

## **INFORMATION & GUIDELINES FOR THE INSTALLATION OF SANSUMI SHIBATA TILES**

### **RECOMMENDED INSTALLATION**

Available in 2 different colors, the Sansumi Shibata Collection adds dimensional curves to a striking pyramid shape. An eye-catching geometric accent for interior or exterior vertical surfaces.

Installation of the Shibata Collection should be done by qualified technicians, The Shibata Collection is not recommended for areas that may be subject to heavy impact.

### **SUBSTRATES**

All substrates should be firmly fixed, flat, clean, dry and free of contaminants such as dust, oil, paint, sealers etc. to ensure proper adhesion. Painted surfaces must be scuffed or sanded for the product and adhesive to bond correctly. Wet areas need special attention and require appropriate substrates, e.g. concrete, cement boards (compressed sheet), and/or treated plywood. The use of a reinforced waterproof membrane is suggested.

### **WATERPROOF MEMBRANES**

Waterproof membranes prevent leakage of water through to the sub-floor framing and/or habitable spaces below. Particular attention must be paid to: carrying the membrane up the wall, outside shower boxes, installation of bond breakers, and sealing around penetrations. It is strongly recommended that membrane systems be used in all wet areas. Some systems may involve the use of a primer.

### **CUTTING**

Cuts can be done with a saw blade suitable for cutting ceramic tile.

### **ADHESIVE**

Follow the manufacturer's instructions carefully. SOLISTONE Commercial does not recommend one brand of adhesive over another. Please check with your local tile supply store for alternative and comparable products. The adhesive manufacturer's literature will explain if the adhesive product is suitable for interiors and/or exteriors, as well as walls and floors. Most thinset mortars (multi purpose and polymer modified thinsets) are adequate for installing the Shibata Collection tile.

A cement-based adhesive is generally suitable on masonry substrates where no movement is anticipated. Where slight movement could occur through thermal or pedestrian loads, a modified cement adhesive should be used as a minimum. A 1/8" notched trowel is recommended for most applications.

The thinset must be applied to the back of the tile to fill in any hollow gaps which will reinforce them and add to the longevity of the product if subject to impact. Do not use any hard objects to tap down the center or edges of the ceramic tiles.

### **GROUTING**

If doing a butt-joint installation grout may not be necessary. Grout should be designed for external or internal conditions whichever may be the case. If leaving a grout joint 1/8" or smaller non-sanded grout is recommended, anything larger will require a sanded grout.

### **SEALANTS**

Although there is no need to seal ceramic tile, it is recommended that some type of sealant be used in order to protect grout joints if you are using any.

### **CARE & CLEANING**

Ceramic tiles must be regularly cleaned and maintained to extend their life and beauty. Most dirt and stains can be cleaned with a mild detergent and soft cloth or sponge. Do not use abrasive cleaners, powders, scouring pads, steel wool or sandpaper.