Anti-Slip Protection with Little to Zero Down Time.

SAFEGUARD® Hi-Traction® Covers are installed over existing steps, walkways and ladder rungs using mechanical fasteners, urethane adhesive, PSA (pressure sensitive adhesive) or tack-welding.
**Installation**

SAFEGUARD® Covers are pre-fabricated for quick and easy installation over existing substrates including Concrete, Metal, Fiberglass, Steel & Composite Grating, Wood, and Tile. Depending on the base material of construction and surface to be covered, mechanical fasteners, urethane adhesive, PSA (pressure sensitive adhesive) and tack-welding can be used. Pre-drilled holes are available to aid in the installation process. Our Safety Covers are non-load bearing.

Refer to Safeguard Technology’s detailed Installation Guide and Diagrams for step-by-step instruction.

### Quick Reference Installation Guide

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**Cleaning**

Regular cleaning will keep your Hi-Traction® Covers free of debris and looking new. Most household or industrial methods can be used. Detergents and mild degreasers work well. For stubborn deposits, use a stiff bristle brush. High pressure heated water (as used in food processing plants) may be used in industrial environments.

**CAUTION:** Do not use mops. The gritted surface will catch and retain fibers. Solvents are not generally recommended. If necessary, mild solvents may be used provided they are diluted and immediately hosed off with water.

**Snow and Ice Removal**

1. Brooms will remove loose snow.
2. Plastic shovels are suitable for top layers of heavy snow accumulation. Do not use metal shovels, scrapers, or wire brushes.
3. Use salt, calcium chloride or other melting agents on compacted snow and ice.

**Top Coat**

If you choose to apply a top coat of paint to revitalize the color after years of wear, only apply a thin coating of alkyd silicone enamel. A heavy application will diminish the effectiveness of the grit surface, and reduce coefficient of friction values.

Contact Safeguard Technology for more information or a free sample today.

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REV 051514
CUTTING YOUR SAFEGUARD ANTI SLIP COVER

All SAFEGUARD® Covers are cut and fabricated to customer specification. Should additional field cutting be necessary, Safeguard suggests using a diamond blade with appropriate PPE.

RECOMMENDED MECHANICAL FASTENERS

All fasteners should feature low profile heads, such as Truss Head or Pan Head screws supplied by Safeguard.

CONCRETE: Masonry Fasteners with Plastic Insert Sleeve Tapcon®

STEEL: Self-Tapping 1” or 1-1/2” Truss Head Screws Self-Drilling ¾” or 1” TEK – Pan Head Screws

WOOD: Self-Tapping 1” or 1-1/2” Truss Head Screws

NOTE: Wood Screws with small profile heads (same diameter as body) are not recommended

STEEL/FIBERGLASS GRATING: Universal Saddle Clip Assembly

* If installing SAFEGUARD® Covers over Grip-Strut or grating with a raised surface set back from the leading edge, we recommend a “Backer Plate” under the nosing to fill in this area and support the Cover. This is available by request.

DRILLING FASTENER HOLES:

Safeguard can pre-drill holes in your Anti-slip Cover to assist in fastening. If you choose to drill the Covers in the field, below is a chart with the recommended drill bit sizes for the corresponding screws. In addition to pre-drilled holes in your SAFEGUARD® Cover, pilot holes in the substrate can be helpful during installation.

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<td>#8 x 1” Screw</td>
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Drill Bits: TiAIN (titanium aluminum nitride) drill bits are recommended, especially for stainless steel. Alternatively, solid carbide drills designed specifically for stainless applications could be used.

Countersinking: Due to the low profile of the Safeguard Covers, countersunk holes are limited to the 1/16” Pultruded FRP (Fiberglass) base construction products. It is recommended that countersunk holes are specified prior to manufacturing.

SURFACE PREPARATION

Prior to installing your SAFEGUARD® Antislip Cover, surface preparation is necessary. The extent depends on the condition of the surface (substrate) you are covering, as well as the installation process you intend to use.

MECHANICAL FASTENERS:

In most cases, simply sweeping the surface and removing loose debris is sufficient. Here are some exceptions:

- Raised/Uneven Surfaces – Depending on the severity (more than 1/8”), leveling compound may be needed. Uneven surfaces can make fastening difficult (adhesive impossible) and can cause damage to the Cover over time.

