

## Substrate requirements for Installing Cleanflex Hygienic Cladding Systems.

### **Welded Systems**

The substrate is to be finished to a very high standard. Surfaces should be true and level to + or – 2mm over a 3m straight edge.

Suitable substrates include plasterboard, plywood, finishing plaster and most types of render (sand & cement based).

We recommend all plastered surfaces are sealed with PVA sealer (Unibond) and allowed to fully dry before installation.

### **Silicone or Trimmed Systems**

Good quality fair-faced brick or blockwork with well aligned flush joints and all excess cement removed. Surfaces should be true to 3mm over 2 metres and adjacent brick/blocks must be flush.

Suitable surfaces

Steel trowelled sand and cement rendering, (typical 1:3 mix).

Plasterboard - 12.5mm or thicker

Resin bonded plywood - W.B.P (Min 9mm thick)

MDF dense wood based panels (Min 9mm thick)

Ceramic tiles, which must be securely bonded to the substrate, thoroughly cleaned. Loose tiles removed and the hole suitably filled.

### **General Notes.**

To obtain a secure and watertight installation surfaces must be suitably prepared. The work area should be dust free and the substrate dry to 16% WME (wood moisture equivalent).

### **Recommendations**

- Most sound painted surfaces are suitable but all loose flaking paint and dust to be removed. An adhesive test may be recommended during our survey.

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- New plaster (pink) is generally dusty and should be thoroughly cleaned and sealed with PVA primer (Typically 10% solution or premix if available).
- Unsuitable surfaces will have to be removed or covered to produce a suitable substrate.
- All surfaces to be free from grease.
- Ceramic tiles must be thoroughly cleaned. They must be de-greased, rinsed and left to dry. Wipe with alcohol wipes immediately prior to installation.  
Loose tiles to be removed and the area made good using a replacement tile, render or plywood infill.
- Surface depressions in the substrate should be filled with rapid repair mortar, sand and cement with PVA mix.
- Electrical outlets, switches, power points etc should be in a “first fix state”. A qualified electrician will be required to move any equipment that may require moving/removal to facilitate the installation.
- Plumbing and pipework should be at “first fix state” with ‘tails’ left protruding from the substrate. Cleanflex panels can be drilled to fit over the pipework. Holes to be drilled 3mm oversize to allow for expansion. A qualified plumber will be required to move any equipment that may require moving/removal to facilitate the installation.
- Hot/steam pipes must be insulated and an expansion gap of 3-5mm should be created when installing panels around these pipes.
- All items (screws, bolts, pipes, cables etc) going through the Cleanflex Panels require a minimum 3mm expansion gap and must be sealed using suitable silicone sealant.