

# DESIGN & INSTALLATION

Wall

MODULAR WALL  
HEATING AND  
COOLING

Modular Wall



10/2023

PDF



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**VARIOTHERM**

*This is how*



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it's done ...



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# 1 PRINCIPLES

Variotherm recommends a combination of floor, wall and ceiling. In general, walls offer the largest exchange area, which is why wall heating/cooling systems ensure that people can easily feel the radiant heat.

For hot summer days, we recommend wall and/or ceiling cooling. Instead of hot water, cooled water flows through the pipes at a temperature of 16–20 °C. Rooms are cooled to a comfortable temperature, in complete silence and without forced air.

## 1.1 Comfort

Comfort is not only created through a certain air temperature in the room. The temperature of the surfaces enclosing the room is of equal importance. The felt temperature is roughly consistent with the arithmetic mean of both temperatures.

### When does a person feel comfortable?

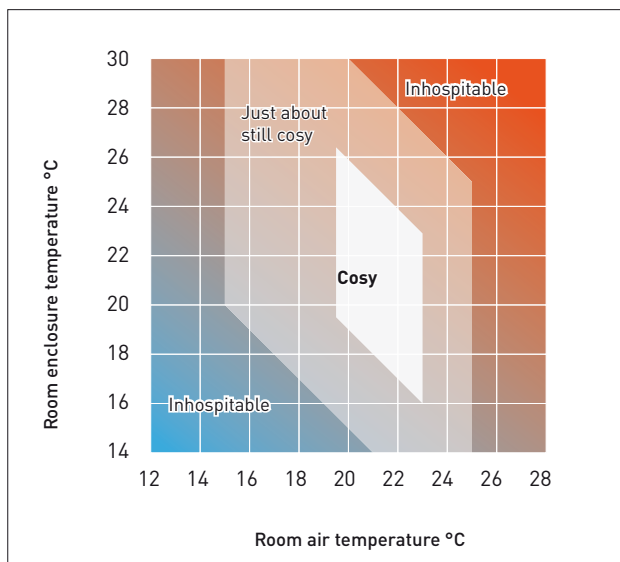
A person only feels comfortable when the basic equation of "thermal comfort" is optimally fulfilled:

$$\text{heat generation} = \text{heat emission}$$

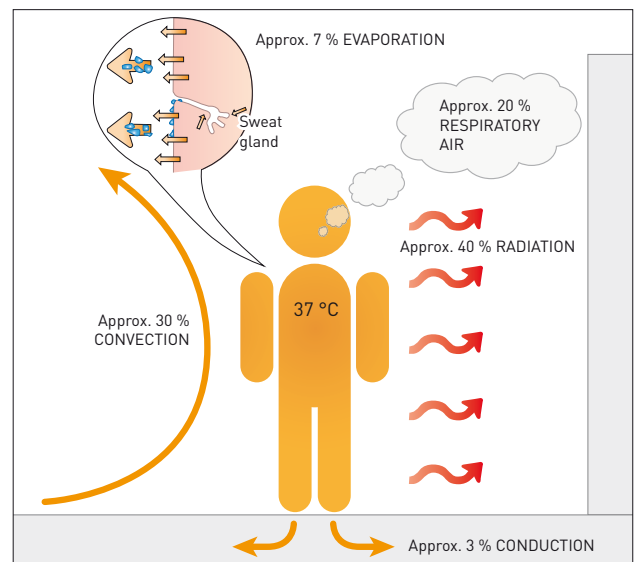
	Heating	Cooling
Ceiling	++	+++
Wall	+++	+++
Floor	++	+

▲ Which system areas are suitable for which needs?

Heat  
production  
=  
heat  
loss



▲ Zone of cosiness



▲ Human heat balance



In this context, it is important that heat loss from the human body is as evenly distributed in all directions as possible. We feel uncomfortable if too much heat is lost in one particular direction (e.g. cold surfaces, draughts) or the heat loss is prevented in one direction (hot surfaces or vapour-tight, thick clothing).

The lower the inside air temperature is, the warmer the surrounding surfaces (wall surfaces, floor and ceiling, as well as doors and windows) must be to ensure cosiness.

Compared to other heating systems, the Modular Wall significantly increase cosiness. The installation of surface heating on the inside of the exterior wall, especially under windows, can largely cancel out the unpleasant effects from the radiation exchange between your body and cold exterior walls and windows. You can set the room temperature lower than you would with convection heating, since radiant heat raises the perceived air temperature.

## 1.2 Energy savings

A lowered room air temperature along with increased cosiness significantly minimises energy losses. The approximate heating cost savings per 1 °C lower room air temperature are approx. 6 %. The low room air temperature has the additional great physiological advantage of significantly increasing the absorption of oxygen in the body.

The wall heating system is ideal for use with low-temperature energy sources such as condensing boilers, heat pumps and solar collectors because it operates with low surface and heating medium temperatures.

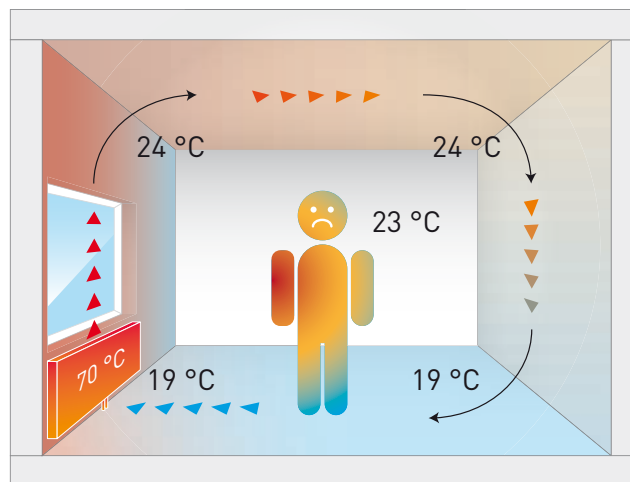
With Variotherm wall heating you can achieve energy savings of up to 30 % compared to conventional heating systems.

## 1.3 Planning freedom

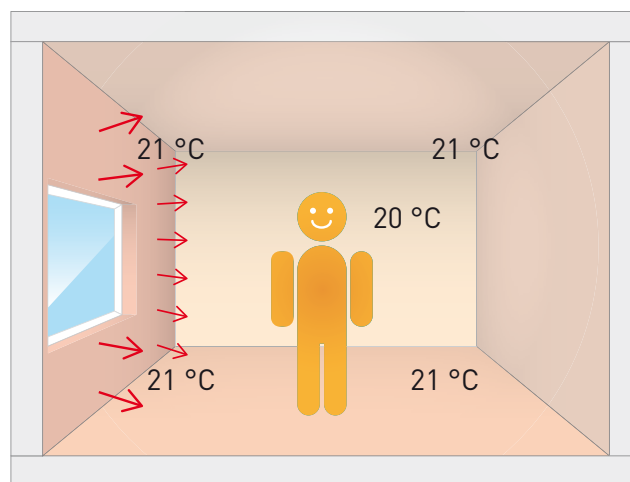
The Variotherm modular wall heating surfaces can be individually adapted to suit the local situation (windows, doors etc.). Visible radiators under the windows are a thing of the past.

## 1.4 Cooling

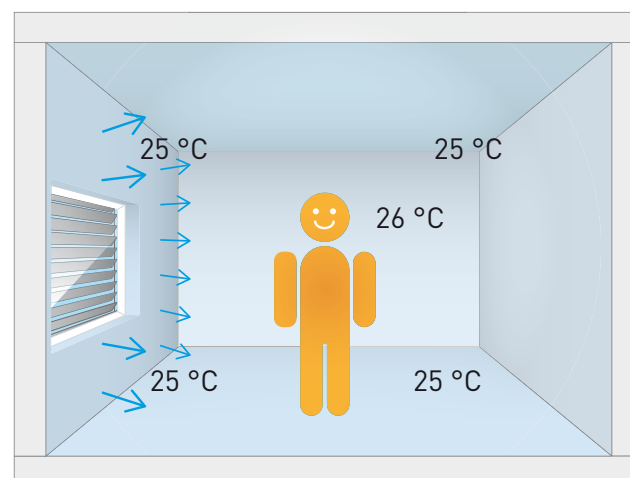
One reason for the frequent lack of satisfaction with air-conditioning systems is the inadequacy of the thermal ambient conditions in the air-conditioned rooms. Most frequently mentioned is the presence of uncomfortable forced air. Cooling via wall surfaces offers the advantage of gentle radiation exchange between the cooled wall surface and the human body. In addition, the room temperature is reduced to a comfortable level.



▲ Discomfort with radiators



▲ Comfort with wall heating



▲ Comfort with wall cooling

### Effects of surface cooling on the room

When a wall surface is cooled, all warmer objects in the room (floor, interior walls, people, equipment, etc.) radiate heat into this cooled surface. This loss of heat through radiation leads to a reduction in the surface temperature of these objects, thus providing a cooling effect. The ambient air in the room is also cooled to a comfortable level.

### Cooling mode

Based on experience, cooling makes sense at a room temperature  $\geq 26^\circ\text{C}$ . To achieve a noticeable effect and suitably cool the body, a reduction of the wall surface temperature to approx.  $19\text{--}22^\circ\text{C}$  is recommended.

### Economy

The necessary cooling performance can be better distributed with water than with air. The pumping costs for surface cooling systems are usually significantly lower than the costs incurred by using fans. A 100 percent coverage of the cooling load, as per VDI 2078 (calculation of the cooling load for air-conditioned rooms), is possible in buildings designed for low energy consumption with shadowing equipment and low internal loads.

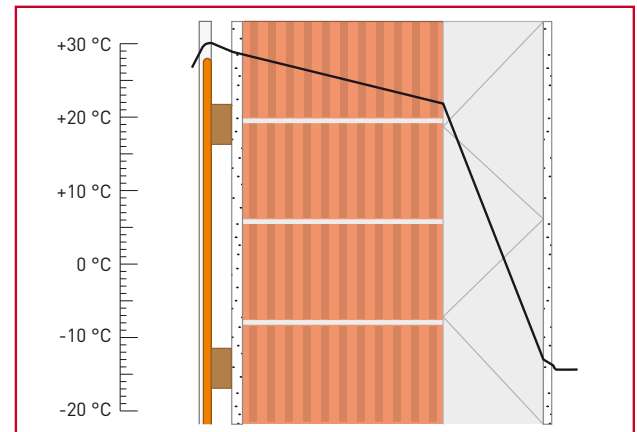
One of the major advantages of wall cooling/heating systems is the low additional investment costs. A single system is used for the cooling and heating modes: the same wall surface, same piping system and the same heating/cooling distribution manifold with supply lines and circulation pump. The generation of cooling (chiller/heat pump/cooling from the floor and ground water) is planned in parallel to the heating unit. Many modern heat pumps already allow switching from heating to cooling mode – without major extra costs. Ambient sources of cooling (deep boreholes, ground collectors, wells ...) can also be used – at zero cost.

### Combination of displacement ventilation and surface cooling

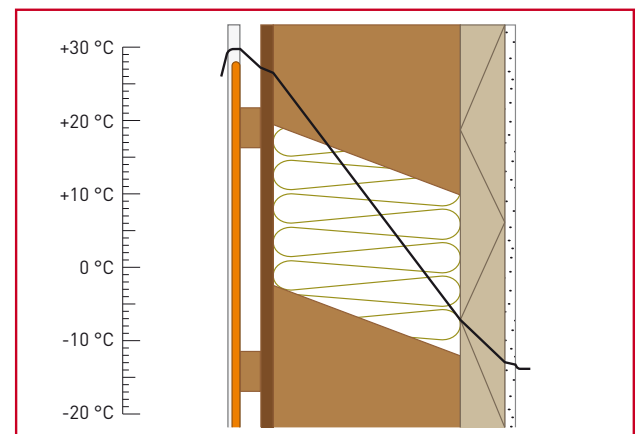
Surface cooling does not replace an air-conditioning system with regard to dehumidification and ventilation. Displacement ventilation is an air-conditioning system with low air exhaust speeds and laminar flow of the escaping air at the exhaust vents. Low turbulence in the air flow through the room is achieved through the type of ducting in the room, blowing of air at floor level at a slightly subnormal temperature and extraction of the exhaust air at the ceiling level. This type of displacement flow, known as “displacement ventilation” can achieve almost complete freedom from draughts. The combination of wall cooling and displacement ventilation allows significantly higher cooling performance to be achieved compared to using only a displacement ventilation system, without exceeding thermally comfortable air speeds. If the supplied air is dehumidified then low wall surface temperatures, and thus high radiant cooling performance, can be achieved without the formation of condensation, even on hot and humid days.

## 1.5 Temperature variations/wall structure

Various different wall fittings at a wall surface temperature of  $30^\circ\text{C}$  and a standard outdoor (air) temperature of  $-14^\circ\text{C}$



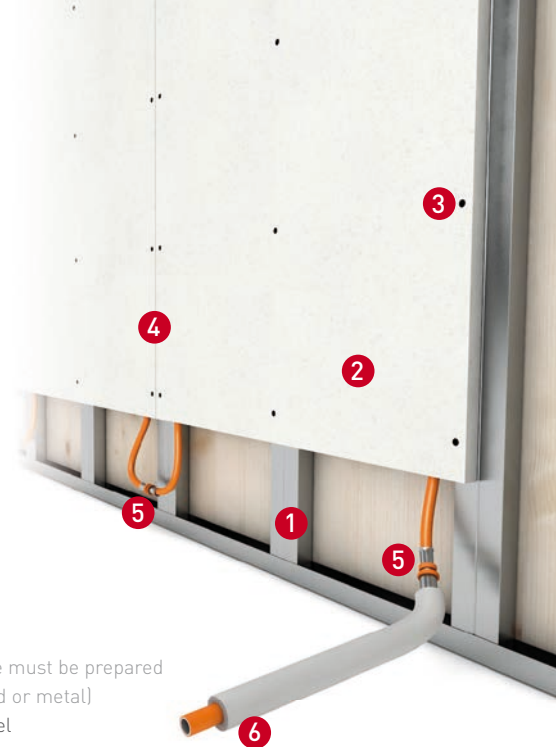
- ▲ Example with solid brick, structure from the inside out:
  - Modular Wall
  - recessed formwork/installation level
  - 300 mm vertically perforated brick
  - 160 mm thermal insulation
  - exterior plaster/coat of paint



- ▲ Example with timber frame construction (diffusion-open), structure from the inside out:
  - Modular Wall
  - recessed formwork/installation level
  - OSB4 18 mm (sealed airtight)
  - 240 mm timber frame and cellulose insulation
  - 60 mm wood insulating fibreboards
  - exterior plaster/coat of paint

# Advantages Modular Wall

- › Heating, cooling and finished wall all in one!
- › Ideal for timber-framed buildings, pre-fabricated houses, attics and renovation
- › Heating system: large-surface, extremely energy-saving low temperature system
- › Cooling system: silent, no draughts, energy-efficient
- › A totally flexible panel system: fulfils all building requirements
- › Gypsum fibreboards and components which have been tested for their healthy building properties
- › Fire protection assessment (IBS Linz)



- 1 Substructure must be prepared on-site (wood or metal)
- 2 ModularPanel
- 3 Dry wall screw
- 4 Joint adhesive
- 5 Press-fit couplings
- 6 Pre-insulated VarioModular pipe 16x2

## 1.6 Description and advantages of the Modular Wall

The Variotherm Modular Wall is an extremely energy efficient heating and cooling system. As a flexible panel system, it is pre-assembled for installation in walls and pitched ceilings. Here, heating, cooling and complete wall are perfectly combined in a single product. The desired room temperature is achieved by using hot and cold water circulation to make sure you feel completely comfortable all year round.





# 2 PREPARATION

## 2.1 Warranty conditions

If installed or commissioned incorrectly, all claims on the basis of the manufacturer's warranty and guarantee become void.

This brochure (version dated 10/2023) is intended for authorised qualified personnel and constitutes part of our warranty!

All previous versions become invalid upon release of a new version! For the latest version please refer to the QR Code on the title page or [www.variotherm.com](http://www.variotherm.com).

Local, geographic and climatic regulations/standards for cooling, heating and electrical installations must be observed!

## 2.2 Information on standards

The validity of the standards referred to in these installation instructions was last checked on 16.02.2023. If necessary, amendments to standards must be checked.

## 2.3 Fire protection

With respect to fire protection, the Variotherm ModularPanels 18 mm with integrated VarioModular pipes are equivalent to a 12.5 mm FERMACELL gypsum fibre board without pipes (Test IBS-Linz No. VFA2001-0389.01, fire protection assessment file number 10111710). Please observe the relevant FERMACELL regulation and FERMACELL fire protection assessments. The Variotherm acoustic ModularPanels provide no fire protection! See also Chapter 4.

