



## ***Concrete Surface Vapor Retarders***

(Sheet Type Only)

Concrete surface vapor retarders are part of non-glued down maple sport floor installations. The surface vapor retarder is included to address vapor emission from a substantially cured slab and dry slab. The concrete surface vapor retarder is NOT the same as the moisture barrier below the slab. Below slab moisture barriers are specified and installed by others to block free moisture from sources such as saturated ground, hydrostatic pressure, or poor drainage.

Maple sport floor systems should not be installed until the concrete slab's relative humidity levels are within acceptable ranges. MFMA recommends the relative humidity level for a concrete slab for a non-glue-down maple floor system be 85% or lower and for glue down systems the concrete slab relative humidity level should be 75% or lower before installation. For concrete relative humidity conditions above MFMA's recommendation consult your MFMA Sport Floor Contractor or your MFMA manufacturer. There may be alternative vapor barriers available that provide lower permeability ratings that can address concrete vapor levels above 85% RH. Such concrete surface vapor barriers that provide lower permeability are designed to address elevated vapor in concrete slabs and do not protect against free moisture from other sources such as saturated ground, hydrostatic pressure, slab failure or poor drainage.

In anchored-resilient floor systems the penetration of anchorage pins through the surface vapor retarder into the substantially cured and dry concrete slab does not negatively affect the floor system.

If you have any further questions, please email [MFMA@MAPLEFLOOR.ORG](mailto:MFMA@MAPLEFLOOR.ORG) or contact MFMA's Technical Director at 888/480-9138.

**Note:** This position statement only applies to pre-manufactured film/sheet type vapor retarders.

© Copyright 2020

*Disclaimer: MFMA provides general information to architects, specifiers and consumers. MFMA, its members, officers and agents disclaim any responsibility whatsoever for the accuracy or applicability of these guidelines under all circumstances and conditions.*

**Maple Flooring Manufacturers Association**

Toll Free: 888/480-9138

E-mail: [mfma@maplefloor.org](mailto:mfma@maplefloor.org) [www.maplefloor.org](http://www.maplefloor.org)