



## INSTALLATION AND MAINTENANCE INSTRUCTIONS

# REGUPOL UPSCALE LRP/LRT

### SUGGESTED TOOL LIST

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Broom or vacuum  
Chalk line & chalk  
Gloves  
Kraft paper (optional)  
Metal straight edge or Drywall T-square  
Standard tape measure  
Utility knife and replacement blades  
1/16" x 1/16" x 1/16" Square-notched trowel (glue down only)  
100 lb roller (glue down only)  
Blue painters tape  
Denatured alcohol  
Microfiber rags/towels

### GENERAL

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This installation guide is for **REGUPOL upscale** Luxury Rubber Plank/Luxury Rubber Tile (**LRP/LRT**) Collection Products: Contact **Technical Services** for guidance about sub-floor testing and installation issues not addressed in this document. **REGUPOL Technical Services** can be reached at 800-537-8737.

These instructions cover all fully adhered installations of **REGUPOL upscale** plank and tile. All recommendations are based on the most recently available information. This information provides general guidelines and instructions which must be followed for a satisfactory installation. **NOTE: REGUPOL PU350** adhesive is required for all **upscale** installations to maintain warranty.

Installation of **REGUPOL upscale** tile and plank is straightforward and similar to the procedures that apply to all quality resilient plank and tile floors. Good preparation is essential for a trouble-free installation. Do not commence work until jobsite testing and subfloor preparations are finished and the work of all other trades is complete. Site conditions must comply with the relevant building codes and local, state, and national regulations.

**REGUPOL upscale** plank and tile is recommended for use over properly prepared concrete, suspended wood, metal, and other suitable substrates. Never install this product over residual asphalt type (cutback) adhesive as “bleed through and adhesion issues may occur.

This product is for indoor use only and not suitable for external installation or fully/continuously unheated locations.

Flooring, adhesive, job site, and subfloor must be acclimated to a stable condition before installation. (See Job site testing)

Following installation, foot traffic must be prevented for at least 8-12 hours; receive no rolling traffic or heavy point loads for 12-48 hours. Protection of the floor using Masonite or plywood is necessary if heavy rolling loads need to be moved before the timeframe above. Wet cleaning should be delayed for 24 hours.

This product should remain in a properly maintained working HVAC climate-controlled environment before, during, and after installation.

### **MATERIAL RECEIVING, HANDLING & STORAGE**

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All floor covering products require care during storage and handling. It is important to store flooring products prior to installation in dry, room temperature-controlled interior area.

The temperature range should be between 65° F and 85° F, and the relative humidity should be controlled and maintained between 30% and 70%.

The material must be removed from skids and placed in piles no greater than 15 pieces to allow for relaxation/conditioning on site where it is to be installed for at least 48 hours before beginning the installation.

Flooring materials that are shipped in cartons must also be stored properly.

Do not store close to exterior walls, in direct sunlight, or near HVAC vents.

Stored material must be protected from forklifts and other traffic that can damage material or carton corners. Never double-stack pallets of flooring product.

Immediately remove all shrink wrapping before acclimation and verify that the materials delivered are the correct style, color, and quantity.

Report any discrepancies immediately to **REGUPOL Customer Service** at 800-537-8737. Claims after installation of products with visual defects or incorrect style will not be honored.

### **JOB SITE TESTING**

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Before job site testing, the building envelope must be sealed. Walls, roofs, windows, and exterior doorways must be installed, and any opening to exterior elements must be sealed.

The installation area and materials to be installed shall be maintained at a minimum of 65°F (18.3°C) and a maximum of 85°F (29.4°C) for 48 hours before, during, and for 48 hours after completion of the installation. Relative humidity level extremes should also be avoided. The general recommended humidity control level is between 35 – 55 %. If a system other than the permanent HVAC source is utilized, it must provide proper control of both temperature and humidity to recommended or specific levels for the appropriate time duration.

Test sites must be properly prepared and protected for the duration of testing to achieve valid results.

### **CONCRETE SUBFLOORS**

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**REGUPOL** suggests referencing the current ASTM F710, “Standard Practice for Preparing Concrete Floors to Receive Resilient Flooring.”

Concrete subfloors must be finished and cured, free of all sealers, coatings, finishes, dirt, film-forming curing compounds, or other substances that may prevent proper bonding of the flooring materials.