## 2.4 Load bearing walls

Caution: With load bearing wall construction the Variotherm ModularPanels must not carry any static ceiling loads and must not be used for building reinforcement.

## 2.5 Transport/storage of goods

### Pre-insulated VarioModular pipes

Leave the VarioModular pipes in the box as long as possible to avoid damage from dents and scratches. Damage of this kind has a detrimental effect on the creep behaviour.

The VarioModular pipes can be damaged by both atmospheric oxygen and UV rays and must not be stored outdoors.

At low temperatures ( $\leq 5^\circ\text{C}$ ), the VarioModular pipe should be stored in heated rooms prior to processing.

### VarioModular 11.6x1.5 pipe

The VarioModular pipe is completely integrated in the ModularPanel.

To prevent the integrated VarioModular pipes being damaged during the construction phase by drilling or breaking work, clearly-visible warning labels must be affixed at appropriate points. Download in Infocenter at [www.variotherm.com](http://www.variotherm.com).

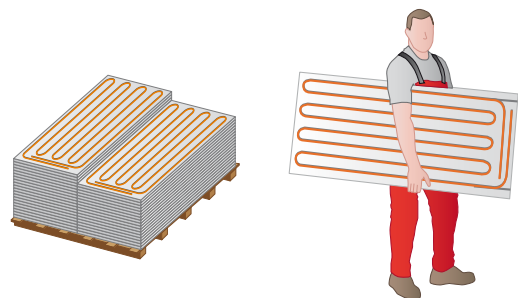
In terms of weather resistance, the same instructions apply to the VarioModular 11.6x1.5 pipe as to the pre-insulated VarioModular 16x2 pipe.

### ModularPanels

The ModularPanels are delivered on pallets. When storing, observe the load-bearing capacity of the storage location. The ModularPanels weigh  $20.5\text{ kg/m}^2$  and should always be stored flat on a level surface. If they are re-stacked during transport on the building site, the visible sides of the ModularPanels should be laid so that they face downwards.

They must be protected from moisture, especially rain. Panels that have become damp for a short time may only be handled after they have completely dried out.

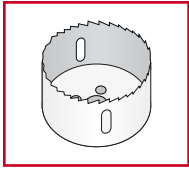
Storing the panels vertically leads to deformation and damage to the edges. Transporting the panels horizontally within the building is possible using a pallet truck or other panel transport vehicle.



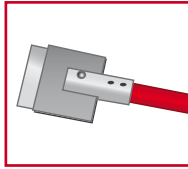
▲ It is best to carry individual ModularPanels vertically

## 2.6 Tools

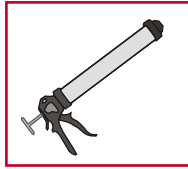
Tools (on site) required/recommended for the installation work:



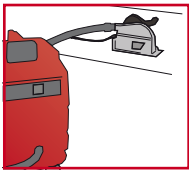
Hole saw



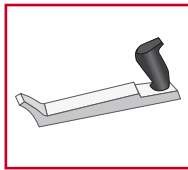
Adhesive scraper



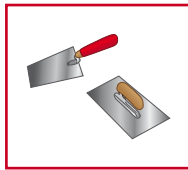
Cartridge gun



Circular saw or jigsaw



Plane for visible edges



Trowel and plastering knife



Power screw gun, preferable with latching depth stop



Clean buckets

## 2.8 Humidity

During storage, assembly and further processing of the ModularPanels, as well as construction phase and use of the building, the relative humidity must not exceed 70%. Wet plaster and wet coats of paint must be put on and left to dry before the ModularPanels are installed. The ModularPanels may be installed in rooms up to humidity class W3 in accordance with ÖN B 3407 (or W1-I in accordance with DIN 18534-1).

## 2.9 Maximum flow temperature and dew point

Heating: The maximum flow temperature of the ModularPanels is 50 °C.

Cooling: The flow temperature must be selected in such a way or it must be ensured that the surface temperature of the ModularPanel (room-side and cavity) and the pipe never reaches or falls below the dew-point temperature at any point. Condensation can form on the pipes and surfaces if the flow temperature selected is too low. Control measures must be taken to prevent this (e.g. dew-point monitor, see Chapter 5.5).

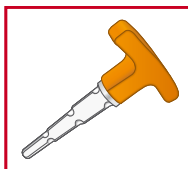
## 2.10 Other work documents

Please also observe the latest FERMACELL planning and installation instructions! [www.fermacell.com](http://www.fermacell.com)

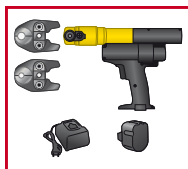
Variotherm tools for connecting the Variotherm pipes:



Pipe cutting pliers



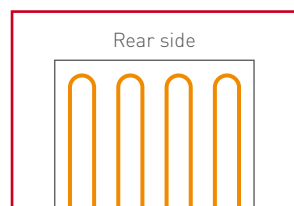
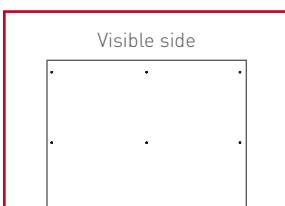
Calibration and chamfering tool



Pressing tool

## 2.7 Visible side/rear side of the ModularPanel

The visible side of the ModularPanel (the smooth side) faces into the room and the rear side (with the integrated Variomodular pipe) faces the substructure.



# 3 SUBSTRUCTURE

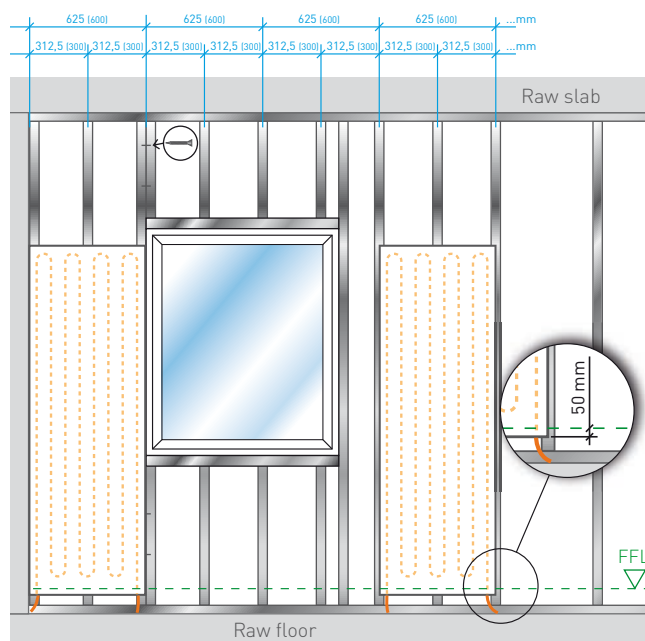
## 3.1 General

Depending on the requirements, substructures are made of wood and/or metal, with or without surface planking, cavity insulation and vapour retarders (vapour barriers). Please observe the planning and installation guidelines of the manufacturer of the wooden or drywall system used for your wall and pitched roof ceiling construction.

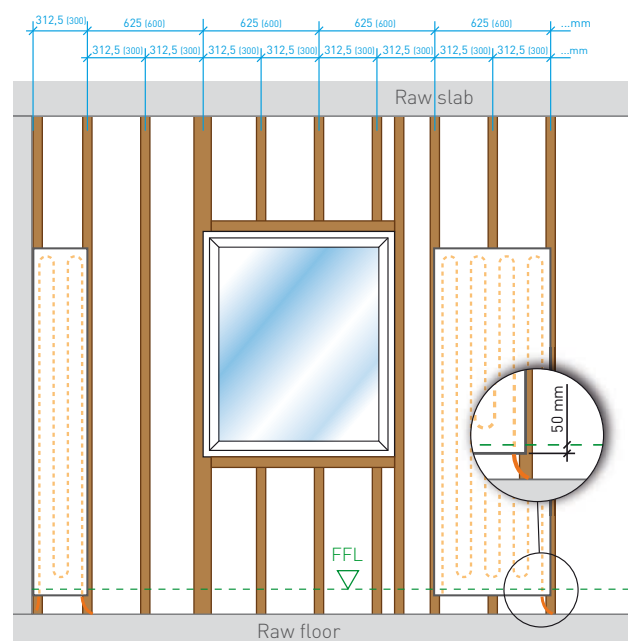
- › With wooden constructions, the timber used must be sufficiently dry and straight, and conform to the Austrian standard EN 338 (sorting class C24)
- › With metal constructions, the profiles must be made of soft, non-alloyed steel with double-sided galvanising of at least 100 g/m<sup>2</sup> according to the ÖNORM DIN 18182-1
- › Before installing the ModularPanels it must be ensured that the construction is designed to carry the weight of the ModularPanels (20.5 kg/m<sup>2</sup>) and any eventual cladding (tiles)
- › Do not glue the ModularPanels directly to solid wall structures (plaster)

## 3.2 Vertical stud construction (standard variant)

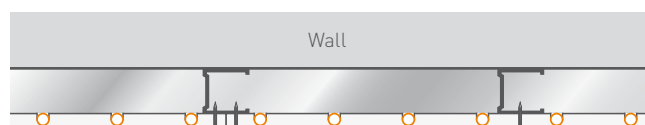
Substructure with wooden or metal profiles, with or without insulation as required. With larger existing stud clearances, extra vertical studs are used at the intended heating/cooling surfaces. Stud spacing: 312.5 mm (panel thickness of 625 mm) or 300 mm (for panel thickness of 600 mm).



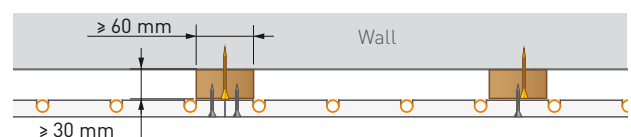
▲ Example of CW stud construction



▲ Example of wooden stud construction



▲ Section through a CW/UW profile metal substructure, without cavity insulation.



▲ Section through a softwood wooden substructure, without cavity insulation.

FFL ... Finished Floor Level



### 3.3 Full-surface FERMACELL planking

Under the following conditions, the ModularPanels can be screwed directly to the full-surface FERMACELL planking:

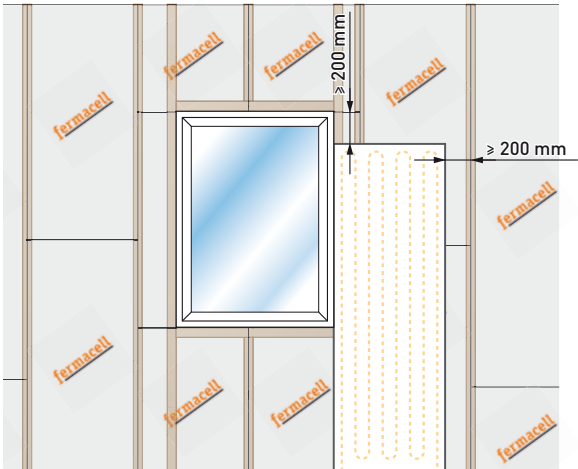
- › The substructure is fully planked with FERMACELL panels (minimum thickness 12.5 mm).
- › The stud clearance of the FERMACELL substructure corresponds to the values in the table:

Application area/ Construction type	Max. stud clearances of the substructure in mm for the following thicknesses of FERMACELL panels <sup>1</sup>		
	12.5 mm	15 mm	18 mm
Vertical surfaces (partition walls, wall cladding, single wall panels)	625 mm	750 mm	900 mm
Pitched roof ceiling cladding (10–50° pitch)	420 mm	500 mm	550 mm

<sup>1</sup> Limiting conditions:  
In the case of fire protection requirements, the specifications of the test verification/certification should be observed.  
Not possible in rooms where use results in constant high humidity (wet rooms etc.)

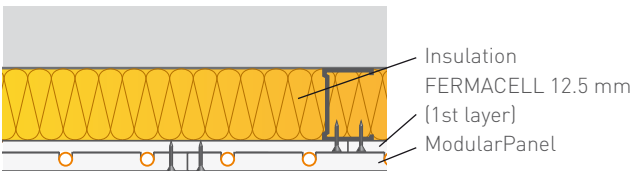
#### Caution:

- › Ensure a minimum seam offset of 200 mm to the FERMACELL planking.
- › Avoid cross joints.
- › With multi-layer Fermacell planking only the ModularPanels (last layer) are glued and stopped.

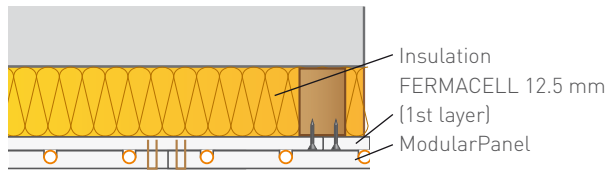


The ModularPanels are attached directly to the FERMACELL planking (minimum panel thickness of the first layer: 12.5 mm) with the following fasteners:

- Dry wall screw
  - › See table on page 18 for the number of screws
- Straddle staples
  - › Galvanised and treated with resin
  - › Wire diameter ≥ 1.5 mm
  - › Saddle width: ≥ 10 mm
  - › Leg length 2-3 mm shorter than the thickness of both panel layers (ModularPanel + FERMACELL panel)
  - › Distance between staples: max. 150 mm
  - › Distance between rows of staples: as fastening area

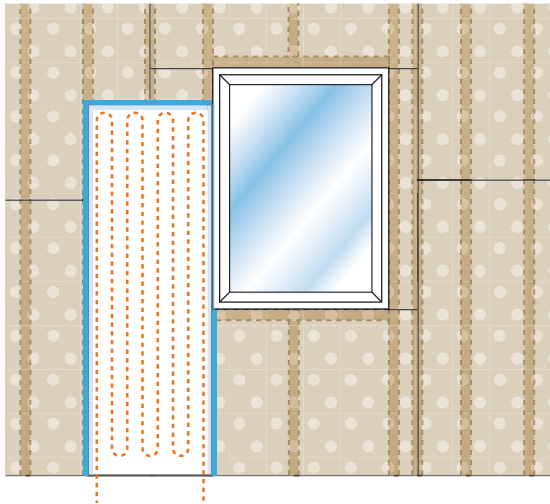


Section through a CW/UW profile **metal construction**, single-sided with **12.5 mm thick FERMACELL** panels, single-layer planking with cavity insulation and installed ModularPanel (**screwed**).



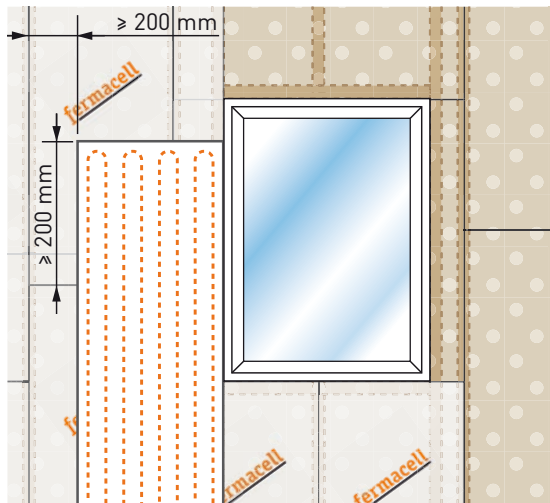
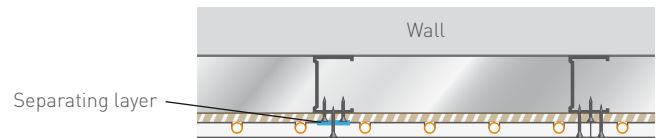
Section through a **softwood wooden construction**, single-sided with **12.5 mm thick FERMACELL** panels, single-layer planking with cavity insulation and installed ModularPanel (**clip fasteners**).

### 3.4 Full-surface plasterboard planking



The lack of screw retention strength in the plasterboard panels means that the ModularPanels can only be directly fastened to the underlying stud construction with offset seams. A separating layer (adhesive tape) is always inserted in the glued seam area.

