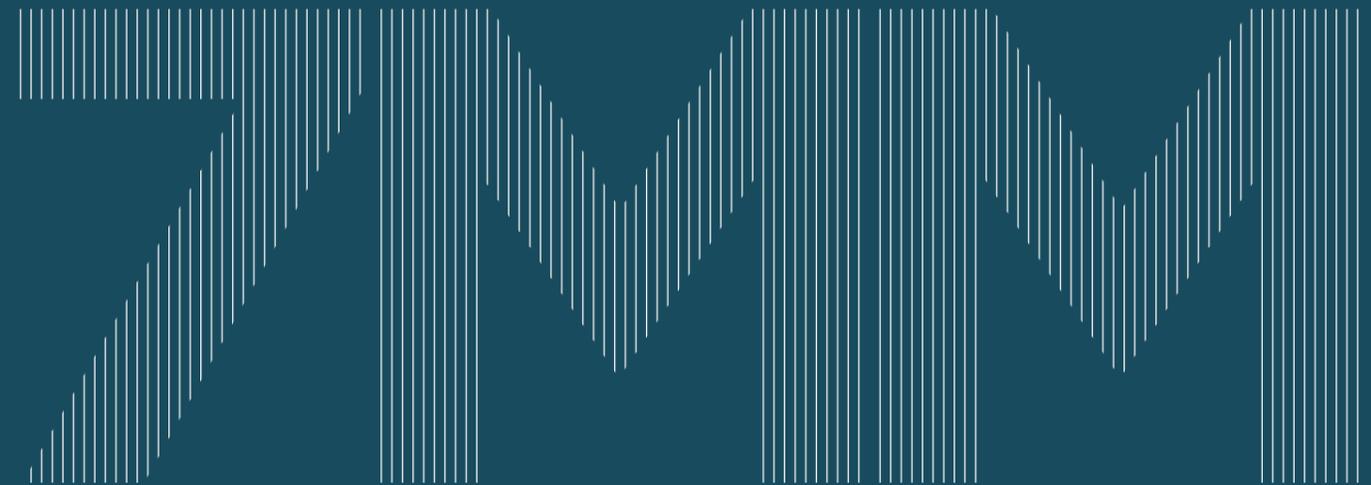


**SURFALITE**<sup>TM</sup>  
SUPER THIN SURFACES



INSTALLATION GUIDELINE

**santamargherita**  
THE ORIGINAL ITALIAN SURFACE

[www.santamargherita.net](http://www.santamargherita.net)

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## What is Surfalite®?

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Surfalite® is an advanced surface series consisting of slabs 7mm thick, made of a mixture of premium minerals, quartz and recycled materials, created thanks to Santamargherita's long experience and particular attention to research and development. Surfalite® has features never seen before in such a thin through body material, including outstanding weight performance.

## Why Surfalite®?

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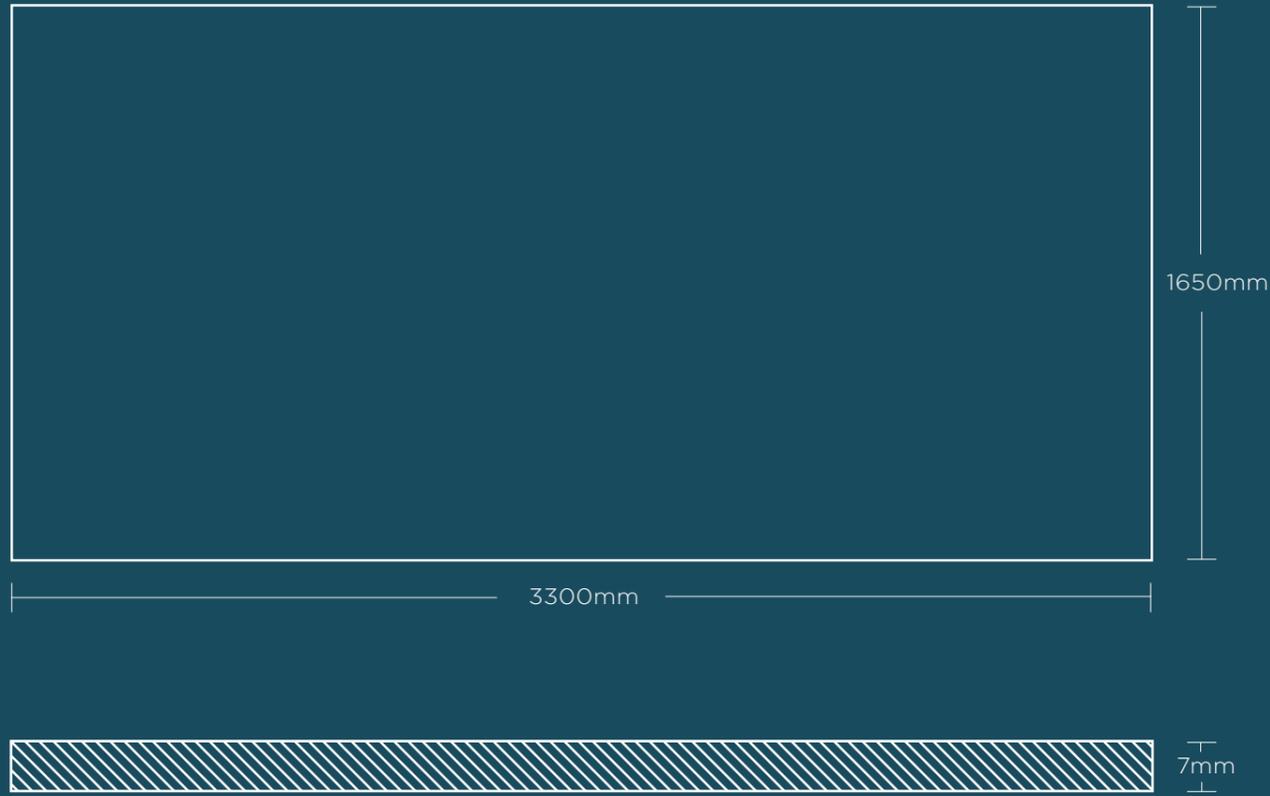
Lightness, resistance and flexibility are those characteristics that lend to Surfalite® versatility and dynamism, opening new possibilities for the use of advanced surface slabs by architects and designers.