Concrete subfloors must have a minimum compressive strength of 3000 psi. Concrete subfloors shall not consist of lightweight concrete or gypsum.

**Moisture Testing:** Perform either the preferred In-situ relative humidity (RH) test (ASTM F2170) or the acceptable Moisture Vapor Emission Rate (MVER). Test (ASTM F1869). For acceptable moisture limits, please refer to the specifications of the **PU350** adhesive.

**Alkalinity:** Must test surface alkalinity (ASTM F710). A 7.0 to 9.0 pH is acceptable.

**Expansion joints:** Expansion joints, isolation joints, or other moving joints are incorporated into concrete floor slabs to permit movement without causing random cracks in the concrete. These joints must be honored and not be filled with underlayment products or other materials, and floor coverings must not be laid over them. Expansion joint covering systems should be detailed by the architect or engineer based on intended usage and aesthetic considerations.

### MOISTURE VAPOR SUPPRESSANT SYSTEM

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Concrete subfloors that exceed adhesive specifications for moisture vapor (MVER) or RH will require a Moisture Vapor Suppressant System. Due to complexities associated with moisture vapor transmission, emissions, and movement of soluble salts (alkalinity) in concrete subfloors, we do not offer, recommend, or warranty a specific solution for excess moisture in concrete slabs. However, there are many companies that offer solutions with warranties for excess moisture in concrete slabs.

Contact one or more of the following or other moisture suppressant system suppliers for assistance:

VersaShield 800.576.1636 [www.versashield4floors.com](http://www.versashield4floors.com)  
 Ardex 724.203.5000 [www.ardex.com](http://www.ardex.com)  
 Koester American Corp. 757.425.1206 [www.koesterusa.com](http://www.koesterusa.com)

### SUBFLOOR PREPARATION – CONCRETE

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Careful subfloor preparation is vital for an excellent floor appearance and good tile/plank adhesion. The subfloor must be smooth, firm, flat, clean, dry, free from defects, and fit for purpose. A suitable portland-cement based smoothing compound should be used to ensure that no irregularities show through to the surface of the finished floor. In all cases, the subfloor must meet the moisture and pH requirements before installation.

Below and on-grade concrete subfloors must have a suitable water vapor retarder properly installed directly beneath the slab.

Record and file site conditions, test results, and any corrective action(s) taken. It is important to maintain this documentation throughout the warranty period.

The subfloor must be clean (free of dirt, sealers, curing, hardening or parting compounds, or any substance that may stain or prevent adhesion), smooth, flat, sound, fit for purpose, and free of movement, excessive moisture, and high alkalinity.

Slick or highly polished surfaces such as power-troweled concrete shall be abraded or profiled to allow for a mechanical bond between the adhesive and subfloor.

Remove existing resilient floor covering; remove all residual adhesive, paint, or other contaminants following RFCI recommended work practice. The use of adhesive removers or solvents in the abatement or removal of existing or old adhesives is prohibited and may void any warranty.

**WARNING: ASBESTOS & SILICA** - Refer to the current Resilient Floor Covering Institute (RFCI) document "Recommended Work Practices for Removal of Existing Resilient Floor Coverings" for guidance ([www.RFCI.com](http://www.RFCI.com)).

Perform corrective actions necessary for elevated moisture or high alkalinity conditions.

**Surface Flatness for all Subfloors:** The surface shall be flat to 3/16" (4.8mm) in 10 ft. (3050mm) and 1/32" (0.8mm) in 1 ft (305mm). Bring high spots level by sanding, grinding, etc., and fill in the low spots—smooth surface to prevent any irregularities or roughness from telegraphing through the new flooring.

### LEVELING AND PATCHING

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- A For concrete subfloors, use only high-quality Portland cement-based materials (minimum 3000 psi compressive strength according to ASTM C109). Mix with water only; do not use latex. Caution: Do not lightly skim coat highly polished or slick power-troweled concrete surfaces. A thin film of floor patch will not bond to a slick subfloor and may become a bond breaker, causing the flooring to release at the interface of the subfloor and patching material. If in doubt, perform a bond test before commencing with the installation.