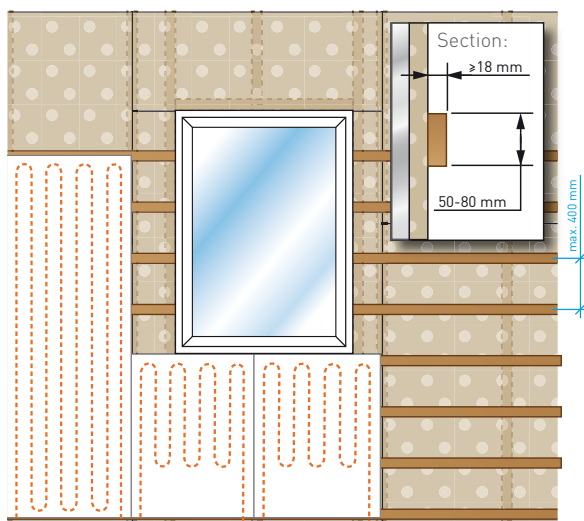
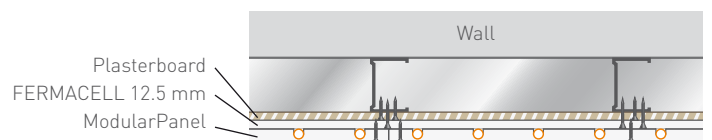
The stud clearance of the plasterboard stud construction must be as specified in section 3.2 (stud clearance of 312.5 mm).



If the substructure can no longer be changed, appropriately thick FERMACELL panels (see table in chapter 3.3) are screwed to the stud construction behind the plasterboard planking.

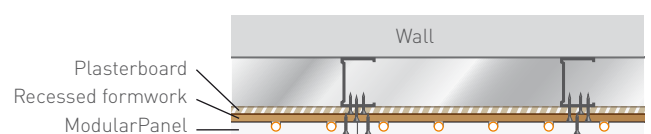
The seams of the FERMACELL planking are not glued or stopped.

**See section 3.3 on fastening the ModularPanels to the FERMACELL planking!**



If the substructure is also unsuitable for full-surface FERMACELL planking, additional horizontal battens (recessed formwork) are screwed to the underlying stud construction instead.

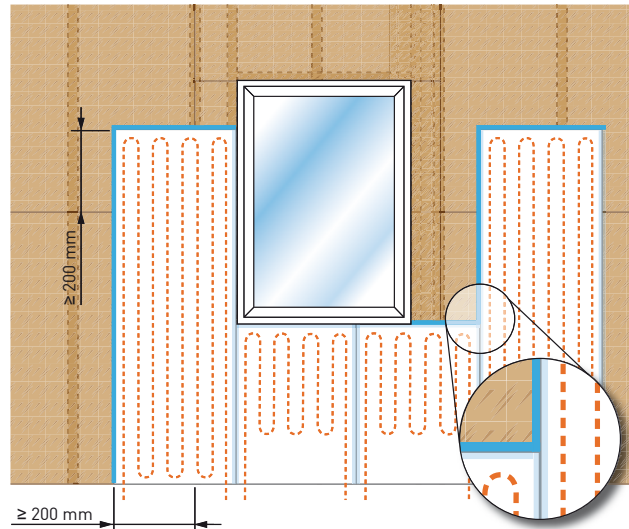
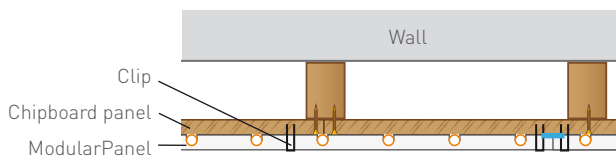
**See section 3.6 for information on installing the recessed formwork and fastening the ModularPanels!**



### 3.5 Full cladding or chipboard panel planking

Chipboard panels and ModularPanels (FERMACELL gypsum fibreboards) have different expansion and contraction behaviour under climatic fluctuations. The fastening variants described below can be recommended when the chipboard panels are not subjected to moisture loads. Caution:

- › Ensure a minimum seam offset of 200 mm to the planking.
- › Avoid cross joints.
- › A separating layer (adhesive tape) is always inserted into the glued seam area.



The ModularPanels are installed with the following straddle staples:

- › Galvanised and treated with resin
- › Wire diameter  $\geq 1.5$  mm
- › Saddle width:  $\geq 10$  mm
- › Leg length 2–3 mm shorter than the thickness of both panel layers
- › Distance between staples: max. 150 mm
- › Distance between rows of staples: as fastening area (see page 19)

The ModularPanels can alternatively be screwed to the planking (special case):

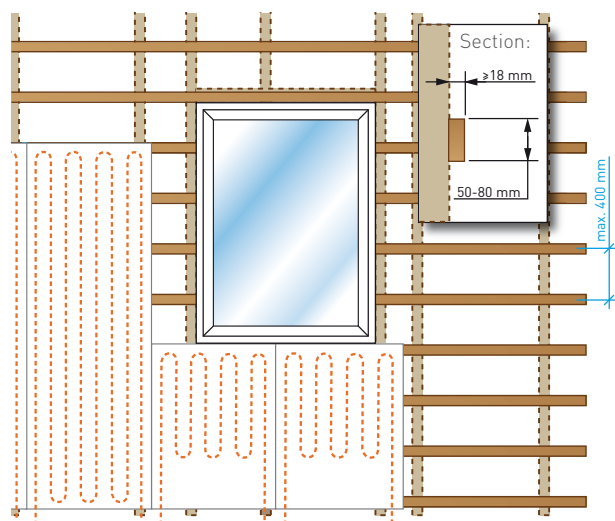
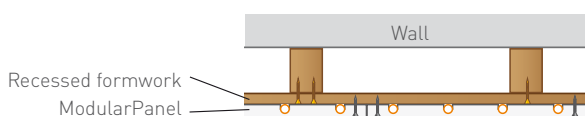
With chipboard panels having expansion and contraction values of max. 0.02 % (for changes to the material moisture of 1 % below the fibre saturation) the Modular Panels can also be screwed to the planking. According to DIN EN 1995 Table NA.7 this includes plywood, cross-laminated timber and OSB/4 panels. In this case it is important that the panels have adjusted to the relative humidity of the working climate. The humidity during installation, construction and used of the building must be 30–65 %.

### 3.6 Recessed formwork/horizontal battens

Extra recessed formwork is installed if the substructure does not have the correct batten clearance (300 or 312.5 mm). Horizontal wooden battens and ModularPanels have different expansion and contraction behaviour.

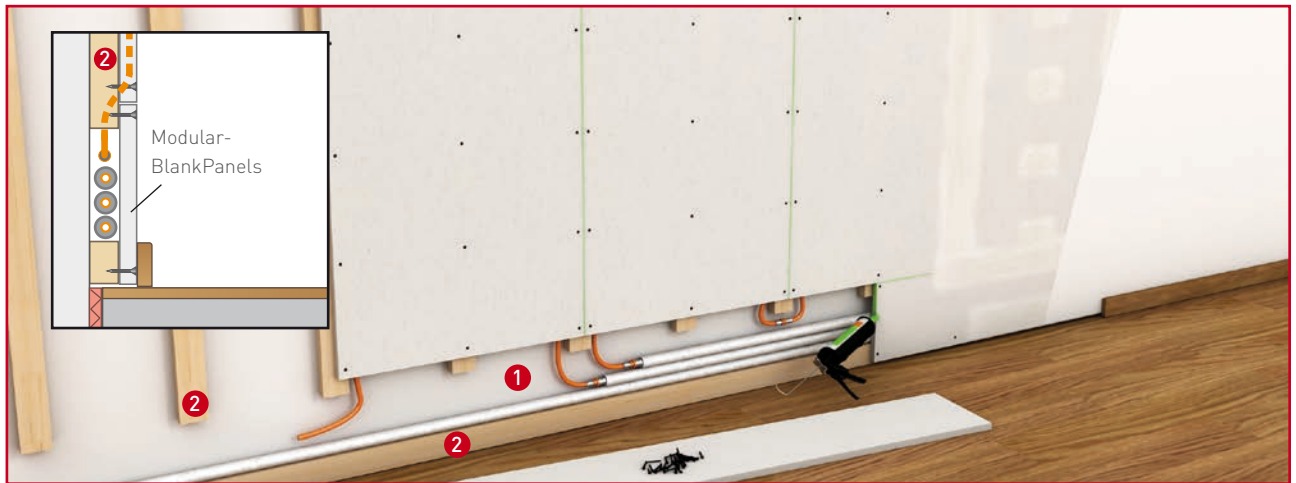
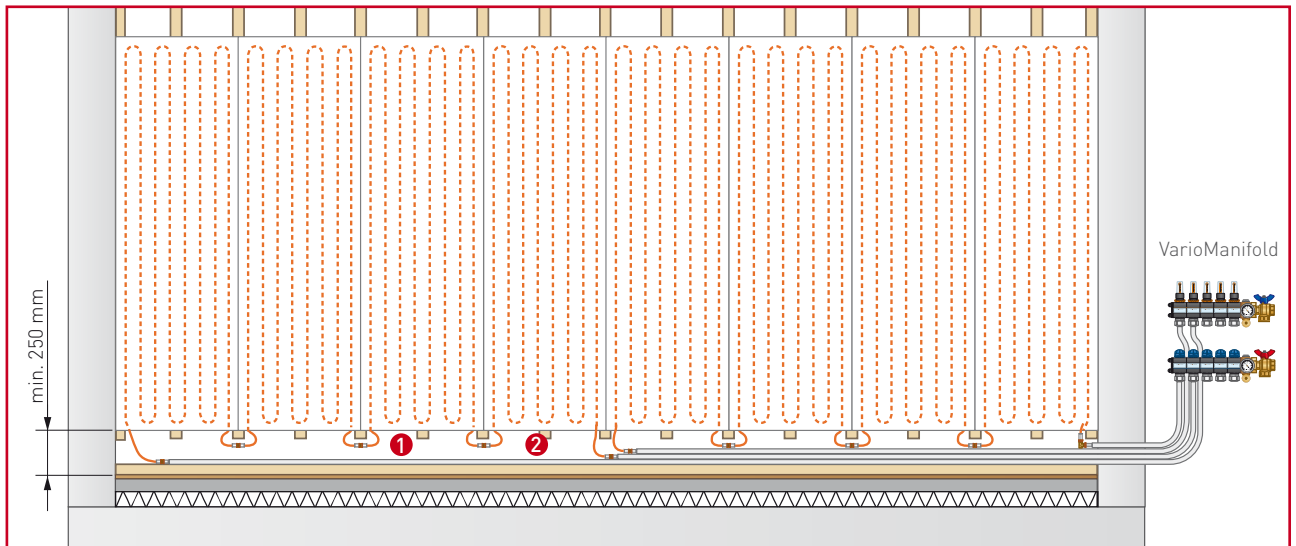
Batten guidelines (recessed formwork):

- › Height: 50–80 mm
- › Thickness: min. 18 mm
- › Stud clearance: max. 400 mm, see page 19

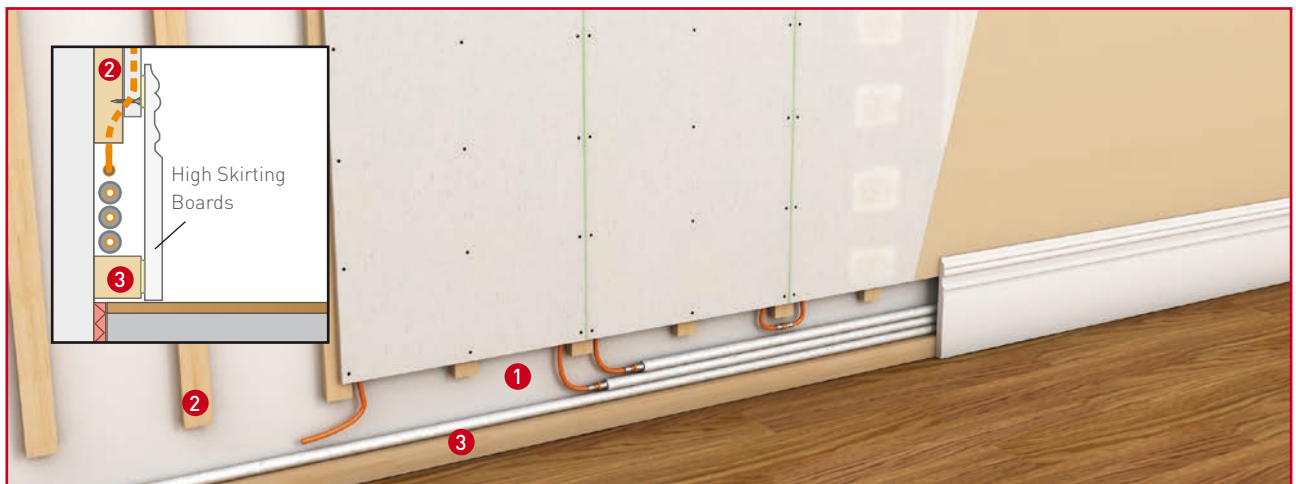




### 3.7 Substructure variant for existing floors



▲ Variant with ModularBlankPanels for closing the pipe area



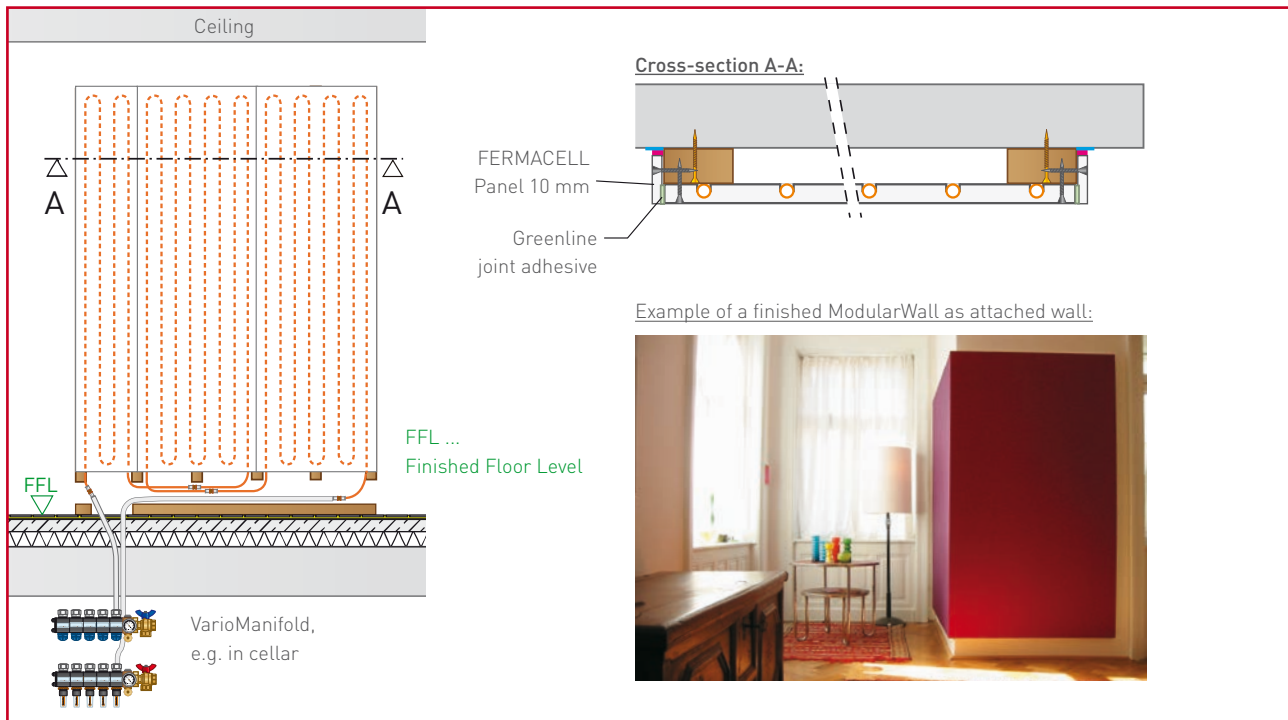
▲ Variant with High Skirting Board for closing the pipe area

① Space for press-fit couplings and supply pipes. Planking with ModularBlankPanels or High Skirting Board

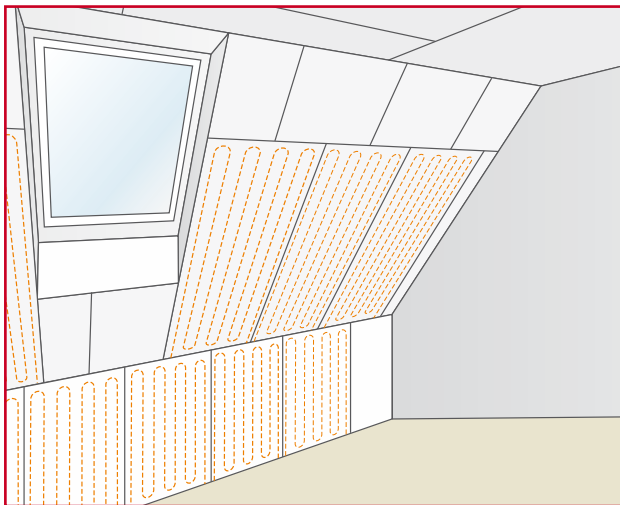
② Battens e. g. 60×30 mm

③ Battens e. g. 48×48 mm

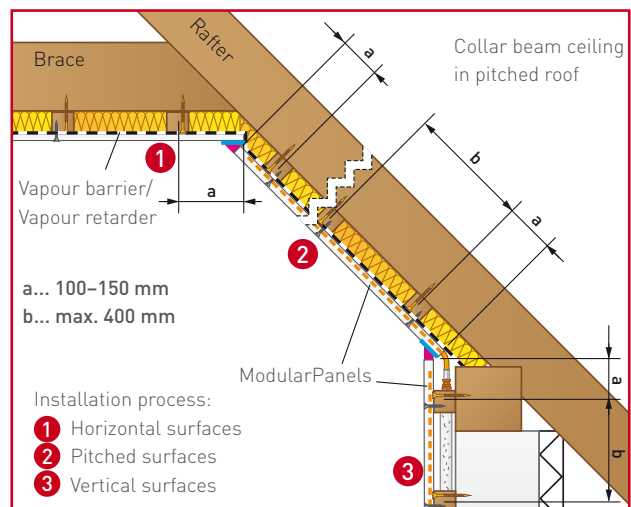
Variant as facing wall:



### 3.8 Pitched roof substructure

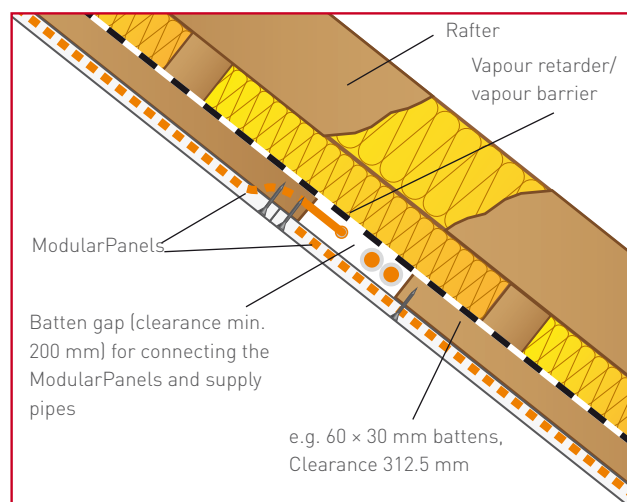


For a pitched roof, the same substructure possibilities apply as for walls.



