

AN ALMOST JOINT FREE SURFACE WITHOUT FULL-SURFACE GLUING? THIS HAS BEEN MADE POSSIBLE USING AN INSTALLATION SYSTEM FROM DUTCH MANUFACTURER OSBE PARKET.

# More than just underlay

Elastilon is a permanently elastic, springy underlay for parquet with excellent thermal and acoustic characteristics. Its special feature is an adhesive layer on its upper surface which keeps the parquet strips and boards under tension, thus virtually eliminating joint spacing. The adhesive layer is covered by tear resistant foil. The parquet is secured with straps which are only necessary if the wood moisture content on installation is greater than 9%.

Elastilon underlay simplifies the installation of wooden flooring considerably. The Dutch manufacturer maintains that without gluing or nailing and without click connections, time savings of up to 50% can be achieved.

This system is attractive for commercial installation, due to the shorter installation times and the possibility of immediate use thereafter. Elastilon is also advantageous from environmental and health & safety points of view. The product is considered free of volatile materials, and the adhesive surface is absolutely clean and does not cause any soiling, according to the producer.

Elastilon has been used since 1993, initially in Holland and now increasingly throughout the world.

Many good references for its technical reliability are provided by private and commercial properties. The system has also proved itself in multi-purpose halls in which the elastic proper-

ties of the flooring are important. Osbe customers in Holland are predominantly parquet installers but Osbe is actively seeking contacts with parquet manufacturers in export markets. Osbe Parket BV was founded in the 1960s and was initially mainly focused on the wood industry but very quickly homed in on parquet. Osbe has always been very progressive and is always trying new and innovative things and is therefore is often ahead of other companies in the trade. The owner and founder of Osbe Parket bv, Mr. F. J. van Bers, is always looking for new materials, new methods and experiments with these, often until late at night. Of the hundreds of his ideas, just a few were completed, the most remarkable and well-know of which is Elastilon. As he said about Elastilon himself to an American colleague, "It was the stupidest idea I ever had."

But Elastilon has already proven itself all over the world as not a stupid idea at all but as a solution to those age-old problems regarding wooden floors - shrinking and swelling. At the moment, interest for the double sided adhesive Elastilon, Elastilon-Lock, is extremely fast growing. It is a great solution for laying parquet on underfloor heating. Because of the double sided adhesives, it makes unifies the wooden floor together with the under-floor heating system, while glue doesn't make it as



completely one.

Austrian company Tilo, which has been using Elastilon-Lock for some time, are extremely enthusiastic not only because of the good test results with underfloor heating but also because of its experience with laying with Elastilon and Elastilon-Lock. Bearing in mind that the Austrian and Swiss markets are well known for their knowledge regarding underfloor heating, further success for Elastilon is anticipated.

Different usages and interest for Elastilon continues to grow and the company is excited about the areas where this will take it.