## SUBFLOOR PREPARATION – WOOD

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Wood subfloors require an underlayment (double layer construction) with a minimum total thickness of 1" (25 mm). Use a minimum 1/4" (6 mm) thick APA-rated "underlayment grade" plywood with a fully sanded face or other underlayment panel that is appropriate for the intended usage. Install and prepare panels and seams according to the manufacturers' instructions. Also, refer to ASTM F 1482 Standard Practice for Installation and Preparation of Panel Underlayment to receive Resilient Flooring.

Many times, wood panel subfloors are damaged during the construction process or are not underlayment grade. These panels must be covered with an appropriate underlayment. Underlayment panels are intended to be used to provide a smooth surface on which to adhere the finished floor covering. It should be understood that underlayment panels cannot correct structural deficiencies.

Panels intended to be used as underlayment should be specifically designed for this purpose. These panels should have a minimum thickness of 1/4" (6mm) and must meet the following criteria:

- 1 Be dimensionally stable.
- 2 Have a smooth, fully sanded face so graining or texture will not telegraph through.
- 3 Be resistant to both static and impact indentation.
- 4 Be free of any surface components that may cause staining, such as plastic fillers, marking inks, sealers, etc.
- 5 Be of uniform density, porosity, and thickness.

Have a written warranty for suitability and performance from the panel manufacturer or have a history of proven performance.

Any unevenness at the joints between panels must be sanded to a level surface. Gaps between panels, hammer indentations, and all other surface irregularities must be filled and sanded.

Particleboard, chipboard, construction-grade plywood, OSB, flake-board, and wafer board are not recommended as underlayment. All these products have inadequate uniformity, poor dimensional stability, and variable surface porosity.

**REGUPOL America LLC** will not accept responsibility for adhered installation over these subfloors. In all cases, the underlayment manufacturer or underlayment installer is responsible for all underlayment warranties.

## INSTALLATION PROCEDURES

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Before commencing installation, ensure the following are satisfactorily completed.

**Acclimation:** The installation area and materials to be installed shall be maintained at a minimum of 65°F(18.3°C) and a maximum of 85°F (29.4°C) for 48 hours before, during the entire installation, and for 48 hours after completion. Relative humidity level extremes should also be avoided. The general recommended humidity control level is between 35 – 55 %.

If a system other than the permanent HVAC source is utilized, it must provide proper control of both temperature and humidity to recommended or specific levels for the appropriate time duration.

**Flooring Materials:** Confirm the quantity of **REGUPOL upscale** and adhesive are sufficient for the area to be installed. Check the tile for visual defects before installation. Installation of flooring acknowledges acceptance of materials. Report discrepancies immediately to **REGUPOL Customer Service** at 800-537-8737. Claims regarding the installation of a product with visual defects or an incorrect style will not be honored.

Surface cracks, grooves, depressions, control joints or other non-moving joints, and other irregularities shall be filled or smoothed with high-quality Portland cement base patching or underlayment compound for filling or smoothing, or both. Patching or underlayment compound shall be moisture, mildew, and alkali-resistant and shall provide a minimum of 3000 psi compressive strength after 28 days when tested in accordance with ASTM C109 or ASTM C472, whichever is appropriate.

**Subfloor Preparation:** Make sure all surfaces to be covered are completely clean, dry, and smooth and that all necessary subfloor preparation has been properly completed and documented.

**Inspect Substrate:** Perform final acceptance inspection of the substrate.

**Adjacent Surface Protection:** Protect adjoining work areas and finish surfaces from damage during product installation.

**Flooring Protection:** **REGUPOL upscale LRP/LRT** should be the last material installed to prevent other trades from disrupting the installation and adhesive set-up or damaging the floor.

The start of flooring installation indicates acceptance of current subfloor conditions and full responsibility for completed work.

**REGUPOL upscale** comes in plank and tile formats and can be laid out to run either parallel or diagonal to the room or primary wall.

During loose lay before gluing, confirm the layout and fit, and move any tiles to the side that have not acclimated fully, i.e., not measuring square or seaming up properly to adjacent material. Measure to ensure 12" x 24" tile, and 8" x 36" plank.

Plank and tile flooring should have end joints offset by at least 6" and staggered to create a random appearance that avoids alignment of end joints.

The following conditions must be given consideration when determining how the material will be installed:

## I. LAYOUT

Layout shall be specified by the end-user, architect, or designer.