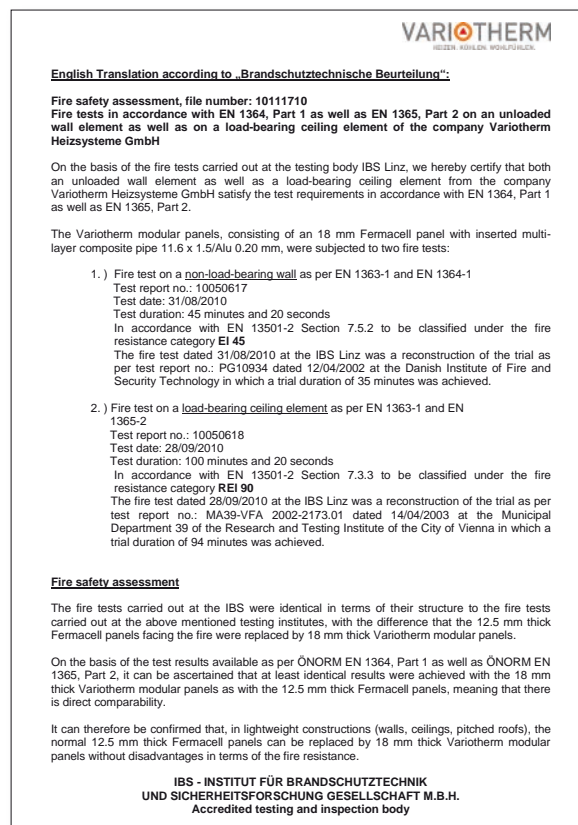
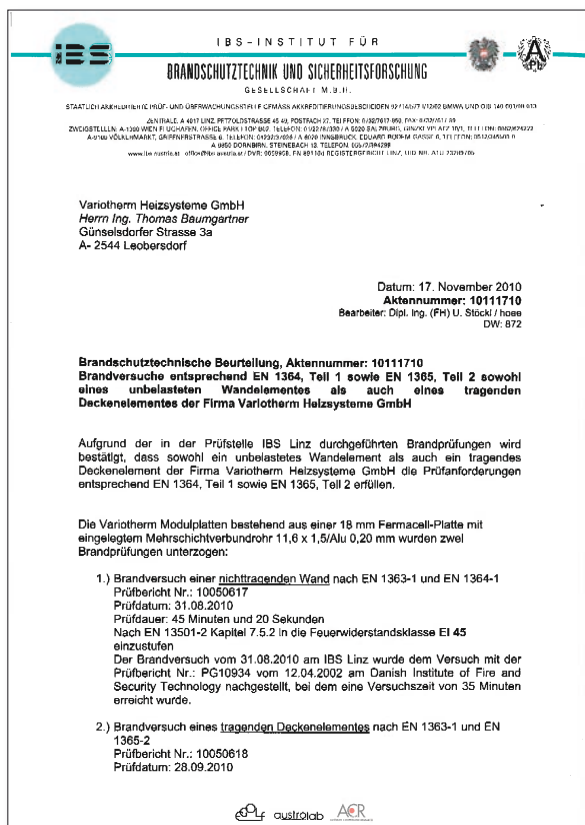
Cross-section – horizontal battens

When two ModularPanels are abutted above each other in a pitched roof then additional vertical battens for the supply pipes are absolutely necessary! >>

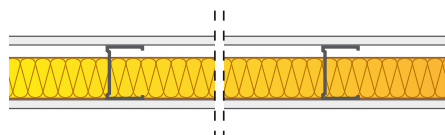


## 4 FIRE PROTECTION

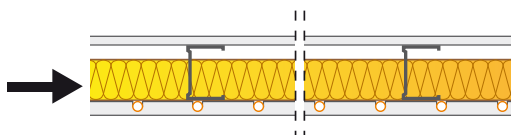
The **Variotherm ModularPanels 18 mm** with integrated **VarioModular pipes** are equivalent to a **12.5 mm FERMACELL gypsum fibre board without pipes** (Test IBS-Linz No. VFA2001-0389.01, fire protection assessment file number 10111710). Please observe the relevant FERMACELL regulation and FERMACELL fire protection assessments.



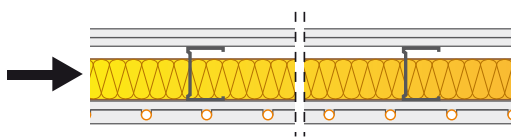
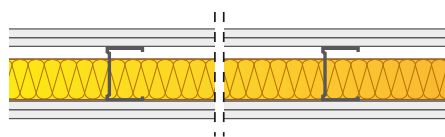
## Examples of fire protection fittings



wall structure with 12.5 mm  
Fermacell gypsum fibreboards



with Variotherm ModularPanel



Fire resistance as per ÖN EN  
13501-2: **EI 60\***

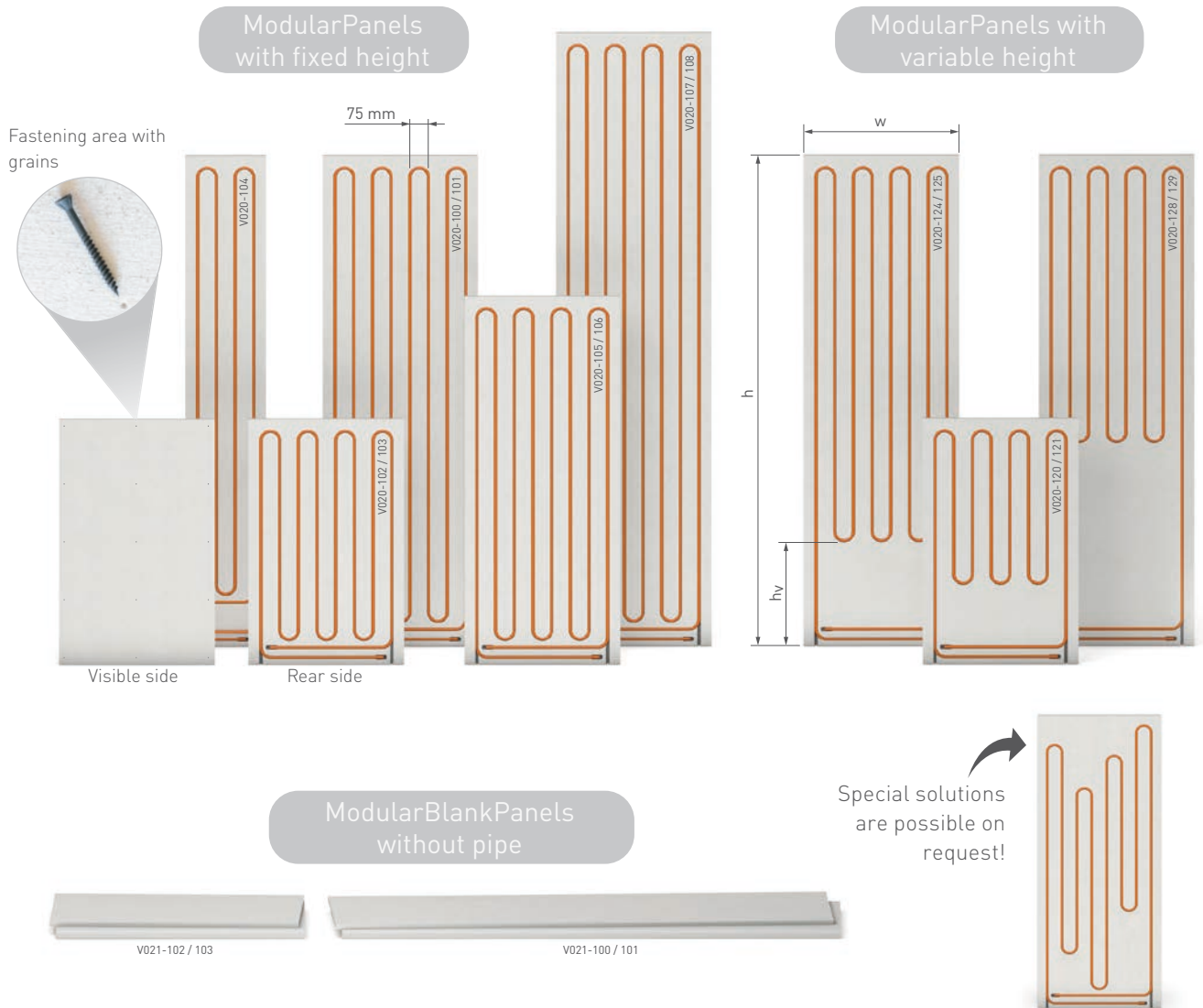
Fire resistance as per ÖN EN 13501-2: **EI 90\***

\* For details regarding wall fittings, please refer to the Fermacell planning documents.



# 5 COMPONENTS

## 5.1 ModularPanels / ModularBlankPanels - Overview



The ModularPanels are 18 mm thick, environmentally safe-tested gypsum fibreboards. The VarioModular 11.6x1.5 pipes are already integrated in the back of the panels. The axis clearance of the pipes is 75 or 105 mm

Panels with either fixed or variable height are available:  
**Fixed height:** The entire surface of the ModularPanel is laid with pipes and serves as a heating/cooling surface.  
**Variable height:** Only part of the panel is laid with pipes and serves as a heating/cooling surface, the unused area (h<sub>v</sub>) can be cut to size individually or, for example, be used as a recess for sockets.

### Panel technical data:

**Panel:** Building biology tested gypsum fibre board

**Fire resistance as per EN 13501-1:**

non-flammable, A2

**Identification as per EN 15283-2:**

GF-I-W2-C1

**Thermal conductivity  $\lambda$ :** 0.32 W/mK

**Apparent density  $\rho_K$ :** 1150 ± 50 kg/m<sup>3</sup>

**Water vapour diffusion**

**resistance factor  $\mu$ :** 13



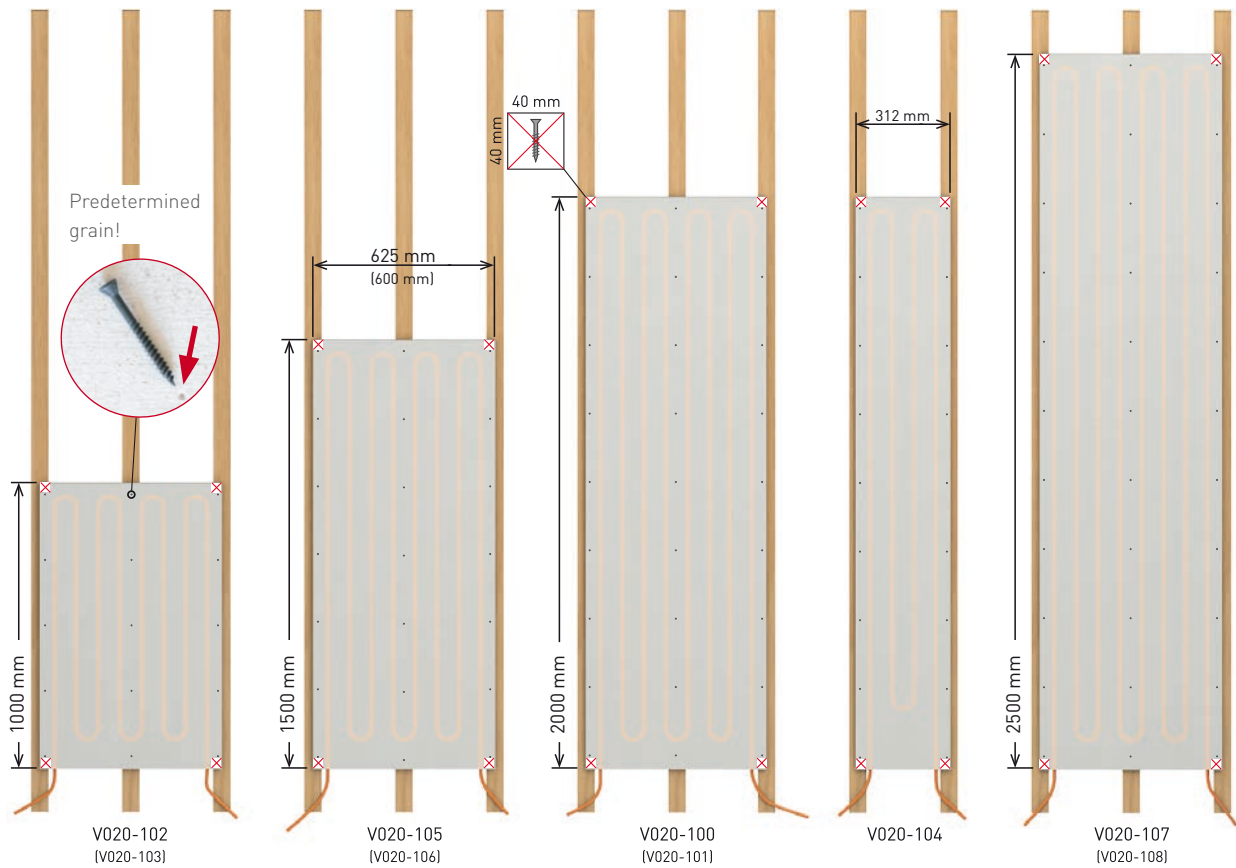
**eco**  
INSTITUT

## Overview of the ModularPanels/ModularBlankPanels

Part no.	Product code / Colour code	Pipe spacing [mm]	Dimensions (h × w), [mm]	Height h <sub>v</sub> [mm]	Panel surface [m²]	Effective surface [m²]	Laid pipe in panel	Weight/ panel	Required quantity¹ dry wall screws 3.9 × 40 mm	
									Longitudinal joists	Transverse joists
ModularPanels										
V020-100	 MDC-2000-625	75	2000 × 625	–	1.25	1.25	16.2 m	25.5 kg	3 × 9 pcs.	6 × 5 pcs.
V020-101	 MDC-2000-600	75	2000 × 600	–	1.20	1.20	16.2 m	24.5 kg		
V020-102	 MDC-1000-625	75	1000 × 625	–	0.63	0.63	8.2 m	12.8 kg	3 × 5 pcs.	4 × 5 pcs.
V020-103	 MDC-1000-600	75	1000 × 600	–	0.60	0.60	8.2 m	12.2 kg		
V020-104	 MDC-2000-312	75	2000 × 312	–	0.62	0.62	8.2 m	12.6 kg	2 × 9 pcs.	6 × 3 pcs.
V020-105	 MDC-1500-625	75	1500 × 625	–	0.94	0.94	12.2 m	19.2 kg	3 × 7 pcs.	5 × 5 pcs.
V020-106	 MDC-1500-600	75	1500 × 600	–	0.90	0.90	12.2 m	18.4 kg		
V020-107	 MDC-2500-625	75	2500 × 625	–	1.56	1.56	20.2 m	33.8 kg	3 × 11 pcs.	8 × 5 pcs.
V020-108	 MDC-2500-600	75	2500 × 600	–	1.50	1.50	20.2 m	30.6 kg		
V020-120	 MDC-1000-625-V300	75	1000 × 625	300	0.63	0.48	6.7 m	13.0 kg	3 × 5 pcs.	4 × 5 pcs.
V020-121	 MDC-1000-600-V300	75	1000 × 600	300	0.60	0.46	6.7 m	12.5 kg		
V020-124	 MDC-2000-625-V400	75	2000 × 625	400	1.25	1.04	14.2 m	25.8 kg	3 × 9 pcs.	6 × 5 pcs.
V020-125	 MDC-2000-600-V400	75	2000 × 600	400	1.20	1.00	14.2 m	24.8 kg		
V020-128	 MDC-2000-625-V800	75	2000 × 625	800	1.25	0.79	11.8 m	26.2 kg	3 × 9 pcs.	6 × 5 pcs.
V020-129	 MDC-2000-600-V800	75	2000 × 600	800	1.20	0.76	11.8 m	25.1 kg		
ModularBlankPanels										
V021-100	 MAC-2000-625	–	2000 × 625	–	1.25	without pipe		27.1 kg	3 × 9 pcs.	6 × 5 pcs.
V021-101	 MAC-2000-600	–	2000 × 600	–	1.20	without pipe		26.0 kg		
V021-102	 MAC-1000-625	–	1000 × 625	–	0.63	without pipe		13.6 kg	3 × 5 pcs.	4 × 5 pcs.
V021-103	 MAC-1000-600	–	1000 × 600	–	0.60	without pipe		13.0 kg		