- Chipped Concrete (particularly on leading edge of steps) – Old and damaged concrete that is chipping away requires leveling compound. SAFEGUARD® Covers are not load-bearing and must be fully supported. Gaps under the Cover or unsupported areas will result in damage to the (FRP) fiberglass Cover.

- Steel – Remove existing screw heads

Adhesive:

- Appropriate PPE - Safety Glasses, gloves, and dust mask are suggested.
- Broom and dust pan or ShopVac.
- Tape Measure or Ruler.
- Light grade sandpaper and/or Scotch-Brite Pad (or similar).
- Denatured alcohol or acetone.
- Standard caulking gun used to apply adhesive.
- Nail to puncture seal of adhesive cartridge.
- Paint Scraper.
- Depending on the condition of the surface. Power washer, primer and grinder may be necessary.

What is needed for Installation:

Mechanical fasteners:

- Appropriate PPE - Safety glasses, gloves, dust mask and hearing protection are suggested.
- Broom and dust pan or ShopVac.
- Tape Measure or Ruler.
- Marking utensil or Sharpie™.
- Shop Cloth.
- Variable Speed Drill with the appropriate sized bit TiAIN (titanium aluminum nitride) drill bits are recommended especially for stainless steel. Alternatively, solid carbide drills designed specifically for stainless applications could be used.
- All fasteners (Screws) should feature low profile heads, such as Truss Heads or Pan Heads supplied by Safeguard.
- Socket wrench (for use with Saddle Clip Assemblies over Grating).

Adhesive:

- Appropriate PPE - Safety Glasses, gloves, and dust mask are suggested.
- Broom and dust pan or ShopVac.
- Tape Measure or Ruler.
- Light grade sandpaper and/or Scotch-Brite Pad (or similar).
- Denatured alcohol or acetone.
- Standard caulking gun used to apply adhesive.
- Nail to puncture seal of adhesive cartridge.
- Paint Scraper.
- Depending on the condition of the surface. Power washer, primer and grinder may be necessary.
PILOT HOLE DEPTH:

**CONCRETE:** Drill to the depth of the plastic Sleeve used with the masonry fastener.

*NOTE:* If using Tapcon®, follow the manufacturer’s recommended instructions.

**STEEL:** Drill all the way through the steel or as deep as possible.

**WOOD:** Not necessary. If preferred, drill just to the depth of the screw being used.

**STEEL/FIBERGLASS GRATING:** N/A

OUTDOOR APPLICATIONS & EXPANSION/CONTRACTION:

To compensate for expansion/contraction over outdoor substrates (wood, concrete etc), use 1/8" larger drill bit than size recommended on the chart when drilling holes in your Safeguard® Cover. It is also important to leave a small space between Walkway Covers when assembling a series end to end. A space of approximately 1/8 inch is recommended between sheets.

ADHESIVE & PSA (*Peel & Stick “Pressure Sensitive Adhesive”*):

When using an adhesive, all surfaces must be clean, dry, and dust-free. If the surface has a pre-existing coating, it must be fully bonded to the substrate. If there is peeling or possible delamination, all existing coatings or paints must be removed until the bare substrate is exposed. This may require scraping, grinding or sand blasting.

*NOTE:* If a SAFEGUARD® Cover is adhered to an unstable surface, or one that delaminates from the substrate, the Cover will come off as well.

Once the substrate is clean of loose debris, rust, or coatings, the surface can be wiped with acetone or de-natured alcohol. This will help to eliminate oils* and grease that may inhibit the bond.

Finally, the substrate can be lightly abraded using a Scotch-Brite™ pad or similar type until the surface shine is dulled.

* Surfaces that are exposed to grease or oil may require a degreasing agent or primer. If the substrate is extremely saturated, mechanical fasteners are strongly recommended or a combination of adhesive and mechanical fasteners.

Applying Ladder Rung Covers to Carbon Steel:

1. Thoroughly clean steel rungs to remove any dirt, oil, grease, etc.
2. Abrade to remove any rust.
3. Apply a metal primer followed by high quality industrial coating which does not contain silicone or Teflon.
4. When the topcoat is dry or cured, scuff lightly with sandpaper to remove gloss.
5. Adhesive such as Sikaflex 252 can now be applied.

