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**First time at IBS - DRIcore® Engineered Wood Subfloors:  
The Foundation for a Comfortable Living Space on Concrete**

LAS VEGAS -- DRIcore®, the original engineered wood subfloor system for concrete floors, is now available in the United States and is making its first appearance at the 2004 International Builders' Show here. **(Home Depot Booth # C4393).**

A superior alternative to a conventional wood subfloor on concrete, DRIcore combines quick and easy installation with an innovative moisture management design. With thousands of successful installations in Canada, DRIcore has proven to be the intelligent solution for creating warm, dry and comfortable living spaces in basements or slab-on-grade projects.

The DRIcore subfloor system consists of easy-to-handle 2' x 2' engineered wood panels bonded to a rigid, moisture-resistant polyethylene sheet with raised "cleats." The panels have a precision tongue-and-groove design and are press-fit together with simple tools. DRIcore is a "floating" floor, which means that seams are not nailed or glued, and in most cases, there is no need to anchor the panels to the concrete. As a result, DRIcore can be installed in one-third to one-half of the time of a conventional subfloor.

**Converting a Storage Place into a Living Space**

As homeowners look for ways to expand the useful living space in their homes, those traditional storage spaces -- basements and garages -- frequently present the best options. DRIcore is the ideal foundation for such projects because it has been engineered

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for comfort, durability, versatility and environmental friendliness -- features that will turn utilitarian places into comfortable and stylish living spaces.

Designers who specify DRICore will find that it is a user-friendly material that gives them the flexibility to create the living spaces that their clients envision.

Contractors can install DRICore with confidence because it was invented by a contractor; it has been tested both in the laboratory and in homes, and carries a 25-year warranty.

### **Comfort**

Basements aren't typically known for their comfort, but because DRICore is a wood product, it can make a basement feel more like a main floor living area -- warm, dry and with that little bit of "give" that is characteristic of an "upstairs" wood floor.

The polyethylene cleats on the underside of each DRICore panel lift the finished floor off of the concrete. The resulting airspace between the DRICore and the concrete has an insulating value of R-2. In a heated living area, that is sufficient to make the floor feel six or seven degrees warmer than the concrete floor beneath it.

### **Managing Moisture**

DRICore is an integral component in a moisture management plan that will create a healthy and comfortable basement project -- an important consideration in older homes where there is no vapor barrier under the concrete floor and basement dampness is more common. The cleats on the underside of the DRICore panel create a space between the concrete and the subfloor, which allows the concrete to breathe. Air circulates in the space and dries up moisture that may rise from the ground through the concrete floor. By contrast, conventional subfloors or carpets laid directly on concrete, can trap moisture.

The raised design of the cleats also keeps the wood core from coming into contact with the concrete to prevent long-term moisture damage to the wood. DRICore's engineered wood core allows for uniform expansion and contraction of the panels with normal changes in basement temperature and humidity.

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### **Durability**

DRICore panels are engineered for strength. They are rated at over 5,500 lbs. per sq. ft. -- sturdy enough to support the heaviest furniture, including pianos and pool tables. Tested for extended periods in sauna-like conditions of heat and humidity that far exceed those found in typical basement environments, DRICore panels maintained their shape and did not warp or buckle.

### **Versatility**

DRICore has been tested successfully with a variety of finish floor options, so homeowners can select the finish floor that best matches their lifestyle -- carpet, engineered hardwoods, vinyl or laminate.

In basements where headroom is at a premium, DRICore's thin 7/8-inch profile is a real plus, compared to a conventional subfloor that can reduce headroom by up to five inches.

While basements may be the most obvious use for DRICore, the product is also ideal for indoor slab-on-grade installations -- warming up any living space on concrete -- enclosing a patio, turning a garage into a family room or creating a comfortable, resilient floor around a workbench.

### **Environmentally Friendly**

Laboratory tests have confirmed that DRICore will not support the growth of mold, which is the source of musty odors in basements and may cause respiratory problems for sensitive individuals.

DRICore itself is made of 100 percent recyclable materials, which are safe and non-toxic.

The DRICore engineered subfloor system is a product of DRICore Division, Longlac Wood Industries, a unit of Kruger, Inc. Kruger is a major Canadian pulp and paper producer and a leader in sustainable forest ecosystems and recycling.

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