- A Establish center marks, determine a start point to balance installation in the room, and have equal tile widths on opposite sides of the room. This can be facilitated by dry-laying tiles and marking baselines.
- B The room layout must be set up so all flooring can be installed while staying off freshly installed tiles. This will minimize tile shifting, adhesive displacement, and wet adhesive from oozing up and getting onto the face of the tiles/planks. This can be accomplished by creating work zones outlined with chalk lines to spread adhesive aligned with established baselines. Create work zones no wider than the installer's comfortable arm reach and multiples of the tile width.
- C All Installations: spread only the amount of adhesive that can be covered within the working time specific to the adhesive being used.

DO NOT allow the adhesive to come up through the seams by spreading too thick or leaving puddles. If, for some reason, this occurs, DO NOT wipe adhesive residue. Allow the glob to dry, and use a putty knife or chisel to pop off the surface. If you wipe the adhesive on the surface of the material, it will not be able to be fully removed and will change the appearance of the area.

When all preparatory work is satisfactorily completed, including dry fitting cut tiles (if applicable), proceed with installation. Inspect each tile for visual defects before installing. Installation of the flooring implies acceptance of materials.

## II. INSTALLATION FOR PLANKS AND TILES

Layout of the Room for Laid Fields. To square the area to be covered, first find the center of one end of the main rectangle. Locate the same point at the other end wall. Snap a chalk line between these points to mark the center line on the floor. Then, measure along this center line to find the middle of the room.

At the center point, mark off a line across the room at precisely right angles to the first line. This may be accomplished by the 3-4-5-triangle method. Measure 4 feet toward the side wall from the center point and mark. Then, measure 3 feet from the center point along the longer line and mark. The distance between these must measure precisely 5 feet. If this measurement marker does not come out at exactly 5 feet, the center crossing lines are not at a true right angle. For large rooms, multiples of the above dimensions may be used to obtain greater accuracy (6-8-10 or 9-12-15, etc.).

Dry-lay a row of tiles from the center line to the side wall to determine the space left for the borders. If the resulting border is too small, move the starting point over a half tile width so that it straddles the center line. Repeat the same procedure lengthwise of the room. (This can readily be figured out from the room dimensions without putting down the tiles if desired.)

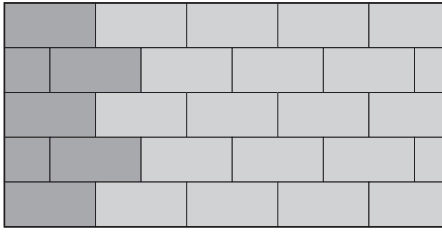
If it is decided to have the center row of tiles straddle either or both center lines, additional guidelines should be snapped on the floor 1/2 tile width on one side of either or both center lines as required.

After the border widths have been determined and the center starting lines have been snapped, spread the recommended adhesive on the center lines, leaving portions of the lines at the center and near each wall uncovered.

Spread the adhesive over one-half the area, and start laying tile from the right angle formed in the center of the room by center lines. Lay toward the two corners of the room as shown. Always refer to your guidelines as you progress with laying so that any mistake can be corrected before it is too late. Sometimes, it's necessary to compromise on the rightness of joints to make allowances for unevenness or waves of the subfloor. Take care to place tiles as accurately as possible without sliding them into place.

**IMPORTANT:** After installation, all flooring must be rolled with a minimum 100-lb roller. Use a hand roller in areas not reached with a 100-lb. roller.

### III. INSTALLATION FOR RECTANGULAR TILE



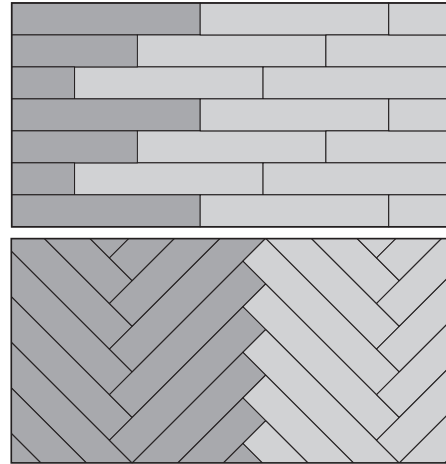
Rectangular tile is installed using the running bond or stretcher bond method.