RECOMMENDED ADHESIVE:

Safeguard carries the Sika line of adhesives. Sikaflex®-252 is a 1-component, moisture cured, polyurethane adhesive with extremely high thixotropy and high strength.

- Bonds and seals at the same time
- One part formulation
- Replaces rivets and mechanical fasteners
- Very high thixotropy for good gap filling properties
- Adhesion to a wide range of substrates
- Short tack free and curing time
- Non-staining curing process
- Initial load-bearing capacity
- Sandable and paintable
- Increases torsional stiffness of final assembly
- Shock/impact resistant
- Vibration and sound damping
- Excellent weather and water resistance
- USDA approved for incidental food contact
INSTALLING YOUR SAFEGUARD ANTIMSLIP COVER WITH MECHANICAL FASTENERS

STEP COVERS OVER WOOD, STEEL & CONCRETE:
To compensate for expansion/contraction over outdoor substrates (wood, concrete etc), use 1/8” larger drill bit than recommended on the chart when drilling holes in your Safeguard® Cover.

1. Prior to drilling, determine placement of Covers (usually centered on the step). It is recommended to start with the top step and work down.
2. SAFEGUARD® Covers are available with pre-drilled holes. If your Covers have pre-drilled holes, skip to STEP #8.
3. Measure from the left stringer and note distance to ensure a consistent alignment of all Step Covers within the stairwell. If you are not covering the entire step, measure from the closest stringer.
4. If your Step Covers do not have pre-drilled holes, position one Step Cover over the substrate and determine the desired location for the screws. There may be impediments that determine where the holes should be drilled: i.e. on wood, there may be spacing between boards.
5. Slide the Step Cover back towards the riser (or rear of step) until the vertical lip hits flush on the leading edge of the step. It is imperative that the leading edge of the Step Cover be fully supported or damage will incur, including cracking of the FRP Cover.
6. Once the position of the drill holes is determined, mark the underside of the Cover with a shop pencil or Sharpie™. Safeguard recommends that pre-drilled holes be at least 1” (25 mm) in from the edge of the Covers to avoid fracturing (FRP).
7. Place Step Cover so that the bottom side is facing up. Always drill from the underside through to the gritted surface. We suggest using a wood plank underneath for support during the drilling operation. Using the appropriate sized drill bit from the Drill Bit Chart (Section 1), pre-drill the holes into the underside of your SAFEGUARD® Cover using the markings you created.
8. You can choose to use this Cover as a template for the entire stairwell when marking pilot hole location. If installing your cover over wood, pilot holes are not necessary. SKIP TO STEP #15.
9. Re-align your Step Cover on the step with the pre-drilled holes in the precise position you want the Cover installed.
10. Pilot Holes - Place a marking device Sharpie™ in the pre-drilled hole and mark the substrate accordingly.
11. Remove the Step Cover.
12. Drill the pilot holes into the marked area on the substrate to the appropriate depth indicated in the “PILOT HOLE DEPTH” guide (Section 1).
13. Using a brush, broom, or ShopVac™, remove the dust and debris caused by the drilling.
14. When using masonry fasteners, once the surface is clear of dust and debris, insert the plastic sleeve into the pilot hole. The top of the insert sleeve should sit flush with the top of the pilot hole.
15. Place the Step Cover over the step taking care to align the pre-drilled holes precisely with the pilot holes. If installing over wood or lack of pilot holes, simply place the Cover in the preferred location on the step.
16. Insert the appropriate screw and Torque¹ until a tight fit/seat is achieved.

¹ Please reference the red “Attention” square on the back of this page for torque recommendations
Installation Guidelines

WALKWAY COVERS OVER WOOD, STEEL & CONCRETE:
NOTE: To compensate for expansion/contraction over outdoor substrates (wood, concrete etc), use 1/8" larger drill bit than size recommended on the chart when drilling holes in your Safeguard® Cover. It is also important to leave a small space between Walkway Covers when assembling a series end to end. A space of approximately 1/4 inch should be left between sheets.