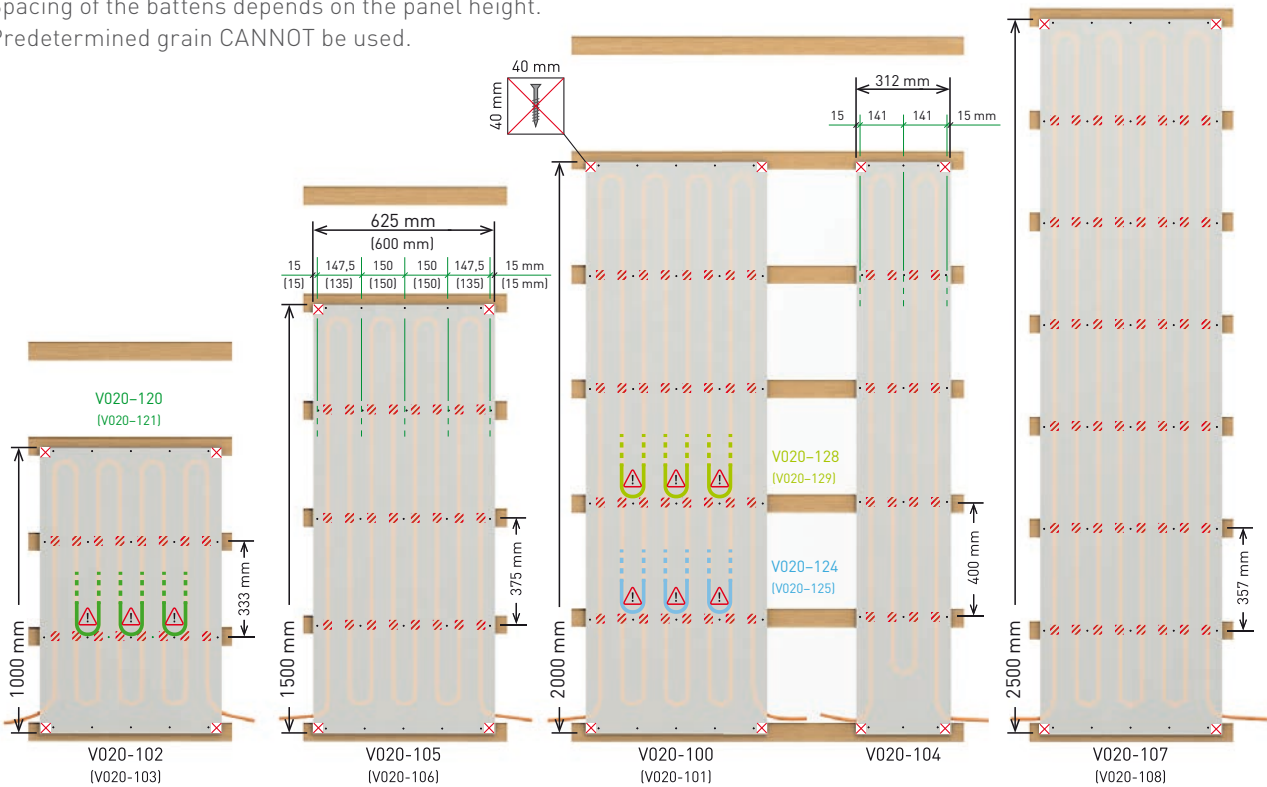
<sup>1</sup> Apart from the quantity, in the case of fire protection requirements test verification/certification may result in different specifications!  
Spread out bolts evenly across the length/width of the panel.

## Fastening area of the ModularPanels - battens length



## Fastening area of the ModularPanels - battens across

Spacing of the battens depends on the panel height.  
Predetermined grain CANNOT be used.

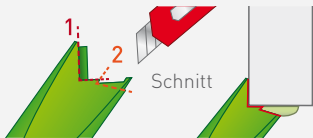


## 5.2 ModularPanels / ModularBlankPanels - Installation

- > Dry wall screws 3.9 x 40 mm
- > Part No.:  
F120-0250 (PKU: 250 pcs.)  
F120-1000 (PKU: 1000 pcs.)
- > Weight:  
0.6 kg (F120-0250)  
2.4 kg (F120-1000)
- > Consumption: 16 pcs./m<sup>2</sup>
- > Optimum shank length
- > Incl. associated bit



- > Greenline joint adhesive
- > Part No.: F111
- > PKU: 1 cartridge  
Carton with 25 cartridges
- > Weight/PKU: 550 g
- > Consumption: ~7 m<sup>2</sup> / cartridge
- > For connecting the blunt adjoining ModularPanels

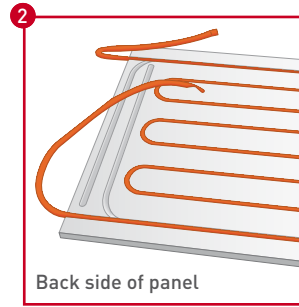
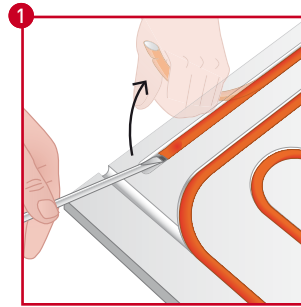


**A tip from Variotherm:** Cut off the cartridge tip as shown in the illustration.

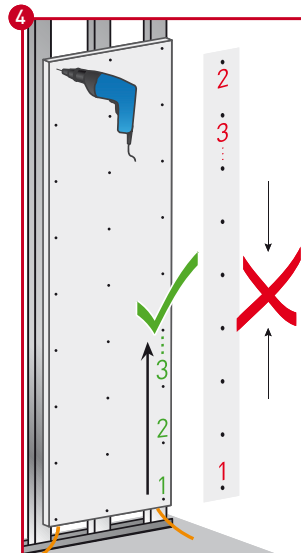
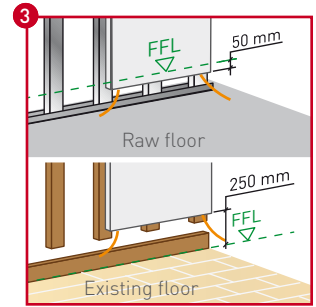
- > Adhesive tape
- > Part No.: V288
- > Weight: 210 g  
PKU: 1 pce.  
Carton with 36 pcs.
- > As a separating layer to joint surfaces or between the panel contact points and the substructure (if required)



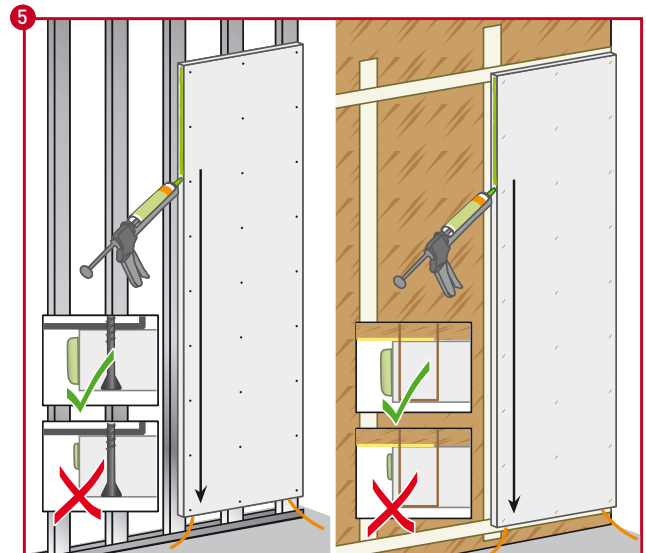
**A tip from Variotherm:** Use a power screw gun if possible and set the penetration depth of the screw head to approx. 0.1 mm.



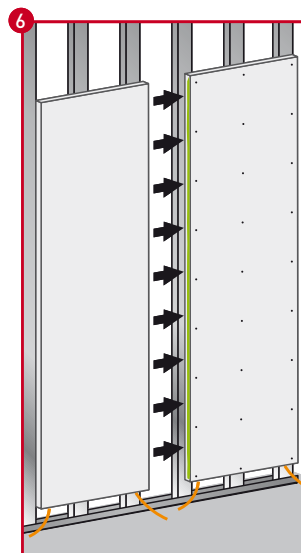
Back side of panel



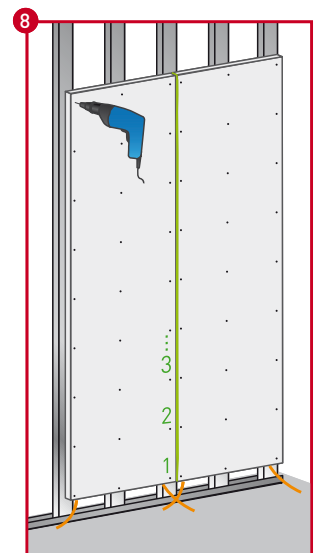
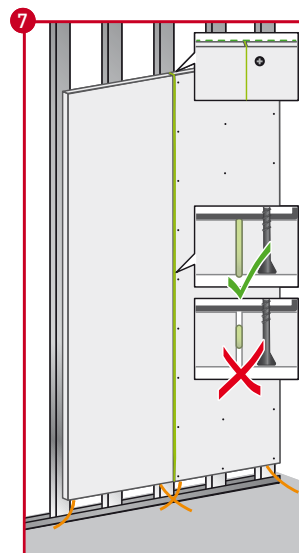
The ModularPanel is installed in the fastening area (see page 19) using dry wall screws 3.9 x 40 mm or staples.



Apply Greenline joint adhesive in flat bulge shapes (width around 14mm) to the well-dusted panel edge. Processing temperature: Glue > 10 °C, room temperature > 5 °C. For solid formwork or wood-based panels as a sub-surface: adhesive tape is necessary in the area of the adhesive seams!

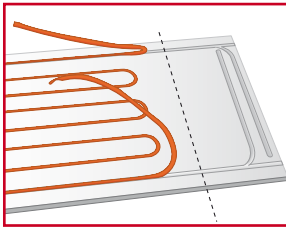


Press the second ModularPanel against the first so that the seam becomes tight. The seam width must not exceed 1 mm. Leave the seam adhesive approx. 18 to 36 hours to harden and only afterwards scrape off excess (see also Chap. 6.1).

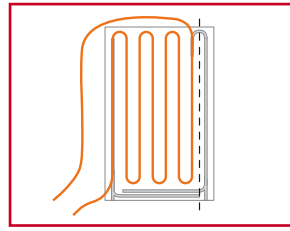


Screw the second ModularPanel in the correct order and repeat with each additional ModularPanel.

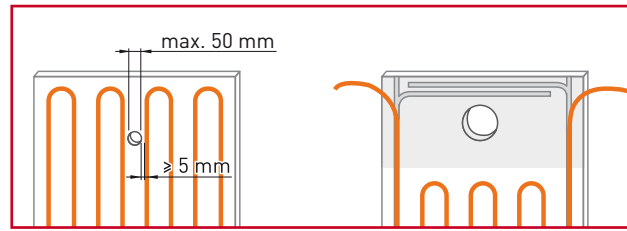
## Adapt ModularPanels



▲ Shorten the variable ModularPanels in length

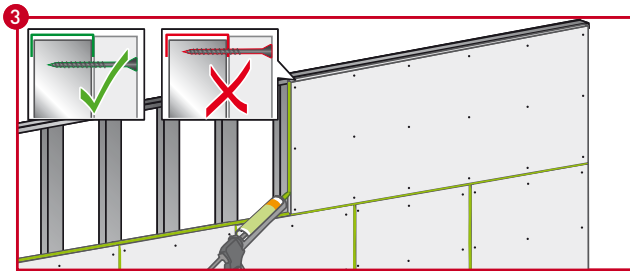
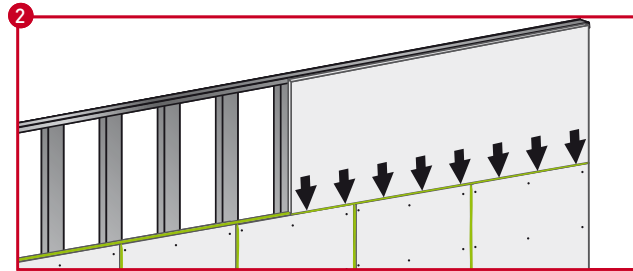
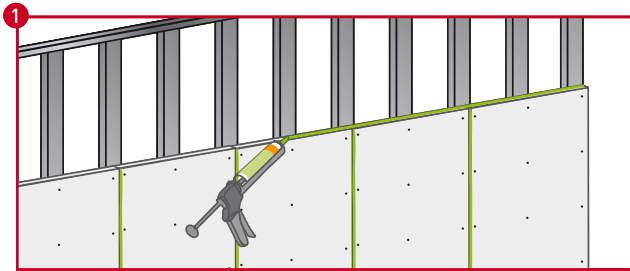


▲ Shorten the Modular-Panels in width

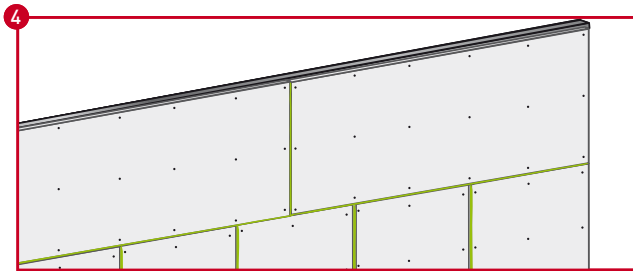


▲ Cut-out for blank piping, sockets, etc.

## ModularBlankPanels



The remaining surfaces to the side of or above the ModularPanels are filled with ModularBlankPanels with offset seams. The assembly is 1:1, as with the ModularPanels.



For cut board edges (handheld circular saw), it should be noted that cut edges are to be dusted directly and immediately before the application of the joint adhesive. Cross joints should be avoided.

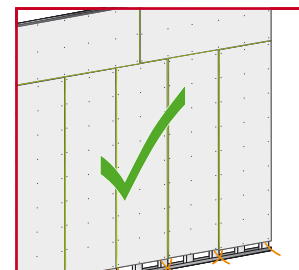
## Transitions to other panel materials

Different materials expand in different ways. Therefore, a wall surface should be installed with the same panel material throughout.

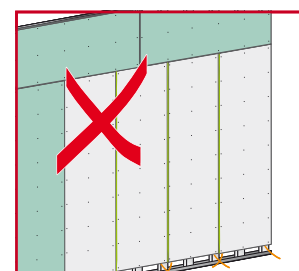
Variotherm provides no warranty for transitions to other board materials (for example gypsum plasterboards). Please observe the guidelines of the respective (panel) manufacturers.

