



Designation: F693 – 01 (Reapproved 2018)<sup>ε1</sup>

# Standard Practice for Sealing Seams of Resilient Sheet Flooring Products by Use of Liquid Seam Sealers<sup>1</sup>

This standard is issued under the fixed designation F693; the number immediately following the designation indicates the year of original adoption or, in the case of revision, the year of last revision. A number in parentheses indicates the year of last reapproval. A superscript epsilon ( $\epsilon$ ) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reapproval.

<sup>ε1</sup> NOTE—Editorial changes were made in 5.2 and 5.3 for clarification in March 2018.

## 1. Scope

1.1 This practice covers the instructions and precautions to be observed to ensure satisfactory performance of seams in sheet resilient flooring sealed with liquid seam sealers.

1.2 *This standard does not purport to address all of the safety concerns, if any, associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user of this standard to establish appropriate safety, health, and environmental practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.*

1.3 *This international standard was developed in accordance with internationally recognized principles on standardization established in the Decision on Principles for the Development of International Standards, Guides and Recommendations issued by the World Trade Organization Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Committee.*

## 2. Referenced Documents

2.1 *ASTM Standards:*<sup>2</sup>

F141 [Terminology Relating to Resilient Floor Coverings](#)

## 3. Terminology

3.1 For definitions of terms used in this practice refer to Terminology F141.

## 4. Significance and Use

4.1 Seams in some sheet resilient flooring are sealed to prevent openings from forming between cut edges and prevent penetrations of dirt, liquids, etc., into the seams.

<sup>1</sup> This practice is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee F06 on Resilient Floor Coverings and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee F06.40 on Practices.

Current edition approved March 1, 2018. Published April 2018. Originally approved in 1980. Last previous edition approved in 2012 as F693 - 01(2012). DOI: 10.1520/F0693-01R18E01.

<sup>2</sup> For referenced ASTM standards, visit the ASTM website, [www.astm.org](http://www.astm.org), or contact ASTM Customer Service at [service@astm.org](mailto:service@astm.org). For *Annual Book of ASTM Standards* volume information, refer to the standard's Document Summary page on the ASTM website.

## 5. Instructions

5.1 Flooring shall be installed in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

5.2 Particular attention shall be paid to proper cutting of the seams to obtain a net fit so that there are no gaps or overlaps.

5.3 In making up the seam, care shall be taken to prevent any flooring adhesive used to bond the floor covering to the substrate from getting between the cut edges of seam. It is almost impossible to remove such adhesive, and the seam sealer will not bond properly in those areas and may result in the seam separating and discoloration.

5.4 The proper seam sealer and applicator as recommended by the resilient flooring manufacturer shall be used. Follow the resilient flooring manufacturer's instructions as to the method of application for the specific product being installed.

5.5 Two-part seam sealers, mixed at a specific ratio per the manufacturer's directions, should be used for a single installation, with any remaining unused sealer properly disposed of.

5.6 It is important for performance reasons of bonding, adhesion strength, etc., that chemical sealers be appropriately matched to the flooring products they are used to seam. Refer to the manufacturer's recommendations.

## 6. Hazards

6.1 Most of the seam sealers contain solvents that are flammable, and all cautions on the label shall be observed.

6.2 Protect the sealed seam from dirt and traffic for the period specified by the flooring manufacturer to prevent discoloration.

## 7. Keywords

7.1 applicator; bead; flammable; seam sealers; seams; sheet flooring