trowel ridges should be visible.
- The time it takes to mark and cut the border tiles must be considered when planning the installation. Without adequate planning, the working time of the adhesive around the perimeter may be exceeded before the tiles are installed. This will result in an inadequate bond of the perimeter tiles. Always plan the sequence of spreading adhesive so that the perimeter tiles can be cut and placed into the adhesive before the adhesive working time has been exceeded.

Installing Colorex® SD/EC Modular Flooring

- Remove fresh adhesive residue immediately with a clean white cloth. Dried adhesive can be removed with a clean white cloth and Forbo Adhesive Remover. If this is not available, a solution of properly diluted neutral pH cleaner may be used. The area should then be rinsed with clean, cool water to remove all residues from the floor.
  NOTE: If using Forbo 660 adhesive, refer to the *Adhesives section* of the Forbo Installation Guide for additional information.

- **IMPORTANT! Following installation, do NOT apply any spray buff, mop on restorer, finish or wax to Colorex® SD/EC Modular flooring. Although there are such products that are intended for use with ESD floors, they can inhibit the conductivity of the flooring. For additional information, refer to the *Forbo Commercial Floor Care Guide*.**

Grounding

- Near the grounding point, lay a 3' - 4' (0.91m – 1.21 m) length of grounding strap into wet adhesive, leaving enough additional grounding strap to connect it to the building ground.
- Spread additional adhesive on top of the strap and install the tile over it.
- A minimum of one grounding strap should be installed for every 2,000 square feet of uninterrupted tile. As a precautionary measure, it is recommended to install an additional grounding strap. Each room, even if it is uninterrupted tile, should have a minimum of 1 grounding strap.
- **It is the floor contractor's responsibility to discuss the placement and connection of the grounding straps prior to the installation. This will aid in avoiding any controversies once the job is started. The grounding strap should be grounded to the building by a licensed electrician.**

Testing

After installation is completed, test the flooring with an ohms meter according to EOS/ESD S 7.1, ASTM F 150, or NFPA 99. All measurements recorded for warranty registration must be surface to ground.

Forbo's Installation Guide contains additional information and is available for download at www.forboflooringNA.com. For a hard copy, or for additional information, contact Forbo's Product Support & Education Services at 1-800-842-7839.