As a possibility for transitions, we can provide the following examples from practice:

- › Grouted joints (approx. 7 mm) ■ with a separating layer ■ (= decoupled connection).  
Advantage: intentional straight crack (usually hardly visible)
- › Elastic seams (acrylic mass).  
(maintenance seam, not permitted for fire-resistant constructions)
- › Fascia
- › Wooden strip fixed on one side for covering the transition



▲ Gypsum fibreboards



▲ Gypsum fibreboards and gypsum plasterboards



- > Duo Adhesive
- > Part No.: F115
- > PKU: 1 Cartridge
- Carton with 10 cartridges
- > Weight/PKU: 1 kg
- > Consumption: ~7 m joint (4 mm width, 18 mm depth)
- > Special manual applicator W048 required!



- > Static mixing tube
- > Part No.: F116
- > PKU: 1 pce.
- Carton with 75 pcs.
- > Weight/PKU: 15 g
- > Consumption: ~3 pcs./cartridge



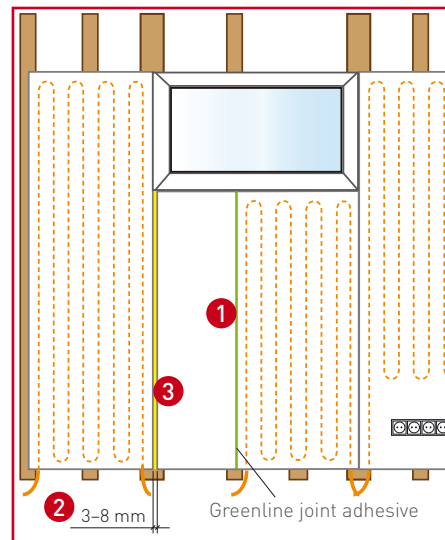
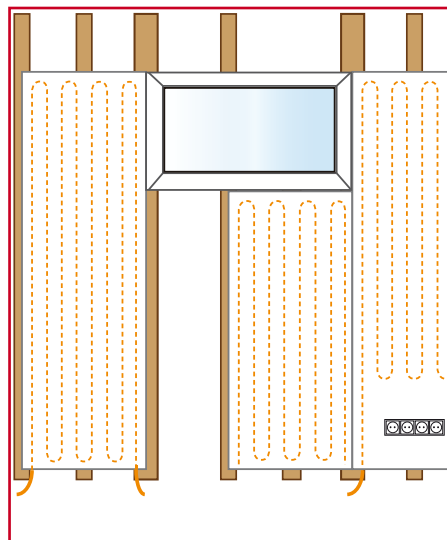
- > Duo manual applicator
- > Part No.: W048
- > PKU: 1 pce.
- Weight/PKU: 1.4 kg
- > The matching manual applicator for applying the Duo adhesive.



### Installation of panels between installed ModularPanels

If "drop to drop" installation of the ModularPanels is not possible, proceed as follows:

- 1 Glue one side of the ModularBlankPanel using greenline joint adhesive
- 2 Leave a 3 to 8 mm gap on the other side.
- 3 Completely fill the gap with **Variotherm Duo adhesive (special manual applicator W048 required!)**.



### Processing the Duo Adhesive:

- > The surfaces of the ModularPanels must be clean, dry, dust-free and grease-free.
- > Open the cartridge – screw on the static mixing tube.
- > Insert the cartridge into the Duo manual applicator.
- > For safety reasons, do not use the first amount of mixed adhesive for gluing (20 g, approx. walnut-sized).
- > Completely fill the joint from the top to the bottom using the static mixing tube.
- > For a better filling result, use a pointing trowel (or similar) to slightly hollow out the fresh joint.
- > Remove excess adhesive when still fresh. Hardened adhesive can only be removed with great effort.
- > The static mixing tube remains on the cartridge unit at the end of work/during breaks – the static mixing tube is then replaced the next time work begins again.
- > The joint can be covered with filler 4 hours after gluing the panels (working temperature > +15 °C).

### Safety information for Duo Adhesive:

Keep out of the reach of children! For further information see the product label or the safety data sheets according to Regulation 1907/2006/EC, Annex II, available at [www.variotherm.com/en/service/info-centre/safety-data-sheets.html](http://www.variotherm.com/en/service/info-centre/safety-data-sheets.html).

Wear suitable protective gloves. Protect your skin, eyes, clothing and tools from coming into contact with unhardened Duo adhesive. In the case of skin contact clean immediately with soap and water. Clean contaminated tools immediately with universal thinner. Hardened adhesive can only be removed mechanically.

### Technical data for Duo Adhesive:

Basis: 2-component PUR reaction adhesive

Colour when hard: beige

Viscosity at +20 °C: low-viscosity paste

Working time (at +10/+20/+30 °C): approx. 60/30/15 minutes

Hardening time (+20 °C, 50 % relative humidity): approx. 24 hours, final hardness after approx. 7 days

Working temperature: minimum of +7 °C to a maximum of +30 °C

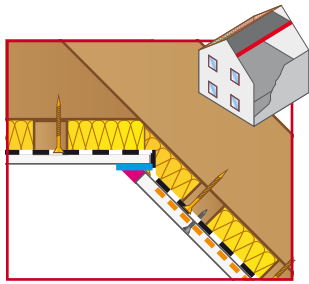
Net weight: 900 g (2 x 310 ml tandem cartridge)

Consumption: 1 cartridge is sufficient for an approx. 7 m joint (4 mm width and 18 mm depth)

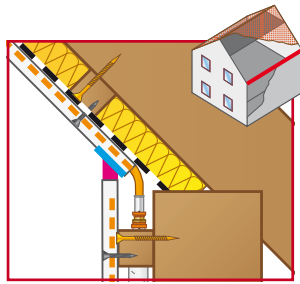
Storage: unopened, in a dry place at +15 °C to +25 °C approx. 15 months

## Panel transitions

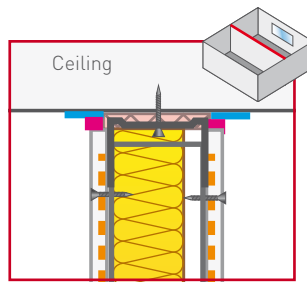
Inner and outer corners and T-joints are to be constructed as grouted joints (approx. 7 mm) ■ with a separating layer ■ [decoupled connection]:



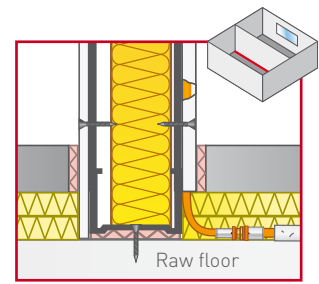
▲ Pitched roof to ceiling



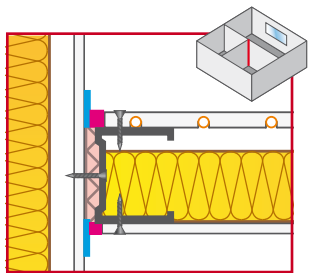
▲ Pitched roof to jamb wall



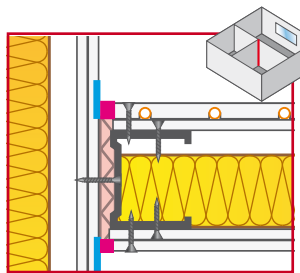
▲ Ceiling connection



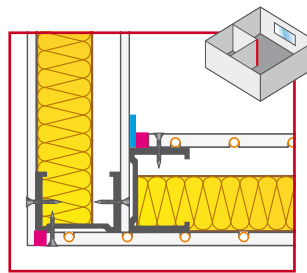
▲ Floor connection



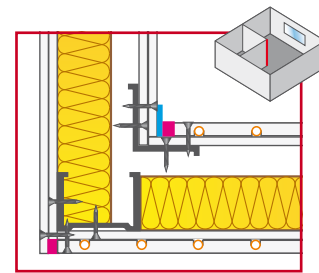
▲ T-connection, single-layer planking



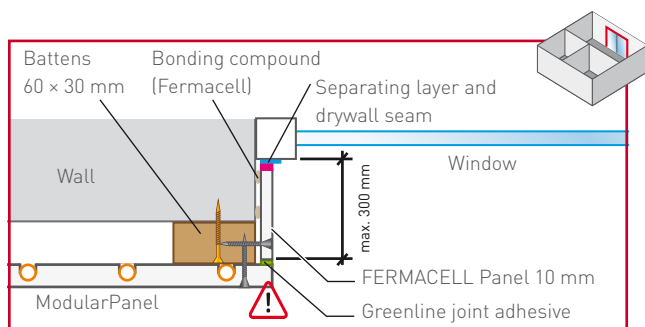
▲ T-connection, double-layer planking



▲ Corner joints, single-layer planking

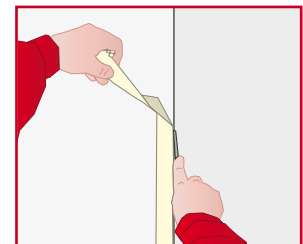


▲ Corner joints, double-layer planking



▲ Reveal area

**⚠ Caution:**  
Pay special attention to the Variomodular pipes when fastening the ModularPanels in the reveal area. (Fastening outside of the fastening area!)



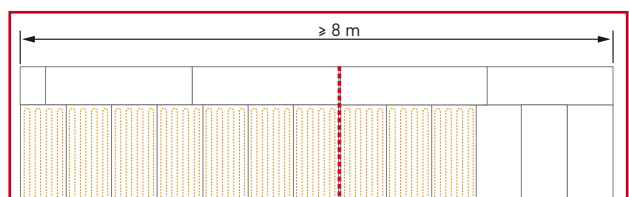
▲ Remove the excess separating layer (adhesive tape ■) at inner corners after filling!

## Movement joints

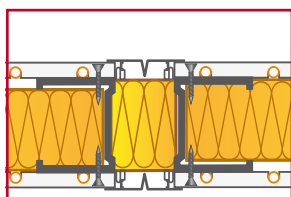
Movement joints are to be provided every 8 m in wall constructions and pitched roofs.

**Caution:** Pay special attention to the Variomodular Pipes when fastening the ModularPanels in the area of the movement joints!

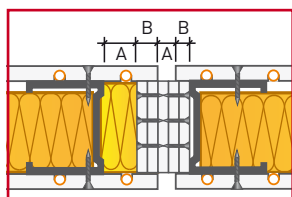
$A \leq 20 \text{ mm}$  (Movement dimension),  $B \geq 20 \text{ mm}$ .



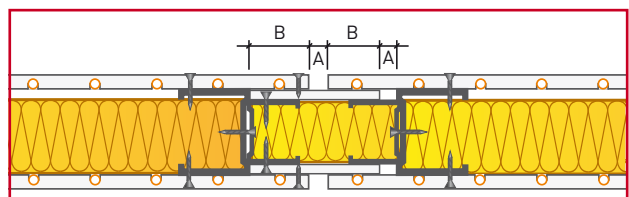
▲ Movement joint at e.g. 10× V020-100 and 3× V021-100 (13 × 0.625 m = 8.13 m)



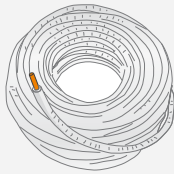
▲ Movement joint with additional profile



▲ Movement joint with panel strip



▲ Movement joint with strip bundle



- Pre-insulated 16x2 VarioModular pipe
- Part No.: V1226 (6 mm Insulation) V1227 (9 mm Insulation)
- PKU: Roll with 100 m
- Weight/PKU: 14.0 kg (6 mm Insulation) 14.9 kg (9 mm Insulation)
- Insulation: Polyethylene soft foam
- Fire resistance as per EN 14313: CL-s1,d0

- Retaining clamp ø35
- Part No.: V2802
- PKU: 50 pcs.
- Weight/PKU: 1 kg
- for affixing the pre-insulated VarioModular pipes 16x2

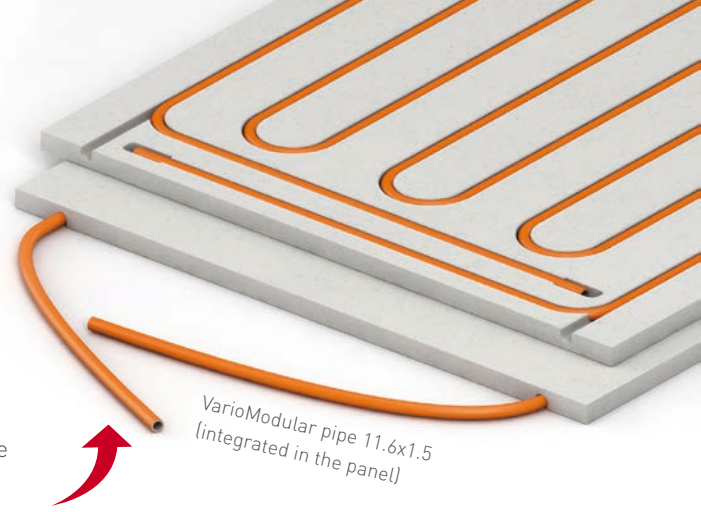


- Retaining clamp ø35
- Part No.: V2803
- PKU: 25 pcs.
- Weight/PKU: 1 kg
- for affixing the pre-insulated VarioModular pipes 16x2



### 5.3 VarioModular pipes

- Temperature-resistance polyethylene (PE)
- Adhesive layer
- Homogeneous and solid aluminium pipe
- Adhesive layer
- Raised-temperature-resistance polyethylene (PE-RT)



Technical data	11.6x1.5	(pre-insulated) 16x2
Pipe diameter	11.6 mm	16.0 mm
Pipe wall thickness	1.5 mm	2.0 mm
Aluminium pipe thickness	0.15 mm	0.18 mm
Water content	0.058 l/m	0.113 l/m
Special narrow bending radius (use a suitable bending device)	30 mm	40 mm
Max. operating temperature [t <sub>max</sub> ]	70 °C	70 °C
Short-term resistant [t <sub>ma</sub> ]	95 °C	95 °C
Max. operating pressure [p <sub>max</sub> ]	6 bar	6 bar
Linear expansion coefficient	$2.3 \times 10^{-5} [K^{-1}]$	$2.3 \times 10^{-5} [K^{-1}]$
Mean heat conduction coefficient [λ]	0.44 W/mK	0.45* W/mK
Heat transmission resistance	0.0034 m²K/W	0.0045* m²K/W



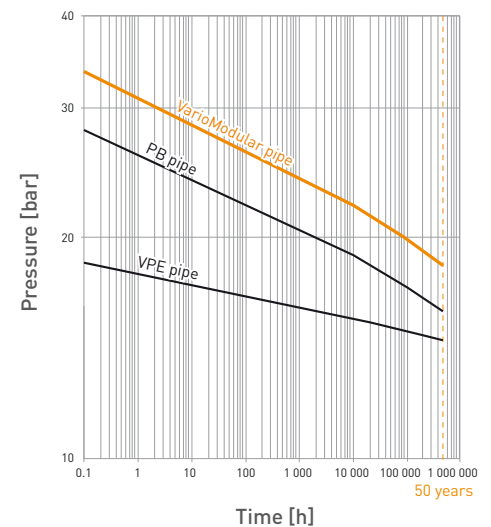
Pre-insulated VarioModular pipe 16x2 (supply pipe), Insulation thickness 6 or 9 mm

<< \* Values without insulation

#### Advantages

- Fully corrosion-free
- Optimum creep behaviour
- Just as light as a plastic pipe
- 10-year guarantee with certificate
- Flexible, easy to bend, extremely stable form
- Resistant to hot water additives (inhibitors, antifreeze)
- Mirror-smooth inner surface – less pressure loss – no encrustation
- High pressure and temperature resistance
- 100 % oxygen diffusion-tight
- Low linear coefficient of expansion, low heat expansion forces
- Tested as per EN 21003

#### Creep behaviour



#### Elongation

with 10 m and temperature difference Δt 25 °C (e.g. 20 °C to 45 °C)

