

Recommendations for using Rockfon tiles in clean environments

Purpose and Scope

This document provides manufacturer guidance for handling, cutting, and using Rockfon tiles in a clean environment. It is not designed as an installation Standard Operating Procedure. Contractors are responsible for their own procedures in accordance with project requirements and Authorities Having Jurisdiction.

1. Applicability and Product Selection

Many Rockfon tiles can be used in clean room environments. For specific clean room applications, Rockfon recommends the use of tiles with the specific ISO Clean Room Classification needed for the project or room.

For applications where dust is a concern, such as data centers, without specific ISO Clean Room requirements, Rockfon tile can be used and should be selected based on the project requirements and performance needs. For Data Centers, Rockfon has a portfolio of tiles available.

2. Handling and Cutting Recommendations

Rockfon recommends that in these spaces, tiles are not cut in the clean environment. Tiles should be taken to a controlled cutting station/room to be cut, should be HEPA vacuumed and then installed where needed.

Regardless of the material, ceiling tiles will abrade and erode if handled without some level of care.

3. Activities to Avoid and Cleanup Expectations

Do not cut tiles in place in the ceiling to install any fixtures such as lights, sprinklers, cabling, etc. Cutting tiles, no matter the substrate, creates dust and particulates. This dust can get trapped in the plenum, or between the tile and grid, or fall to the floor.

If those areas are not properly cleaned, the dust can move around with the air movement. Avoid sweeping or compressed air and use HEPA-filtered vacuums for cleanup.

If in-place cutting is unavoidable (owner-approved), use shrouded tools and HEPA extraction and immediate HEPA cleanup of grid/tile surfaces.

4. Installation Conditions and Movement Control

Ensure installed tiles remain restrained per design under expected airflow/pressure to minimize movement. In these circumstances Rockfon recommends the use of hold down clips that are compatible with the installed grid system.