

Installation and maintenance

System performance

All ceiling products and systems should be installed and maintained in accordance with current USG written instructions and best industry practice, including the following: ASTM C636 "Standard Practice for Installation of Metal Ceiling Suspension Systems for Acoustical Tile and Lay-in Panels." Sheetrock Brand Gypsum Panels used with the USG Drywall Suspension System are not covered. System performance following any substitution of materials or compromises in assembly cannot be guaranteed and may result in failure under critical conditions.

Pattern direction

Variations in color and fissure size in ceiling tiles will be of little consequence within a single production batch. However, minor variations can occur from time to time, and projects should be planned so that all material for continuous ceiling space is ordered, delivered and installed from the same production batch. USG tiles are marked with a directional arrow on the back and should always be installed with this in alignment to ensure total consistency of pattern and paint shade in a production batch.

Installation & environmental conditions

For applications with normal controlled environment conditions, products with 70% RH / 29°C or better are suitable. Installation should only take place under ambient conditions after residual moisture from concrete and plaster has dissipated. The recommended relative humidity should not exceed 70% RH within a temperature range of 65-85°F (18-29°C) for installation and occupancy.

Once ceiling installation has commenced, it is essential that RH% and temperature be maintained at acceptable levels by heating the building if necessary. Dry heating should be employed and paraffin or gas heaters avoided. These recommendations should still be applied between completion of contract and the occupancy of the building. Unoccupied buildings with uncontrolled atmospheres may have a wide temperature range during a 24 hours period which could lead to an unacceptable change in dimension stability of the ceiling panels, causing excessive sag.

For applications with intermittent heating and cooling systems, products with 95% RH / 40°C or better are recommended. For applications with uncontrolled environmental conditions, natural ventilation systems or in humid areas such as washrooms, kitchens or wet process areas, products with 95-99% RH / 40°C or better are recommended.

Radar Ceramic Climaplust panels

Radar Ceramic Climaplust ceiling panels perform especially well in areas such as swimming pools, where the ceiling may be subject to unusually high levels of humidity up to 100% RH and chemical attack. They should be installed with USG DONN Corrosion Resistant ceiling grid and appropriate hangers to resist corrosion.

ALL USG ceiling tiles should be protected from sustained direct contact with water.

Site storage and handling

Storage on site should be as short as possible with environmental conditions as near as possible to those specified for occupancy. Any storage area should be secure and fully protected from the weather with cartons stored on a clean, dry base. Care should be taken that the products are not damaged during delivery and while they are stored at the job site. The products must always be protected from direct contact with water, including condensation and corrosive substance or vapors, both before and after installation. Cartons of material should never be rolled, dropped or slid, and under no circumstances used as a workbase or substitute for ladders, scaffoldings, etc.

Overlaid material

Whenever possible overlaid material, such as insulation, should not be laid directly on the back of the ceiling membrane, as this will compromise the fire resistant properties of the ceilings. Where insulation must be used it should be no heavier than 0.26 lbs/ft² and installed with the following USG recommendations: insulation must be applied perpendicular to the suspension cross tees with the suspension system supporting the weight of the insulation. Insulation is also not recommended to be used as follows: FIRECODE™ applications unless specified and use described by Underwriters Laboratories.

Maintenance and cleaning

General cleaning of dust and loose dirt may be easily achieved using a soft brush or vacuum cleaner. Soiled panels can be cleaned with an art gum eraser or dampened cloth or sponge containing as little water as possible. Panels should never be soaked or immersed in water.

Clean Room tiles can be wet wiped on a regular basis without damage.

Cleaning can also be carried out by specialist contractors using proprietary methods and chemicals. It is strongly recommended that a trial area be cleaned to ensure that there is no detrimental effect on the ceiling panel or grid.

Re-decoration

It should be noted that a new paint finish may compromise the Surface Spread of Flame classification and acoustic absorption for that panel. Please consult the USG Technical Services Department or your local USG sales representatives for recommendations.