The 7mm thickness of Surfalite® allows for the knocking down of logistic limits, and entry into new sectors with revolutionary solutions for design. Its use does not only deal with indoor cladding, it also integrates with new perspectives in terms of decoration and design, allowing for the renovation of daily-use surfaces without the need to replace them.



## Dimensions and Weight

Surfalite® is manufactured in slabs cm 330cm x 165cm x 0.7cm (130" x 65" x ¼"). The weight of Surfalite® is 16 kgs/m<sup>2</sup>, or 3.28 lbs/sq.ft.



## Colors and Finishes

The updated color range of Surfalite® slabs is available on [www.surfalite.com](http://www.surfalite.com). Surfalite® slabs are offered in polished and silk finishes.

All interior installations must follow ANSI A108.19-2017 standard for "Interior Installation of Gauged Porcelain Tiles and Gauged Porcelain Tile Panels/Slabs by the Thin-Bed Method Bonded with polyurethane or epoxy polyurethane based adhesive. Refer to ANSI A108.19 for procedures and requirements for interior installation of gauged porcelain tiles and gauged porcelain tile panels/slabs.

Refer to the most current installation methods of the Tile Council of North America (TCNA) or the Terrazzo Tile & Marble Association of Canada (TTMAC) for interior walls and ceilings. Before tile selection and installation, consult the manufacturer of Surfalite® to determine the tile's suitability in accordance with all federal, state/provincial and local municipal codes for wall and ceiling applications.



First Snow



Frozen Tundra



Sandy Wisp



Sand Dunes



Heaven White



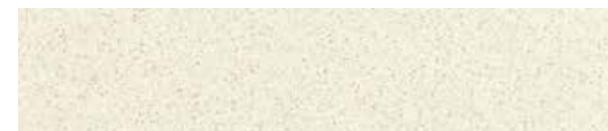
Black Nimbus



Aurum Strand



White Feather



Istria



Carnia



Caledonia



Nero



Lyskamm



Vittoria White

## Adhesives Suitable for Interior Walls, Floors, Ceiling and Soffits

**PLANICRETE W** two-components polyurethane adhesive classified R2 according to ISO 13007.

**ULTRABOND ECO GBT** single-component, non-sag, easy-to-trowel, hybrid polymer-based adhesive technology specially designed for the installation of gauged tile panels/slabs on interior vertical surfaces and countertops.

## Trowel Selection

Use a trowel with a configuration that helps to maximize mortar coverage between the substrate and the gauged tile panels/slabs. Evenly spread the mortar across the bonding side of the tile, minimizing air pockets and promoting the interlock between the mortar on the substrate and what is applied to the back of the tile. It is up to the installer to select the most suitable trowel or trowels. Either of the following trowels is acceptable to use (consult the Website of either Raimondi or European Tile Masters for specific ordering information):



**European Tile Masters' Euro Notch Trowel (which comes in 3 models):**  
1Y Euro Notch Trowel (rubber handle); 1YW- Euro Notch Trowel (wood handle);  
or 2YW- Euro Angle Trowel (ergonomic handle)



**Raimondi's Flow Ridge, Slant Notch Trowel:**  
Part # (183HFV8), with 5/16" x 5/16" (8 x 8 mm) notches

## Surface Preparation

Interior walls must be structurally stable and capable of supporting the tile, setting system, and associated live loads and dead loads. Vertical and overhead substrates in addition to existing tile should be fully cured and free of soap scum, dust, dirt, oil, wax, sealers, paint, coatings, and any other substances that could reduce or inhibit proper adhesion performance. For specific requirements, refer to MAPEI's "Surface Preparation Requirements" reference guide for tile and stone installation.