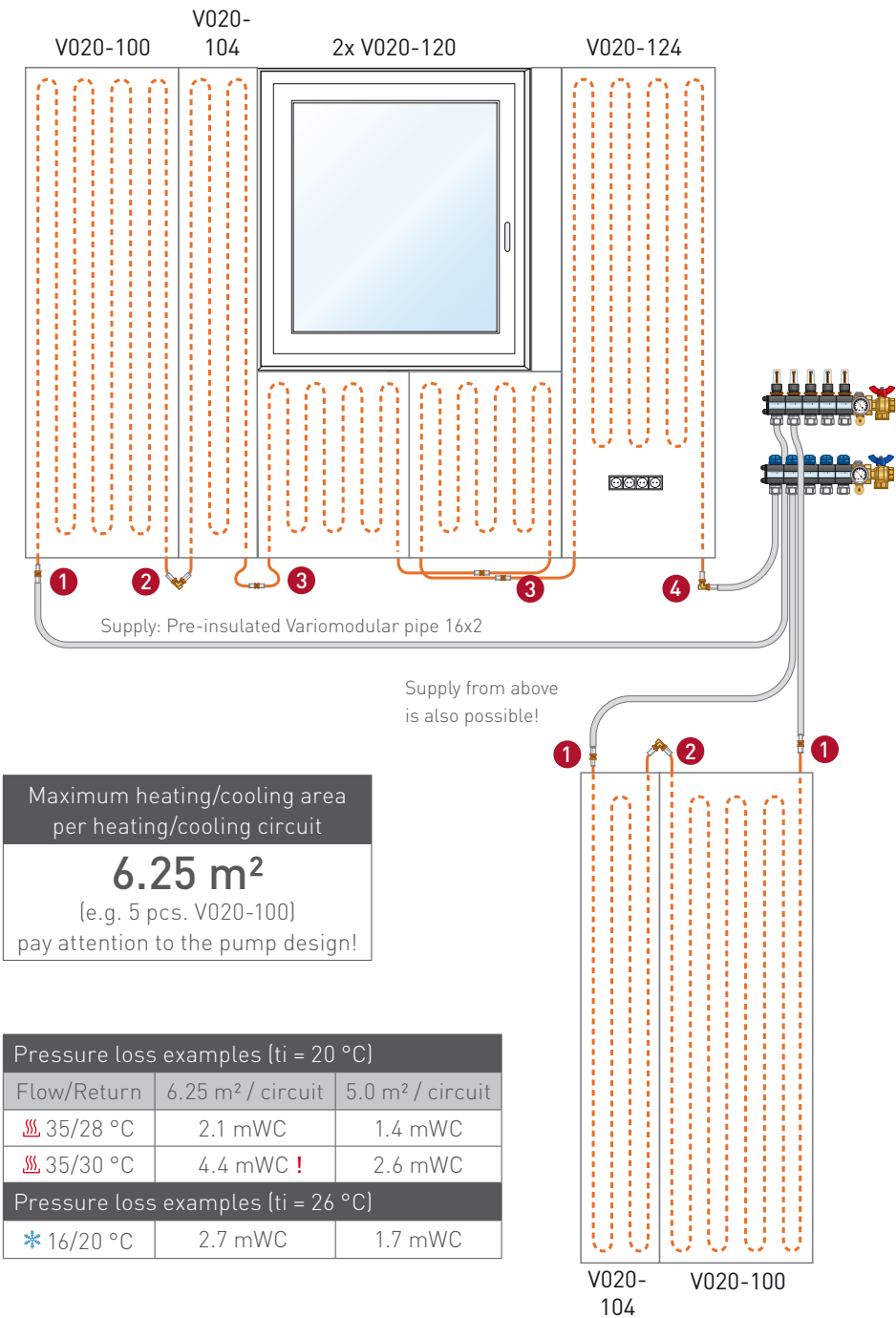
	Tubing	Elongation	
Plastics	PEX (VPE)	50.00 mm	
	PP	42.50 mm	
	PB	32.50 mm	
	PVC	20.00 mm	
	VarioModular pipe	5.75 mm	
Metal	Cu	4.20 mm	
	Stainless steel	3.50 mm	
	Steel	2.88 mm	

Homogeneous plastic pipes produce high stress levels in the device because of their expansion coefficient.

The VarioModular pipe combines the minor elongation and thermal expansion. So it is perfect for surface cooling/heating pipes.

### 5.4 Press-fit couplings / press tools

#### Connection options



Maximum heating/cooling area  
per heating/cooling circuit

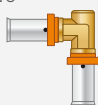
**6.25 m<sup>2</sup>**  
(e.g. 5 pcs. V020-100)  
pay attention to the pump design!

Pressure loss examples (ti = 20 °C)		
Flow/Return	6.25 m <sup>2</sup> / circuit	5.0 m <sup>2</sup> / circuit
35/28 °C	2.1 mWC	1.4 mWC
35/30 °C	4.4 mWC !	2.6 mWC
Pressure loss examples (ti = 26 °C)		
* 16/20 °C	2.7 mWC	1.7 mWC

- › Press-fit coupling 16x11.6
- › Part No.: Z1610
- › PKU: 1 pce.
- › Weight/PKU: 45 g
- › Press contour: TH11.6 & TH16



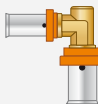
- › Press-fit elbow 90° 11.6x11.6
- › Part No.: Z1630
- › PKU: 1 pce.
- › Weight/PKU: 45 g
- › Press contour: TH11.6



- › Press-fit coupling 11.6x11.6
- › Part No.: Z1600
- › PKU: 1 pce.
- › Weight/PKU: 30 g
- › Press contour: TH11.6



- › Press-fit elbow 90° 16x11.6
- › Part No.: Z1620
- › PKU: 1 pce.
- › Weight/PKU: 45 g
- › Press contour: TH11.6 / TH16



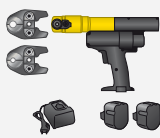
- > Calibration and chamfering tool
- > Part No.: W042
- > PKU: 1 pce.
- > Weight/PKU: 140 g
- > For calibrating and chamfering the Variotherm pipes



- > Pipe cutting pliers
- > Part No.: W037
- > PKU: 1 pce.
- > Weight/PKU: 230 g
- > For trimming the Variotherm pipes
- > Replacement blade: W0371



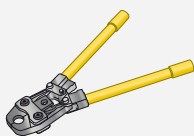
- > AkkuPress Mini
- > Part No.: W019
- > PKU: 1 pce.
- > Weight/PKU: 9.9 kg
- > Incl. sheet steel box, press-fitting jaws TH16 Mini & TH11.6 Mini, battery charger, 2 batteries



- > Mini press-fitting jaw TH11.6
- > Part No.: W031
- > PKU: 1 pce.
- > Weight/PKU: 1.5 kg
- > Mini press-fitting jaw TH16
- > Part No.: W032
- > PKU: 1 pce.
- > Weight/PKU: 1.6 kg



- > EcoPress
- > Part No.: W015
- > PKU: 1 pce.
- > Weight/PKU: 9.7 kg
- > Incl. sheet steel box, press-fitting jaws TH16 & TH11.6



- > Press-fitting jaw TH11.6
- > Part No.: W025
- > PKU: 1 pce.
- > Weight/PKU: 2.0 kg
- > Press-fitting jaw TH16
- > Part No.: W024
- > PKU: 1 pce.
- > Weight/PKU: 2.1 kg



- > Cold shrinking tape
- > Part No.: Z1699
- > PKU: 1 pce. | Carton with 20 pcs.
- > Weight/PKU: 990 g
- > Roll: 50 mm x 15 m
- > 1 roll is sufficient for approx. 35 press-fit coupling connections (with a 50 % overlap)



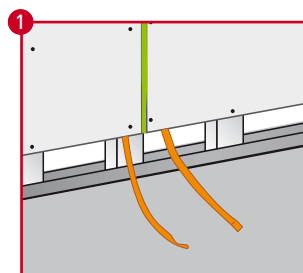
## Connecting pipes

Once the panels and the heating/cooling manifolds are installed, the panels are connected to the desired circuits. The pre-insulated Variomodular pipe 16x2 is used as the supply pipe. A permanent, tight connection is only guaranteed if original Variotherm system components are used:

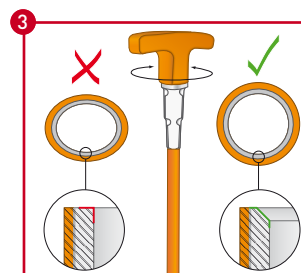
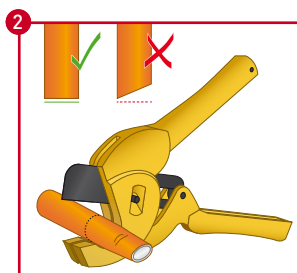
- > VarioModular pipes
- > Variotherm calibration and chamfering tool
- > Variotherm press couplings + press tool

The relevant operating instructions for the pressing tools are included with the appliances.

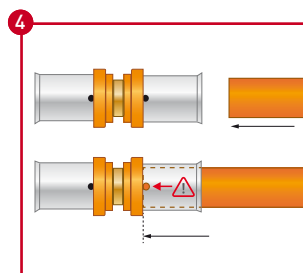
The press-fitting jaws and pressing tool must be checked at least once a year for correct operation by REMS or an authorised REMS customer service workshop.



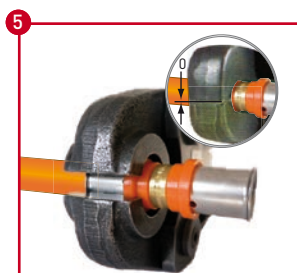
▲ Cut off the crushed pipe end at a right-angle



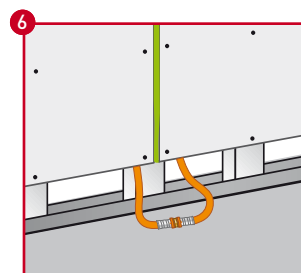
▲ Calibrate and chamfer the pipe



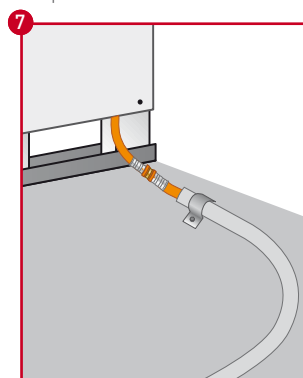
▲ Push on the press-fit coupling until it reaches the stop



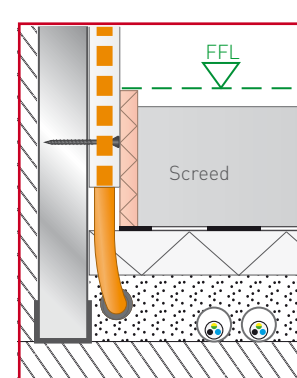
▲ Pressing. The press-fit coupling must close fully.



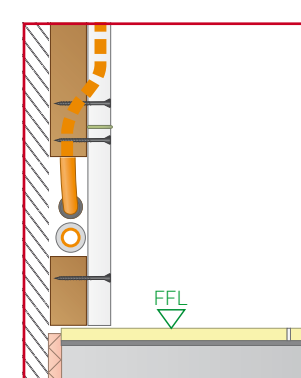
▲ Connected ModularPanels



▲ Pre-insulated Vario-modular pipe 16x2 connected with ModularPanel



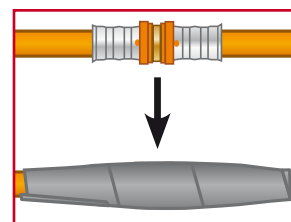
▲ Example of finished press-fit coupling in floor construction (new building)



▲ Example of finished press-fit coupling with existing floor (rehabilitation)

## Corrosion prevention measures/ dew-point monitoring

The connecting elements are to be protected (after the pressure test) in accordance with EN 1264 and compliance with ÖN H 5155 (e.g. with Z1699 cold shrink tape). This measure is also a prerequisite for effective dew-point monitoring in the case of cooling (see also Chapter 5.5)





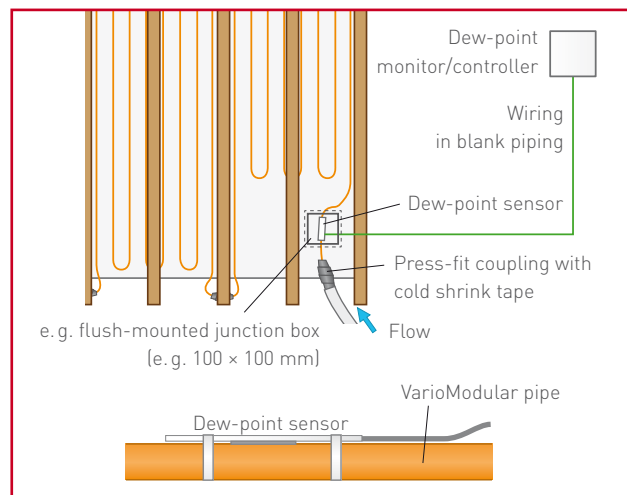
## 5.5 Dew-point monitor (on-site)

The dew-point sensor is fitted to the part of the pipe that is expected to dew first. This is normally the case on the flow inlet.

Care must be taken that there is a good thermal transition between the pipe and the sensor (use heat-conducting paste).

The supply pipes must be sufficiently fixed.

For further information on the dew point, see also Chapter 7.4.



▲ Example Dew-point monitor (cooling)

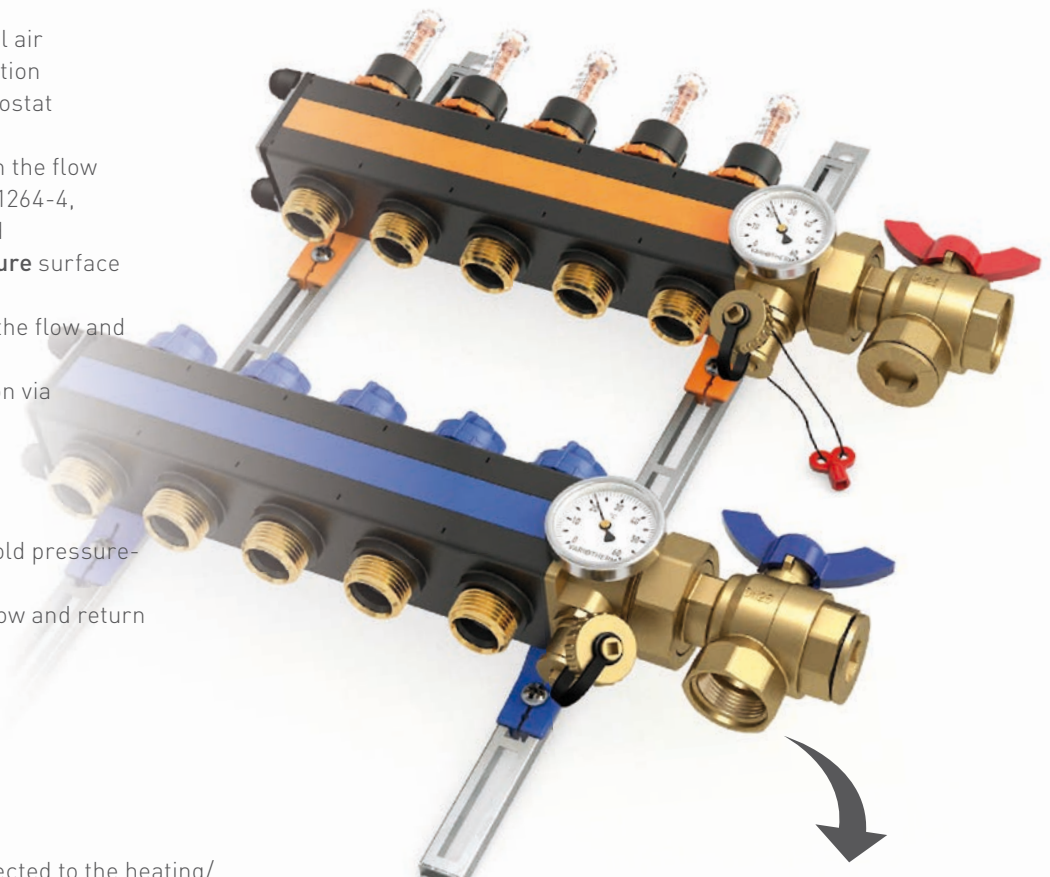
## 5.6 VarioManifold

### Advantages

- › Plastic manifold with internal air chambers for thermal insulation
- › Flexible conversion to thermostat operation
- › Pre-settable flow indicator in the flow (10-160 l/h) according to EN 1264-4, viewing glass can be cleaned
- › Optimised for **low-temperature** surface heating/cooling
- › Detachable 3 port valves on the flow and return bars
- › Venting option, flushing option via rotatable fill and drain cocks
- › Modular construction
- › Absolutely oxygen-tight
- › Designation labels
- › All parts self-sealing, manifold pressure-tested
- › Variable distance between flow and return bars

### Pressure test

Once all circuits have been connected to the heating/cooling manifold, the system can be filled downstream of the manifold and pressurised. The pipes must be kept under water pressure prior to completion work (screeding, filling, painting, wallpapering, tiling), so that any damage becomes immediately visible. (Please see Chapter 9.1 for the protocol Leak-tightness test).