After you have found the center of the room:

- 1 Take a tile and mark out the tile width from the center point of the wall to make sure that you do not end up with any cut piece smaller than 6", and adjust your mark at the center point of the room if necessary.
- 2 Use the same measurement for the center point of the opposite wall.
- 3 Proceed dry laying the tiles on half the floor for optimal cutting and minimal waste against walls or other obstructions.
- 4 During the dry-lay procedure, make sure that tile joints do not coincide with the joints in the subfloor.
- 5 Spread adhesive on one side of the room when dry laying and cuts are complete.
- 6 Begin laying tiles from the middle of the room outward in the running or stretcher bond pattern.

**IMPORTANT:** After installation, all flooring must be rolled with a minimum 100-lb roller. Use a hand roller in areas not reached with a 100-lb roller.

### IV. INSTALLATION FOR PLANK



Planks are to be installed staggered unless otherwise specified.

Find the center point of the room. Strike a line. Obtain a true 90° angle by using a carpenter's square. Strike a second line, which will divide the room into four equal parts. Measure the distance from the center to the wall, parallel to the direction of the plank. Divide the measurement by the width of the plank. Adjust the point to compensate if less than half remains as the border plank. This will create a larger area along the wall and reduce the chance of having to cut a small sliver of flooring to place along the wall.

Carefully place the first piece of plank at the junction of the chalk lines. Continue to lay the planks, making sure each is flush against the chalk line and tight against the adjoining plank. Make sure the plank is well seated into the adhesive, paying particular attention to the edges— lay in a pyramid fashion or row-by-row fashion.

The use of cut pieces anywhere other than on walls or fixed objects is not a proper procedure. Use only full pieces when installing material in the center of the room. Please refer to the installation layout practices based on the product you are installing.

### V. FITTING THE BORDER

Measure the distance from the last plank in the row to the wall. Mark the plank and cut it against the mark. Lay the plank in place, ensuring the cut edge is against the wall.

## VI. FITTING AROUND IRREGULAR OBJECTS

Make a pattern from heavy paper to fit around pipes and other irregularities. Place the pattern on the plank, trace cutting along the trace lines.

**IMPORTANT:** After installation, all flooring must be rolled with a minimum 100-lb roller. Use a hand roller in areas not reached with a 100-lb roller.

## ADHESIVES

**REGUPOL America LLC** requires **PU350** adhesive for the installation of **upscale** collection products. Only our recommended adhesive should be used. Other adhesives may not provide adequate performance and could result in failure. Call **Technical Services** with any questions you may have regarding adhesives at 800-537-8737.

To determine the compatibility and porosity of the subfloor, we strongly recommend a bond test. Install a 2'x2' section of flooring, following installation procedures, in a light traffic area for 48 hours. Inspect for good adhesion, which should make it difficult to remove.

**REGUPOL PU350 adhesive:** The adhesive is formulated for indoor use only with the installation of **upscale** flooring. This high-strength adhesive is designed for installations over porous and non-porous substrates when tested in accordance with ASTM F-1869 Calcium Chloride at (5) lbs maximum MVER, ASTM F-2170 85% maximum In-Situ Relative Humidity, and 9pH.

For best results, install between 60°–90°F (+/-5°) and 50% Relative Humidity.

**Spread adhesive using the recommended trowel size:** Use 1/16"x1/16"x1/16" square notch for 85-90 sqft per gallon coverage. Refer to the adhesive pail on site to familiarize yourself with this adhesive.

Spread adhesive evenly with a proper trowel held at a 60° angle, avoiding skips or voids and excessive adhesive application.

Only spread sufficient adhesive that can be covered within the adhesive working time. The working time will depend on temperature and humidity. Follow label instructions.

Do not allow **REGUPOL PU350** to cure on your hands or the flooring. Immediately wipe off excess adhesive with a rag dampened with denatured alcohol or acetone. Cured adhesive is very difficult to remove from hands. We strongly suggest wearing gloves while using **REGUPOL PU350**.

If some seams are gapping, temporarily hold them together with masking tape. Do not use duct tape as it may leave a Residue on the floor. Remove the tape after the adhesive develops a firm set.

