

Terms and definitions *

Finished floor height (ffh): Nominal vertical dimension from the specified sub floor level to the specified finished floor level.

Plenum height: distance between the highest point of the sub floor and the lowest point of the underside of the access floor.

Edge trim: Component of the panel, either adhered or mechanically fixed to all four sides to provide protection to the panels and to the floor covering.

Working load: load given by dividing the ultimate load by the safety factor (ultimate load is sometimes called failure load and working load is sometimes called design load as well as nominal load).

Ultimate load: maximum load at the time of failure of the element during the specified ultimate load test procedure.

Collapse: state reached when deflection of the element or panel will continue without further increasing the test load.

Pedestal: vertical component or part of the element which transmits the loading to the subfloor.

Components: parts of access floor elements, e.g. panels, pedestals, stringers, etc.

Deformation: alteration of the shape of a specimen.

Manufacturer's stated panel size: dimension to which the tolerances are applied.

Nominal panel size: theoretical dimension use for commercial description.

Element: kit that consists of one completely fabricated panel supported by pedestals together with other components e.g. stringers, conductive pads, etc. fixed as intended for the finished floor.

Safety factor: the factor by which the ultimate load is divided to establish the working load.

Deflection: movement of tested specimen caused by load expressed as a deviation from the former linear level.

Indentation: movement of the indenter into the specimen surface.

Length of side: overall dimension of any side of a panel.

Panel: load bearing horizontal component of the access floor. It is supported by the under structure (e.g. pedestals and stringers).

Raised access floor: factory made flooring system comprising panels supported on understructure of pedestals, and/or stringers or other components as applicable providing a load bearing structure for the fitting out of a building.

Plenum: available space between the underside of the panels of the access floor and the sub-floor.

Bridging/beam: load bearing component to accommodate situations where pedestals and stringers/beams (if available) cannot be located in their normal positions.

Deviation: difference between a specified dimension or position and the actual dimension or position.

System: assembly of elements forming a complete installed raised access floor.

Stringers: horizontal component connecting pedestals that may support panels (beams).

* European standard EN 12825 : 2001, 3, page 4-6.