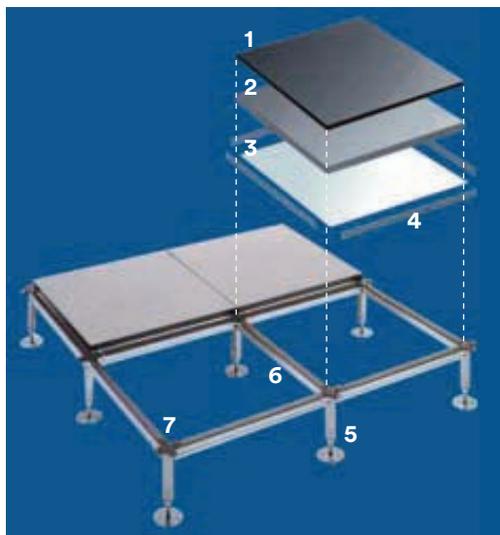


RAISED ACCESS FLOORING FOR INTERIORS

The raised floor for interiors has been specially designed to provide a rational answer to the need for flexibility required by technological innovation in places where there is a high concentration of process plant, like offices, data processing centres and the advanced services sector. Thanks to this building system, a new floor surface can be constructed above the screed so as to create a “technical space” the height of which can vary from a few centimetres to over a metre. It can be easily removed and inspected underneath, and can be installed without creating limitations to the positions of any sort of plant (Electric, telephone, computer, air conditioning installations, etc).

The system is extremely functional. All its components can be disassembled and assembled without the use of cements or adhesives. Moreover, the individual panels can be moved without interfering with the adjacent ones. This speeds up the time it takes to service and modify the plant, jobs that can be done whenever required without the need for masonry work, thus reducing the time it takes to do the work and the relative costs.

All these features provide designers with much more scope for creating layouts, during both the planning and actual construction phases. This is because they are no longer limited by having to position the process plant in certain places. Moreover, there is nothing to stop the plant from being integrated and/or modified to suit new standards: anything that has not been planned or forecast can be added later. This is true of both new and renovated constructions as the room layouts can be modified to suit the changing space arrangement requirements.



THE SYSTEM

The performance of a raised floor is the result of perfectly balanced technical-styling aspects amongst the various different components of the system, which comprises of bearing columns and cross-pieces plus modular panels clad on top with the porcelain stoneware tiles.

- 1. Porcelain stoneware tiles:** 60×60 cm, 30×60 cm and 30×30 cm formats can be used. The tiles used for cladding the panels form the surface of the raised floor. They are the visible part of the entire system and are therefore the elements that provide the floor with its functional characteristics and attractive appearance.

Firstly, the tiles are glued to the panel and are then ground and edged using a plastic material, in order to:

- perfectly match the panels up to each other and form homogeneous joints
- prevent the tile edges from being chipped when the panels are handled

- 2. Panel:** This is the part of the system on to which the cladding tiles are glued and that forms the floor surface. It bears the loads and distributes them over the bearing structure underneath. The more commonly used panels are of two types:

- Panel in chipboard and high-density resins. It measures 60×60cm and is 38 mm thick; fire reaction Class 1.
- Panel in high-density calcium sulphate, single-layer, monolithic. It measures 60×60 cm and can be 28 mm, 30 mm or 34 mm thick (depending on the structural loads calculated in the project). Fire reaction Class 0.