1. Prior to drilling, determine placement of Cover on walkway or landing.
2. SAFEGUARD® Covers are available with pre-drilled holes. If your Covers have pre-drilled holes, skip to STEP # 8.
3. If your Walkway Cover does not have pre-drilled holes, position one Cover over the substrate and determine the desired location for the screws. There may be impediments that determine where the holes should be drilled: i.e. on wood, there may be spacing between boards.
4. Once the position of the drill holes is determined, mark the underside of the Cover with a shop pencil or Sharpie™. Safeguard recommends that pre-drilled holes be at least 1" (25 mm) in from the edge of the Covers to avoid fracturing (FRP).
5. Place Walkway Cover so that the bottom side is facing up. Always drill from the underside through to the gritted surface. We suggest using a wood plank underneath for support during the drilling operation.
6. Using the appropriate sized drill bit from the Drill Bit Chart (Section 1), pre-drill the holes into the underside of your SAFEGUARD® Cover using the markings you created.
7. Re-align your Cover with the pre-drilled holes in the precise position you want the Cover installed.
8. If installing your Cover over wood, pilot holes are not necessary. SKIP TO STEP # 13.
9. Remove the Walkway Cover.
10. Drill the pilot holes to the appropriate depth indicated in the PILOT HOLE DEPTH guide (Section 1).
11. Using a brush, broom, or ShopVac™, remove the dust and debris caused by the drilling.
12. If using masonry fasteners, once the surface is clear of dust and debris, insert the plastic sleeve into the pilot hole. The top of the insert sleeve should sit flush with the top of the pilot hole.
13. Place the Walkway Cover over the area taking care to align the pre-drilled holes precisely with the pilot holes. If installing over wood or there are no pilot holes, simply align the Cover in the desired location.
14. Insert the appropriate screw and Torque¹ until a tight fit/seal is achieved.

WALKWAY COVERS OVER GRATING:
1. Prior to drilling, determine placement of Cover on walkway or landing.
2. Mark drill hole positions on the bottom side of the Walkway Cover. Drill holes should be centrally located between grating bars. Hole positions should be at least 1" (25 mm) in from the edges of the Walkway Cover.
3. Measure drill hole locations from the sides of the Walkway Cover.
4. Place Walkway Cover so that the bottom side is facing up. Always drill from the underside through to the gritted surface. We suggest using a wood plank underneath for support during the drilling operation.
5. Using the appropriate sized drill bit from the Drill Bit Chart (Section 1), pre-drill the holes into the underside of your SAFEGUARD® Cover using the markings you created.
6. Align your Cover with the pre-drilled holes in the precise position you want the Cover installed.
7. Insert bolts into Walkway Cover.
8. From underneath the Walkway or Landing, place the saddle clip, lock washer and then the lock nut on the bolts.
9. Use the socket wrench to hold the locknut under the step.
10. Insert the driver in the bolt head. Slowly tighten the bolt and make sure the saddle clip remains properly positioned on the grating bars.

Warning – Do Not Over Torque!
11. Securely fasten remaining saddle clip assemblies and ensure Walkway Cover is properly installed.

LADDER RUNG COVERS:
Most Ladder Rung Covers are installed using Sikaflex Adhesive however, mechanical fasteners can be used (on large diameter, channel shaped hollow rungs). In the case of Stainless or Galvanized Covers, tack-welding is an option.

PIPE & CABLE COVERS:
1. Prior to drilling, determine placement of Cover.
2. SAFEGUARD® Covers are available with pre-drilled holes. If your Covers have pre-drilled holes, skip to STEP # 6.
3. If your Pipe & Cable Cover does not have pre-drilled holes, position the Cover over the substrate, pipe and/or cable and determine the desired location for the screws. Safeguard recommends that pre-drilled holes be at least 1" in from the edge of the Covers to avoid fracturing (Fiberglass).
4. Once the position of the drill holes is determined, mark the underside of the Cover with a Sharpie™.
5. Using the appropriate sized drill bit from the Drill Bit Chart, pre-drill the holes into the underside of your SAFEGUARD® Cover using the markings you created.
6. Re-align your Pipe & Cable Cover with the pre-drilled holes in the precise position you want the Cover installed.
7. (Pilot Holes) - Place a marking device in the predrilled holes and mark the substrate accordingly.
8. If installing your Cover over wood, pilot holes are not necessary. SKIP TO STEP # 13.
9. Remove the Pipe & Cable Cover.
10. Drill the pilot holes to the appropriate depth indicated in the PILOT HOLE DEPTH guide (Section 1).
11. Using a brush, broom, or ShopVac™, remove the dust and debris caused by the drilling.
12. If using masonry fasteners, once the surface is clear of dust and debris, insert the plastic sleeve into the pilot hole. The top of the insert sleeve should sit flush with the top of the pilot hole.
13. Place the Pipe & Cable Cover over the substrate taking care to align the pre-drilled holes precisely with the pilot holes.
14. Insert the appropriate screw and Torque¹ until a tight fit/seal is achieved. Warning – Do Not Over Torque!

