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Re: Technical Bulletin – ROCKWOOL Under Slab Insulation

ROCKWOOL COMFORTBOARD™ is rigid mineral wool board that is used as a continuous layer of insulation in residential building envelope systems. It has the mechanical properties to be used in residential sub slab applications as an alternative to rigid foam.

BENEFITS OF ROCKWOOL COMFORTBOARD™ UNDER SLAB

- High vapor permeability
- Will not crush or fracture under foot traffic
- Water resistant with low moisture sorption
- Easy to cut and fit in place, allowing for tight clean joints
- Does not rot or promote growth of fungi or mildew
- CFC and HCFC free, product and process
- Made of natural and recycled materials

WHERE TO USE ROCKWOOL COMFORTBOARD™

- Under poured concrete slab and above crushed stone
- Between slab edge and foundation wall, acting as a thermal break

Do not use under footings and load bearing walls. High density EPS or cellular glass should be used for this application.

Do not use in applications with a slab thickness less than four inches thick.





DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS:

- Floating slab – slabs should be tied in to supporting structural members/foundations and designed such that they could support the required loads without anything below them
- Vapor barriers should be used per building code or common local practices. In most climate zones the vapor barrier will be used above the insulation (between the insulation and the concrete)
- ROCKWOOL COMFORTBOARD™ will compress slightly under the weight of the slab. It is important to ensure the design thickness takes into account the compression causing a small reduction in R-value
- Ensure not to step on board corners during installation to protect the product from physical damage
- If using 2 layers of COMFORTBOARD™, overlap joints for added strength
- Crushed stone below insulation will provide drainage and when coupled with perforated radon pipe will facilitate soil gas control
- Do not use mineral wool sub slab in areas of high ground water levels.



Installation photos provided by Michael Hindle, CPHC of Passive to Positive. Architect: Carri Beer, AIA of Brennan+Company Architects