**REGUPOL America LLC** will not assume responsibility for floor covering failure due to hydrostatic pressure or moisture vapor emission. The final responsibility for determining if the concrete is dry enough to install the flooring lies with the floor covering installer. **CAUTION:** Temperature directly affects adhesive working and setting times. Warmer temperatures shorten working times, and colder temperatures lengthen the working times of adhesive. Follow the instructions on the container for proper application.

Install rows to the chalk line, ensuring tiles/planks are precisely aligned with the chalk line and adjacent tiles.

The floor must be rolled in both directions using a 100 lb 3-section roller. Roll floor as soon as conditions permit, then roll the floor again 90 degrees to the first direction within 1 hour. Be sure not to exceed the manufacturer's recommended working time on the label.

***Make sure no other trades walk on, roll over, or move any rolling loads over the newly installed flooring or during installation. The adhesive needs to cure, and shifting of tiles can occur if walked on or rolled over during the curing process.***

Clean up all debris as you work.

Wait 24 hours for normal foot traffic and 48 hours for point and rolling loads after installation.

***Wait 48 hours before heavy wet cleaning.***

## SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS

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**Radiant Heat: upscale** collection LRP & LRT can be installed over Radiant heating (hydroponic) systems. There must be at least 1/2" of separation between the radiant heat source and the flooring. The maximum temperature of the subfloor surface must not exceed 85°.

Before installing flooring products over newly constructed radiant heating systems, operate the system at maximum capacity for at least 8 hours to force any residual moisture from the cementitious topping of the radiant heating system. Then, set the thermostat to a comfortable room temperature for the installation. For existing systems, the system must be switched off for a minimum of 48 hours before, during, and 48 hours after flooring installation.

**Direct Sunlight:** Installations in areas with heavy, direct sunlight exposure for long periods should utilize window treatments.

**Protecting New Installations:** New installations must be protected while the adhesive cures. Early foot traffic, point or rolling loads can cause adhesive displacement, material shifting or breaking of the bond between the adhesive and the material or substrate.

## ROUTINE MAINTENANCE

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**REGUPOL America LLC** recommends the following initial maintenance procedures to keep your new floor looking its best and keep it that way. For detailed recommendations, see the **REGUPOL maintenance instructions**, which can be found on the website. Also, available upon request.

Use a non-staining matting system at exterior doors appropriate for soil load and weather conditions.

Use appropriate floor protectors, glides, and wheels, and do not drag or slide heavy objects across the floor's surface.

Do not use heavy abrasive cleaners that can scratch the floor surface or detergent cleaners that leave a residue.

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## MAINTENANCE PRECAUTIONS AND SAFETY INFORMATION

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Effective maintenance includes promptly removing all spills and thoroughly cleaning with a diluted neutral cleaner or cleaner/maintainer solution. Failure to establish an effective routine maintenance program will not only detract from the appearance of the floor but may shorten its useful life. Contact **REGUPOL America LLC Customer Service** for recommended maintenance products at 800-537-8737.

**SAFETY FIRST:** Before commencing work, put out signs or safety cones to warn that cleaning is in progress. A slippery floor can cause accidents— poor maintenance, surface contamination, spills, or a wet floor can cause this. All hard floors can be slippery when wet. Ensure the floor is clean and dry before resuming use. Use warning signs in commercial areas when performing maintenance or cleaning spills.

Please contact **REGUPOL Technical Services** 800-537-8737 with any questions before proceeding with any part of the installation. [www.regupol.us](http://www.regupol.us)

## WARRANTY

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**REGUPOL America** (the "Seller") warrants that its **REGUPOL upscale** (the "Product") shall conform to all published specifications, and to any specifications required by Buyer and accepted by Seller, for a period of ten (10) years from the date of shipment. Seller warrants that, during the warranty period, the Product shall not exhibit signs of excessive deterioration, as reasonably determined by Seller. All other warranties, including the warranties of merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose, are expressly excluded. Buyer's sole and exclusive remedy for defective Product shall be, at Seller's option, repair or replacement of the defective Product or refund of the purchase price of the defective Product. Seller shall not, under any circumstances including, but not limited to, delay in delivery, breach of contract, breach of warranty, negligence, tort, strict liability or use of materials sold by Seller, be liable to Buyer or any other party for any special, incidental, indirect or consequential damages, or for losses of any kind whatsoever. In no event shall Seller's liability for defective Product sold to Buyer exceed the purchase price thereof.