## Suitable Substrates

Walls, ceilings and soffits with the following criteria are considered suitable substrates:

- Cement and masonry block
- Cement backer units (CBUs) – The CBUs should conform to the quality standard requirements of ANSI A118.9. They must be installed according to the CBU manufacturer's instructions and in strict accordance with ANSI A108.11 standards for interior and exterior installation of CBUs.
- Gypsum wall surfaces (for interior dry areas only) – Prime all drywall and plaster wall surfaces with MAPEI's Primer L™ and let it dry completely before applying the mortar. For more information, see the "Tiling over gypsum" technical bulletin at [www.mapei.com](http://www.mapei.com).
- Interior existing tile should be sound, stable, well-bonded and prepared using either of the following options:

### Option 1

Refer to the most current TCNA handbook, Method TR713; or the TTMAC Tile Installation Manual, Detail 323RW.

### Option 2

Prime the existing tile over concrete with MAPEI's ECO Prim Grip™. Refer to the most current Technical Data Sheet (TDS) at [www.mapei.com](http://www.mapei.com). ECO Prim Grip per TCNA Environmental Classifications is limited to RES 3 or COM 3.

The wall must have the following flatness before installation:

All approved and properly prepared substrates should have no more than a permissible variation of 1/8" in 10 feet (3mm in 3.05 m) from the required plane: nor more than 1/16" in 24" (2mm in 60cm) when measured from high points in the surface with a straight edge.

We do not recommend the use of an anti-fracture membrane. If your project requires one, please contact the adhesive manufacturer for alternative solutions.

## Edge-leveling Devices

Edge-leveling devices – will greatly assist in the installation of gauged tile panels/ slabs to reduce the effects of lippage and subsequent “wall-washing effect.”

Edge-leveling devices are intended to be used in conjunction with good substrate preparation practices, not as a substitute for those practices. To demonstrate the use of a lippage control system, the MLT System will be referenced in this Reference Guide. However, it is up to the installer to decide which edge-leveling devices will be used.

For the most current information on these edge-leveling devices, visit the website of the manufacturer.



Example of gauged tile over existing tile during a renovation using a mechanical edge-leveling system

## Movement Joints

Field movement joints are required within tile installations. Expansion, construction, and contraction joints should be carried through the tile without exception. Refer to the most current TCNA handbook, Method EJ171; or the TTMAC Tile Installation Manual, Detail 301MJ.

MAPEI recommends the use of Mapesil™ T Plus, a professional-grade, 100%-silicone sealant that meets TCNA EJ171 requirements for heavy traffic and expansion/ movement joints. The same product should be used for sealing all joints between adjacent tiles.

All MAPEI cement-based mortars and grouts have a TCNA Industry-Average UL Certified EPD. EPD is available on the product page at [www.mapei.com/us](http://www.mapei.com/us)

When these recommendations are followed along with the ANSI A108.19- 2017 standard for “Interior Installation of Gauged Porcelain Tiles and Gauged Porcelain Tile Panels/Slabs by the Thin-Bed Method,” a successful project should be achieved. Refer to the most current Technical Data Sheets (TDS) for details regarding the use of MAPEI products. Technical Data Sheets and Safety Data Sheets are available at [www.mapei.com/us](http://www.mapei.com/us).

## Setting the Tile

1. Mortar should be applied and notched to both the substrate and back of the tile. The trowelled ridges on the tile back and the substrate should be trowelled in a straight line such that they will be parallel to the shortest dimension of the tile.
2. Do not allow mortar to dry or skin over on either surface before setting the tile. This may require careful planning to ensure that sufficient personnel are on site to complete the installation.
3. Place tile into the fresh mortar and firmly press from the center of the tile outward to cause the ridges to flatten out and come together into a continuous void-free bed.
4. Install desired spacers. In order to achieve a perfect flat final surface the use of levelling system such as MAPELEVEL PRO WDG or MAPELEVEL EASY are strongly recommended. Lightly tamp the surface of the tile with the Raimondi Tile beat-in paddle (LTBBLF) or a hard-rubber grout float to ensure good contact. (Do not use a rubber mallet.)
5. There should be full mortar coverage on the back of the tile. When an edge-leveling device is used, it is imperative to have sufficient mortar under the body of the tile, under the corners and at the tile edges for full support. Fill any voids with the mortar for complete support.
6. Install adjacent tile.
7. Remove any excess mortar from grout joints as work progresses.
8. Using the installation tool, pull the wedges or caps (depending on the use of a leveling system) down into contact with the tile face and apply recommended tension until the tile edges are in alignment. All corners and edges should be fully supported by mortar. Continue this process with each tile across the installation area, repeating steps 1-8 and checking edge alignment.
9. When the mortar has cured sufficiently (wait at least 24 hours for a traditional-setting mortar, and at least 3 to 4 hours for a rapid-setting mortar), it is possible to remove the wedges or cap ap.

## Optional Layering Components

Waterproofing:

- Showers areas or wet rooms in general should be waterproofed by applying on the substrate an even and continuous layer of the before mentioned adhesives
- The tiles' installation should be carried out once the waterproofing layer is set and not later than 24-48 hours from its application.