



Australian timber flooring association

Local professionals, world-class standards

Timber Flooring Industry Product Compliance Standard

Products considered to be timber flooring products or related (such as strip flooring, overlay flooring, parquetry, engineered flooring, laminate flooring, bamboo flooring and cork, abrasives, timber flooring coatings, timber flooring fillers, timber flooring adhesives, timber flooring moisture vapour barriers and all expansion trims) in the timber flooring industry should meet certain quality measures to ensure they are suitable for use and meet both industry and consumer expectations. As such there are industry and consumer expectations that products should be within safe and acceptable levels in respect to volatile organic compounds, formaldehyde content, are fit for the purpose intended or specified, are of an acceptable quality level, are not counterfeit, and do not make false or misleading claims.

In more detail the following list demonstrates potential issues that need to be considered in ensuring that products are fit for industry and consumer use:

Product Description	What can occur	Compliance	Determination
Laminate, bamboo and engineered flooring	Off gassing may lead to occupant illness, other medical conditions and/or allergies.	Formaldehyde levels should meet levels E0 or E1; Any product in this category should contain emission compliance information.	Flooring sold and installed in Australia should be within E1 certification.
Laminate, bamboo and engineered flooring	Products lacking in manufacturing robustness may fail in respect to moisture content and/or structural integrity.	Products should be manufactured to a structurally sound level and suit Australian conditions and be in keeping with Australian moisture content and humidity levels.	Products should be fit for purpose and be in keeping with manufacturer’s instructions or as outlined in Industry Standards.
Laminate, bamboo constructed with a wood product substrate, engineered flooring and solid timber flooring products	Products sourced illegally (logged from unauthorised forests), can be seized by authorities.	Products should meet due diligence requirements for illegal logging.	Products should progress to manufacture and sale with the necessary documentation to support legal logging of the timber used for that product.

Product Description	What can occur	Compliance	Determination
All 'click' together flooring systems – Laminate, bamboo, engineered and solid	Products may infringe Australian Patent and IP laws with regard to joining systems.	All glueless click together products should be licensed through Unilin or Valinger under the L2C program.	All Licensed product must carry an "L2C" label on each box produced with code and hologram.
Solvent or oil based coatings	Some levels of toxicity and odour may lead to occupant illness, other medical conditions and/or allergies.	VOCs should be no more than 500g/l.	Coatings used in Australia should have SDS or product datasheets with details stating coating contains the suitable VOC content level.
Water based coatings	Some levels of toxicity and odour may lead to occupant illness, other medical conditions and/or allergies.	VOCs should be no more than 140g/l.	Coatings used in Australia should have SDS or product data sheets with details stating coating contains the suitable VOC content level.
Solvent based adhesives	Some levels of toxicity and odour may lead to occupant illness, other medical conditions and/or allergies.	VOCs should be no more than 100g/l.	Adhesives used in Australia should have SDS or product datasheets with details stating adhesive contains the suitable VOC content level.
Coatings and adhesives	Poor manufacturing quality levels may lead to coating or adhesive failure. Coatings may be soft or brittle. Adhesives may have insufficient bond integrity.	Quality control procedures should be applied for development and production of coatings and adhesives.	Coatings and adhesives should demonstrate certification from a qualified and listed 3rd party (e.g. APAS, ISO or other quality control bodies).
Solid timber flooring and decking (Strength)	Structural board failure and/or personal injury; Reduced aspects of grade and profile that exceed manufacturing requirements.	Solid timber flooring should be manufactured to Australian Standard within the correct Moisture Content range (9% to 14% for timber flooring and 10% to 15% for decking) and have suitable durability parameters in keeping with published grades.	Product is to be fit for purpose and comply with provisions of the Australian flooring standards AS 2796, AS 4785 and AS 1810. Manufacturer grades as provided for in the Australian Standard are to be supported by documented grade descriptions.

Product Description	What can occur	Compliance	Determination
Solid timber flooring and decking (Lyctus borer)	Active visible Lyctus Borer in some hardwoods can lead to some ongoing attack and when severe, may result in board failure.	The standard states that Lyctus susceptible sapwood requires treatment. This applies to local and imported species.	Required to meet the requirements of AS 2796. Products should have no evidence of Lyctus activity – powder from emergent holes.
Timber decking (Species durability)	Decking produced from low durability species are prone to premature decay and failure.	Expectations are that a chosen species is to demonstrate in-service durability in an external environment.	Required to meet the durability requirements as outlined in AS 1684.
Timber decking (Timber durability)	Untreated sapwood in all timber decking and excessive heartwood in softwood decking has the potential for premature decay that may lead to failure.	The standard states that all timber decking should be produced without sapwood or appropriately treated. Low durability heartwood of softwoods should also be encased with a preservative treatment.	Required to meet the durability requirements as outlined in AS 1684.