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Inspecting – Consulting – Expert Witness Services

Have you ever played the game "JENGA"? The word "JENGA" means "to build". The game is played building a tower with small blocks. There are three blocks per level. One block is removed from one level and placed on top of the tower hoping to maintain balance. The tower grows taller as more blocks are removed from various levels and placed on the top creating an increasingly unstable structure. The game ends when a piece falls or the tower collapses.

Installation of flooring is just like the game "JENGA". Remove enough of the building blocks required for a successful flooring installation and the tower will crumble; the floor will fail.










A flooring consultant reflects the complexity of decisions to be made specifying and achieving the right results. A *bona fide "flooring specialist"* concentrates on flooring and floorings' interaction with construction elements and conditions.

Comprehensive Consulting Services

-  **Quality Control** – qualify flooring materials selected are applicable and that installation materials and installation procedures meet appropriate requirements.
-  **Support the Design and Construction Team.**
-  **Moisture testing** - certified - Relative humidity (Rh), Calcium Chloride (MVER), PH
-  **Sound Insulation Systems, Sound Testing (IIC/STC), building envelope and Water Proofing Applications.**
-  **Coefficient of Friction/Slip Resistance Testing**
-  **Evaluation** - of job site conditions.
-  **Review standards** –ANSI guidelines, ASTM procedures, TCNA, MIA, NWFA & NALFA guidelines.
-  **Cost Analysis/Comparison** – meet specification goals cost effectively without sacrifice.
-  **Review and Compare** – qualify variations in bids received and change orders.
-  **Grouting** - recommendations and alternatives.
-  **Maintenance** - overview and exposure for selected flooring materials.

Flooring failures do occur. Floors underperforming expectations or installation issues are possible. Addressing the issues, seeking cause, determining which "blocks" have been removed, while facilitating resolution and remediation is the role of an independent "inspector".

Comprehensive Forensic Inspection Service

-  **Define The Problem & Evaluate.**
-  **Review installation** practices applied and installation materials used.
-  **Review the appropriateness** of the selected flooring material.
-  **Inspect** all relevant areas and surfaces.
-  **Establish a history** for the flooring material and installation process including moisture related issues.
-  **Review standards** - ANSI Guidelines, Tile Council of North America (TCNA), and The Marble Institute.
-  **Review maintenance** procedures and performance.
-  **Supply** a comprehensive report documenting findings and recommendations for resolution
-  **Expert Witness** testimony available for depositions and court testimony.

Statistics indicate 80% of all installations are either improperly installed or incorrect installation materials were used; 20% of those installations fail the first year. What happens after the first year is not documented. Installation failures are time consuming, frustrating, negatively affect reputations, and are costly for all involved! They can be avoided!

"It is less expensive to plan than to repair"

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