Ref:  C.M50.100 – Rubber/plastic/cork/lino/carpet tiling/sheeting  
Title:  Floor coverings generally  
Rev:  0  
Date:  January 2013  

- Floor coverings shall be specified to ensure maximum wear and ease of maintenance  
- Lay all floor coverings in accordance with relevant British Standards  
- Manufacturer’s recommendations for laying and adhesives used shall be strictly adhered too, with necessary COSHH assessments carried out when using solvent based adhesives  
- Floor surfaces must be dry and suitable for the flooring to be laid  
- Impervious floor coverings shall not be laid in old buildings without damp proof membranes or on existing woodblock floors  
- When selecting floor finishes to external entrances, ensure that the floor covering will not present a slipping hazard when wet  
- Matwells shall **not** to be specified in new buildings and consideration should be given to infilling existing matwells during refurbishment works.  
- Store floor coverings to avoid posing unacceptable fire hazards  
- Consideration should be given to the usage of an area when selecting carpets instead of resilient sheet flooring  
- Care must be taken when fitting vinyl sheet to floor gullies etc in kitchens, bathrooms, toilets and shower rooms etc  
- Carpets shall be specified with 'a low radius of effects of ignition' when tested in accordance with **BS 4790:1987 - Method for determination of the effects of a small source of ignition on textile floor coverings (hot metal nut method)**  
- 'Contract quality' carpets should be specified  
- All carpets are to be anti-static  
- For external entrances, barrier matting/carpeting shall be specified. In heavy use areas dirt arrester matting/carpeting shall be capable of coping with expected heavy volume of traffic in a short period of time  
- If specifying carpet to existing suspended timber ground floors, check that continuous through ventilation is available to the underfloor area  
- Incorporate a silicone seal when sheet floor finishes such as vinyl abut skirting’s or fixed furniture  
- Discuss with supplier any known cleaning issues with the colours chosen