

## VINYL COMPOSITION TILE VS. HPL ON ACCESS FLOORS

The electrical characteristics of vinyl composition tile (VCT) inhibit static electricity decay due to its high surface electrical resistance. When VCT is used on an access floor, it defeats one of the foremost advantages of access flooring, static dissipation.

The access flooring industry, in conjunction with the high pressure laminate industry, worked together in the early 1970's to design a material which would fall into an acceptable surface electrical resistance range for computer room applications. This range had to be low enough to conduct static, but high enough for personnel safety. The acceptable range was determined to be 1,000,000 ohms to 20,000 megohms. After much research and development, a special grade of high pressure laminate (HPL) was produced.

To illustrate the difference between VCT and HPL, consider the following table:

### Surface Electrical Resistance (from manufacturer's literature)

|     |                      |
|-----|----------------------|
| VCT | 500,000,000,000 Ohms |
| HPL | 10,000,000 Ohms      |

In practical use, the range of 1,000,000 ohms to 20,000 megohms has proven itself to be adequate. Experience has shown that VCT covered access floors experience static problems.

Other advantages of HPL include: no-wax, high resistance to staining, easier to lift panels, easy to clean, high resistance to indentation, one piece of HPL per panel (4 pieces of VCT per panel), standard product of all access floor manufacturers, and high resistance to inorganic and organic solvents.

High pressure laminate access floors are easy to maintain and save money on maintenance costs:

- Need no sealer, coating, waxes or stripping.
- Need no vigorous cleaning or strong cleaning agents.
- Never needs polishing or buffing.
- Stain resistant to inks, chemicals and cleaning agents.
- Spilled liquids wipe up easily.
- Stubborn stains can be spot cleaned easily by sparingly using a nonflammable solvent.
- Eliminates cleaning downtime.
- Non-static; does not attract dust.

For any questions, call customer service at 800.234.3567.