¹ Please reference this red “Attention!“ square for torque recommendations

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INSTALLING YOUR SAFEGUARD ANTI-SLIP COVER WITH ADHESIVE

Safeguard carries and recommends the Sika line of moisture cured urethane adhesives. Refer to the manufacturer's instructions for cure-time relative to the temperature and humidity of your environment. Typically allow 24 hours for the adhesive to cure.

NOTE: Sikaflex 252 is a moisture cured urethane adhesive. The curing process can be accelerated by tamping the substrate with a damp cloth immediately prior to adhering your SAFEGUARD® Cover.

WARNING: Take care to avoid contacting grit surface with adhesive. The adhesive will immediately bond, making removal impossible.

STEP COVERS OVER WOOD, STEEL & CONCRETE:

1. Closely follow the surface preparation instructions for adhesive provided by Safeguard.
2. Determine placement of the Cover (usually centered on the step).
3. Using fine grade sandpaper, lightly abrade the underside of the Cover. This will help in promoting the bond with the adhesive.
4. Insert the cartridge of Sikaflex 252 into a caulking gun and puncture the seal to initiate flow. Follow instructions on cartridge specifying temperature and cure time.
5. Apply a ¾” bead of adhesive to the underside of the cover, around the entire perimeter, 1-2” in from the edges.
6. It is not necessary to apply adhesive to the underside of the vertical lip
7. For Covers exceeding 6” in depth, a vertical lip shaped bead is recommended, lengthwise through the middle of the tread.
8. Position the Cover over the surface in the desired position.
9. Firmly push the Cover with adhesive onto the substrate taking care not to slide the Cover.
10. To seal the Cover and prevent water from seeping underneath, run a bead of adhesive around the perimeter where the Cover and substrate meet.

WALKWAY COVERS OVER WOOD, STEEL & CONCRETE:

1. Closely follow the surface preparation instructions for adhesive provided by Safeguard.
2. Determine placement of the Cover.
3. Using fine grade sandpaper, lightly abrade the underside of the Cover. This will help in promoting the bond with the adhesive.
4. Insert the cartridge of Sikaflex 252 into a caulking gun and puncture the seal to initiate flow. Follow instructions on cartridge specifying temperature and cure time.
5. Apply a ¾” bead of adhesive to the underside of the Cover, around the entire perimeter, 1-2” in from the edges.
6. For large covers, an undersurface shaped bead is recommended through the middle of the Cover from corner to corner.
7. Position the Cover over the surface in the desired position.
8. Firmly push the Cover with adhesive onto the substrate taking care not to slide the Cover.
9. To seal the Cover and prevent water from seeping underneath, run a bead of adhesive around the perimeter where the Cover and substrate meet.

LADDER RUNG COVERS Round & Channel Shaped

Adhesive is the only option when installing SAFEGUARD® Pultruded Fiberglass FRP Ladder Rung Covers.

Tack-welding is the most popular method to install steel Ladder Rung Covers, however, if “Hot Work” is not permitted, adhesive is also an option.

1. Closely follow the surface preparation instructions for adhesive provided by Safeguard.
   Particular attention is necessary for Carbon Steel.
2. Using fine grade sandpaper, lightly abrade the underside of the cover. This will help in promoting the bond with the adhesive.
3. Insert the cartridge of Sikaflex 252 into a caulking gun and puncture the seal to initiate flow. Follow instructions on cartridge specifying temperature and cure time.
4. Start 1” in from one end on the underside of the Cover and apply a ¾” bead of adhesive the length of the Cover, stopping 1” from the opposite end.
5. Position the Cover over the rung in the desired position.
6. Firmly push the Cover with adhesive onto the rung taking care not to slide the Cover.

INSTALLING YOUR SAFEGUARD ANTI-SLIP COVER WITH A COMBINATION OF MECHANICAL FASTENERS & ADHESIVE

Using a combination of mechanical fasteners and adhesive ensures a secure installation of your SAFEGUARD® Antislip Cover. SikaFlex adhesive acts as a sealant, preventing water from penetrating the underside of the Covers. In food processing facilities, SikaFlex is USDA accepted to seal the perimeter of your SAFEGUARD® Cover, keeping moisture and bacteria from forming underneath.

STEP COVERS (OVER WOOD, STEEL & CONCRETE):

Follow Steps 1 -14 for Mechanical Fasteners (Step Covers, Section 2)

15. Closely follow the surface preparation instructions for adhesive provided by Safeguard.
17. Using fine grade sandpaper, lightly abrade the underside of the Cover. This will help in promoting the bond with the adhesive.
18. Insert the cartridge into the caulking gun and puncture the seal to initiate flow. Follow manufacturer's instructions on cartridge specifying temperature and cure time.
19. Apply a ¾” bead of adhesive (i.e. - Sikaflex 252) to the underside of the cover allowing a 1-2” inch bare edge along the perimeter.

Do not apply adhesive over the pre-drilled holes.

20. For Covers exceeding 6” in depth, a shaped bead is recommended, lengthwise through the middle of the tread.
21. Position the Step Cover over the step taking care to align the pre-drilled holes precisely with the pilot holes. Firmly push the Cover with adhesive onto the step surface taking care to not slide the Cover or obstruct the drill holes.
22. Insert the appropriate screw and Torque until a tight fit/seal is achieved.

Do not apply adhesive over the pre-drilled holes.

23. To seal the cover, run a bead of adhesive around the entire perimeter at the edge of the substrate.
WALKWAY COVERS OVER WOOD, STEEL & CONCRETE:

Follow Steps 1 - 12 for Mechanical Fasteners (Walkway Covers, Section 2).

13. Closely follow the surface preparation instructions for adhesive provided by Safeguard.
15. Using fine grade sandpaper, lightly abrade the underside of the Cover. This will help in promoting the bond with the adhesive.
16. Insert the cartridge into the caulking gun and puncture the seal to initiate flow. Follow instructions on cartridge specifying temperature and cure time.
17. Apply a ¾" bead of adhesive (i.e. - Sikaflex 252) to the underside of the Cover allowing a 1-2" inch bare edge along the perimeter. Do not apply adhesive over the pre-drilled holes.
18. For large Covers, an \( \times \) shaped bead is recommended through the middle of the Cover from corner to corner.
19. Position the Walkway Cover taking care to align the pre-drilled holes precisely with the pilot holes. Firmly push the Cover with adhesive onto the surface taking care to not slide the Cover or obstruct the drill holes.
20. Insert the appropriate screw and Torque\(^1\) until a tight fit/seal is achieved.
21. To seal the Cover, run a bead around the entire perimeter at the edge of the substrate.

INSTALLING YOUR SAFEGUARD ANTISLIP COVER WITH PRESSURE-SENSITIVE ADHESIVE

SAFEGUARD® Flexible PVC Vinyl and 1mm FRP Walkway Covers are available with a PSA (Pressure Sensitive Adhesive) laminate.

1. Closely follow the surface preparation instructions for adhesive provided by Safeguard.
2. SAFEGUARD® Flexible PVC Walkway Covers or 1mm FRP Covers with PSA laminate should be at least 50 degrees Fahrenheit or 10 degrees Celsius before installation.
3. For 1mm FRP: Simply peel back the release liner starting at one corner. Slowly lay the Cover in place, pressing firmly as you go. For improved adhesion, use a weighted roller to complete installation
4. For Flexible Vinyl: Begin by peeling back the release liner on one end, exposing a few inches of the Cover with pressure sensitive adhesive. Carefully position the edge of the material with the edge of the area you plan to cover. Once the Cover is in the correct position, slowly and simultaneously, remove the remainder of the release liner while using your other hand to lightly push the Vinyl Cover into place. Take care to avoid air bubbles under the surface. If one appears, carefully pull the Vinyl Cover up and re-apply. For improved adhesion, use a weighted roller to complete installation.

CAUTION: Once the Vinyl or 1mm Fiberglass sheet is adhered to the substrate, it is very difficult to adjust.

\(^1\) Please reference this red “Attention” square for torque recommendations