For details regarding the system and heating circuit pipes and the room temperature control please refer to the "DISTRIBUTION and CONTROL" planning and installation instructions



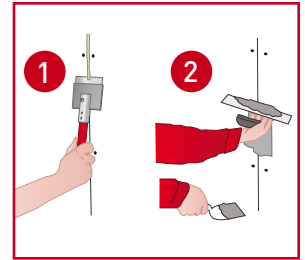
PDF

# 6 FINISHED SURFACE

## 6.1 Filling

After installation, the ModularPanels and the ModularBlankPanels are filled using FERMACELL Joint filler or Fine surface treatment (or equivalent products). However, before this happens the set joint adhesive must be fully scraped off (the joint adhesive hardens after approx. 18 to 36 hours, depending on the room temperature). Attempting to remove joint adhesive that is still soft will result in smearing.

**Caution:** Filling may only be carried out after all wet work (wet screed, plastering, etc.) has dried!



The following work is to be performed, depending on the surface quality required

Q1 – Minimum requirement	Q2 – Standard requirement	Q3 – High requirement	Q4 – Highest requirement
<u>Necessary for:</u> - Sealing layers and tiling	<u>Necessary for:</u> - Wallpaper and woodchip (medium or coarse grain) - Matt fillers (dispersion coating, thin plaster)	<u>Necessary for:</u> - Fine-textured wall coverings - Matt, non-textured wall coverings	<u>Necessary for:</u> - Smooth or fine-textured wall coatings - Metal or thin vinyl wallpapers - High-quality finishing technologies
<u>Required work:</u> - Scrapping off excess joint adhesive after hardening ❶ - Filling of visible fixings and adhesive joints with Fermacell Joint Filler or Fine Surface Treatment ❷	<u>Required work:</u> - Q1 - Smooth and continuous filling of joints and fixings. No processing marks or filler burrs must remain visible. If necessary, the smoothed surfaces should be sanded	<u>Required work:</u> - Q2 - If necessary broad filling of joints - Full-surface coating and <b>sharp pull-ing-off</b> of entire surface with Fermacell Fine Surface Treatment or other suitable filling materials. If necessary, the smoothed surfaces should be sanded	<u>Required work:</u> - Q2 - If necessary broad filling of joints - Full-surface coating and <b>smoothing (e.g. with abrasive grid)</b> of entire surface with Fermacell Fine Surface Treatment or other suitable filling materials.
	Settling of joints can't be ruled out, particularly under grazing light	Unevenness visible under grazing light, such as application marks on joints, cannot be excluded, but the unevenness is less than for Q2.	Unevenness at the joints must not be visible.

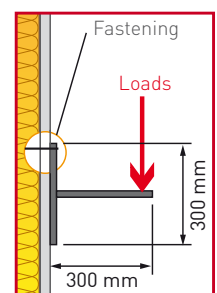
## 6.2 Fastening loads to the ModularWall

Light wall-mounted single loads: Light single loads parallel to the wall surface with low outreaches, such as (e.g.) pictures or decorations, can be fastened directly to the the FERMACELL planking using commonly available fasteners without using an additional substructure. Suitable for this are (e.g.) nails, picture hooks with single or double nail mounts, or screws and dowels.

Light and medium-heavy cabinet loads<sup>3</sup>: The listed loading values can be added when the dowel clearance is  $\geq 500$  mm. At lower dowel clearances, 50 % of the respective maximum permissible load for each dowel is used. The sum of the individual loads must not exceed 1.5 kN/m for walls and must not exceed 0.4 kN/m for free-standing single wall panels and double stud walls that are not connected to each other. Higher loads must be specially checked and approved.

Picture hooks <sup>1</sup> fastened with nails	Permissible load <sup>2</sup> per hook on ModularPanel ( $\geq 12.5$ mm FERMACELL Panel)
	17 kg
	27 kg
	37 kg

Permissible loads for individual hanging on ModularPanel ( $\geq 12.5$ mm FERMACELL Panel)		
	Cavity wall dowels <sup>4</sup>	50 kg
	Screw with continuous thread $\varnothing 5$ mm	30 kg



<sup>1</sup> Breaking force of the hooks per brand. Hooks fastened corrosion-neutral only in the planking

<sup>2</sup> Safety factor 2 (constant load at rel. humidity up to 85 %)

<sup>3</sup> Introduced as per DIN 4103, safety factor 2

<sup>4</sup> Observe the instructions of the dowel manufacturer

### 6.3 Painting

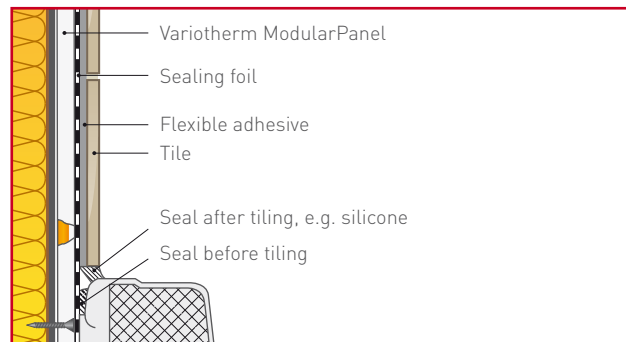
Commonly available paints such as (e.g.) latex, emulsion or enamel paint can be applied to the ModularPanels. Mineral-based paints such as (e.g.) limewash and silicate paints must be approved by the manufacturer for use on gypsum fibreboards. The paint is usually applied in two steps.

### 6.4 Tiling

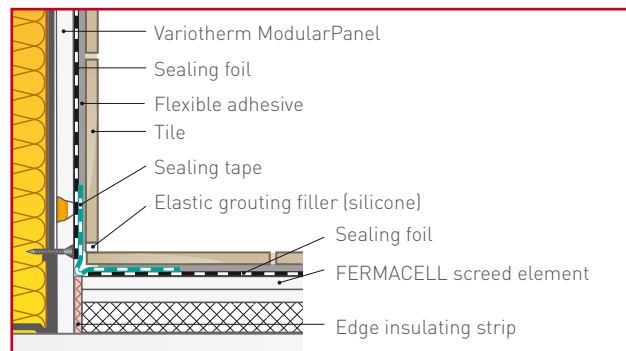
See also the appropriate standards for laying tiles, panels and mosaics.

Points to be observed:

- › The weight of the tiles (incl. adhesive) must not exceed 50 kg/m<sup>2</sup>.
- › The surface of the modular panels must be at least Q1 before tiling/sealing (see table, section 6.1).
- › The moisture content of the ModularPanels must be less than 1.3 % (min. 48 h at 70 % humidity and room temperature > 15 °C).
- › Sealing systems must be used on surfaces subject to the effects of moisture (see table below). The wall boundaries must be sealed using appropriate sealing tape.
- › A flexible adhesive is used to bond the tiles. A primer must be applied if this is stated by the adhesive manufacturer. This is particularly the case for flexible cement adhesives.
- › Flexible grouting mortar must be used for grouting.
- › After laying the tiles, boundaries with the walls are additionally sealed with silicone.



▲ Connections between shower/bathtub



▲ Wall-screed structure in areas subjected to water loads

Use of primer and sealing system (compound sealing):

Stress group according to ÖN B 3407		Adhesive mortar with tile coverings	Primer	Sealing system
W1	Residential sector: living rooms, corridors, toilets, offices and the like	Calcium sulphate flex- ible adhesive mortar	Not required	Not required
		Cement flexible adhesive mortar	Required	Not required
W2	Residential sector: kitchen and rooms with similar usage Commercial sector: toilet systems	Only cement flexible adhesive mortar	In addition to the sealing system, when recommended by the manufacturer	Recommended
W3	Wall and floor surfaces without drainage (e.g. bathroom with shower tub higher than 20 mm above floor covering), toilet systems without floor drainage, porch			Required
W4–W6	Wall and floor surfaces with drainage (e.g. shower with flush drain at the same level as the floor) Swimming bath area, shower systems, industrial kitchen ...	No Modular Wall possible.		

Product examples for primer or sealing system (compound sealing):

Manufacturer/Brand	Primer	Sealing system
FERMACELL	Deep primer	Waterproofing Application
Ardex	Ardex P51	Ardex 8 + 9
Cimsec	Gipsgrundierung	Dichtflex DU15
PCI	Gisogrund	Lastogum
Schönox	Schönox KH	Schönox HA oder 1K-DS
Mapei	Primer G	Mapegum WPS
Weber	weber.prim 801	weber.sys 822
Ceresit	Lösungsmittelfreier Tiefengrund	Ceresit Dusch- & Badabdichtung

# 7 HEATING/COOLING PRACTICE

## 7.1 Calculation of the heating and cooling load

The EN 12831 standard with the respective national annex applies to the heating load calculations for the heated rooms.

Every room is considered individually. For the outside temperature, the locally acquired and standardised outdoor temperature  $T_{ne}$  is used.

Variotherm also conducts cooling load calculations (subject to a fee) according to the new VDI 2078 guideline. For calculation purposes, precise information must be provided on the building and the rooms to be cooled (U-values with layer composition, shading, internal loads). This is the precondition for useful, accurate results.

## 7.2 Variotherm Dimensioning software

Key values for individual heating/cooling circuits (the amount of water, pressure loss, number of circuits, allocation of the manifolds etc.) can be quickly and easily calculated by inputting the cooling or heating load into the Variotherm dimensioning software. It can be found in our Professional Area at: [www.variotherm.com/professional](http://www.variotherm.com/professional).

Übersicht der Bauteile

Code	Bezeichnung	U-Wert W/m²K	Rges m²K/W	Rsi m²K/W	Rse m²K/W	R-Baut m²K/W
AF01	Außenfenster	1.100	0.909	0.130	0.040	0.739
AT01	Außentür	1.700	0.588	0.130	0.040	0.418
AW01	Außenwand	0.220	4.545	0.130	0.040	4.375

Raum	$\Theta_{\text{int}}$	$A_{\text{R}}$	$\Phi_{\text{L}}$	$\Phi_{\text{F}}$	$\Phi_{\text{V}}$	$\Phi_{\text{Baustrukt}}$	$\Phi_{\text{Baustrukt}}$	$\Phi_{\text{Baustrukt}}$	$\Phi_{\text{Baustrukt}}$	$\Phi_{\text{Baustrukt}}$
Nr.	Bezeichnung	°C	m²	W	W	W	W	W	W	W
Haus, EG		18.88	5427			3396			9160	0
00.001.001	Eltern	20.0	29.10	833	833	501	46	15	1335	0
00.001.002	Kinder	20.0	20.49	762	762	343	54	19	1106	0
00.001.003	Vorraum	20.0	24.40	571	571	409	40	14	980	0

▲ Extract from a heating load calculation

Bezeichnung	Fläche m²	Kühllast W	Kühllast W/m²	t <sub>Raum</sub> °C	t <sub>op, Raum</sub> °C
Schlafzimmer	21.70	-1601	-73.76	24.0	23.9
Wohnen, Kochen, Essen	84.50	-2906	-34.39	24.0	24.8
Wirtschaftsraum	13.00	-455	-35.01	24.0	24.6
WC	4.60	-73	-15.89	24.0	24.1
Corridor + Stiege	29.40	-1822	-61.96	24.0	25.4
Lounge + Stiege	22.00	-459	-20.85	24.0	24.3
Küche II (Pantry)	30.50	-956	-31.35	24.0	24.8
Vorraum	10.00	-239	-23.94	24.0	24.5
Küche II (Pantry)	14.00	-414	-29.55	24.0	24.6
Gästezimmer 1	23.50	-613	-26.08	24.0	24.6
Flur + Stiege	12.40	-342	-27.59	24.0	24.6
Gästezimmer 2	28.70	-746	-25.98	24.0	24.5
	294.30	-10625	-36.10		

▲ Extract from a cooling load calculation

Dimensioning of Variotherm Heating Systems																			
Building project:										ZIP:		City:		Date:		Processed by: as			
No. Room name	Floor space A [m²]	Maximum length Trench/ceiling L [m]	Heating load Q [W]	Supplement heating load Suppl. [W]	Heating load incl. Supplement Q+Suppl. [W]	Room temp. t <sub>R</sub> [°C]	Heating system	Floor covering (m) or pipe covering (mm)	Dimensioning temperature t <sub>tr</sub> [°C]	Mathematical Dim. Unit Type	No. of circuits	Practical Dim. Unit Type	Residual performance	PH to (T <sub>R20</sub> ) [°C]	Supply pipe Supply line length per circuit [m]	Pressure loss per circuit [mWC]	Flow quantity per circuit [l/h]	Distribution manifold number	Calculation of pressure loss and flow rate: 2 systems at 4 heating circuit (see manual)
Room 1	21.16		846		846	20	ModuleWall MWHK	35/28		10.08 m² MWHK	3	5.80 m² MWHK	615	-		1.95	60	★1	
Cloakroom	10.15		406		406	20	ModuleCeiling MDKH	35/28		6.55 m² MDKH	2	4.50 m² MDKH	152	-		0.77	35	★1	
Room 2	23.04		922		922	20	ModuleWall MWHK	35/28		10.97 m² MWHK	3	5.80 m² MWHK	540	-		1.95	60	★1	
Kitchen-living room	33.14		994		994	22	ModuleWall MWHK	35/28		15.30 m² MWHK	5	5.00 m² MWHK	631	-		1.02	41	★1	
Aunleroom	6.00		240		240	20	ModuleWall MWHK	35/28		2.86 m² MWHK	1	4.50 m² MWHK	138	-		1.06	47	★2	
Room 3	26.04		1042		1042	20	ModuleCeiling MDKH	35/28		16.80 m² MDKH	4	5.00 m² MDKH	198	-		0.95	39	★2	
Room 4	17.08		683		683	20	ModuleCeiling MDKH	35/28		11.02 m² MDKH	3	5.00 m² MDKH	247	-		0.95	39	★2	

▲ Variotherm dimensioning software example for heating

Dimensioning of Variotherm Cooling Systems																							
Building project: _____										ZIP: _____		City: _____		Date: _____		Processed by: <u>as</u> _____							
No.	Room name	Floor space	Cooling load	Supplement cooling load	Cooling load incl. Supplement	Room temp.	Cooling space	Floor covering (m²) or pipe covering (mm)	Dimensioning temperature	Mathematical			No. of circuits	Practical				Supply pipe	Supply line length	Pressure loss	Flow quantity	Distribution manifold number	Calculation of pressure loss and flow rate: 2 systems at 4 cooling circuit (see manual)
		A [m²]	Q [W]	Suppl. [W]	Q+Suppl. [W]	t [°C]			Dim.	Unit	Type	Dim.		Unit	Type	Residual performance	PH to (T=20) [°C]						
	Room 1	21,16	1021		1021	26	ModuleWall MWHK	16/20		19,26 m²	MWHK	3	5,80 m²	MWHK	-99	-		2,30	67	★1			
	Cloakroom	10,15	564		564	26	ModuleCeiling MDKH	16/20		9,40 m²	MDKH	2	4,50 m²	MDKH	-24	-		1,47	59	★1			
	Room 2	23,04	1032		1032	26	ModuleWall MWHK	16/20		19,47 m²	MWHK	3	5,80 m²	MWHK	-110	-		2,30	67	★1			
	Kitchen-living room	33,14	1543		1543	26	ModuleWall MWHK	16/20		29,11 m²	MWHK	5	5,00 m²	MWHK	-218	-		1,59	58	★1			
	Aunteroom	6,00	335		335	26	ModuleWall MWHK	16/20		6,32 m²	MWHK	1	4,50 m²	MWHK	-97	-		1,25	52	★2			
	Room 3	26,04	1245		1245	26	ModuleCeiling MDKH	16/20		20,75 m²	MDKH	4	5,00 m²	MDKH	-45	-		1,93	65	★2			
	Room 4	17,08	654		654	26	ModuleCeiling MDKH	16/20		10,90 m²	MDKH	3	5,00 m²	MDKH	246	-		1,93	65	★2			

▲ Variotherm dimensioning software example for cooling

### 7.3 Heat output

$t_f/t_r$ [°C]	$t_{mH}$ [°C]	Heat output [W/m <sup>2</sup> ] at room temperature $T_r$					$T_0$ [°C] (at $T_r = 20$ °C)
		$T_r = 15$ °C	$T_r = 18$ °C	$T_r = 20$ °C	$T_r = 22$ °C	$T_r = 24$ °C	
30/20	25.0	90	59	38	18	-	25
30/25	27.5	108	77	56	36	18	26
35/25	30.0	127	95	74	55	36	28
35/28	31.5	137	105	84	65	46	28
35/30	32.5	144	113	92	73	54	29
37.5/32.5	35.0	162	131	111	91	73	31
40/30	35.0	162	131	111	91	73	31
40/35	37.5	179	149	129	108	91	32
45/35	40.0	197	167	147	126	109	34
45/40	42.5	214	184	164	143	126	35
50/40	45.0	232	201	181	161	143	37
50/45 <sup>1</sup>	47.5	239	214	201	181	162	38

<sup>1</sup> The flow temperature must never exceed 50 °C

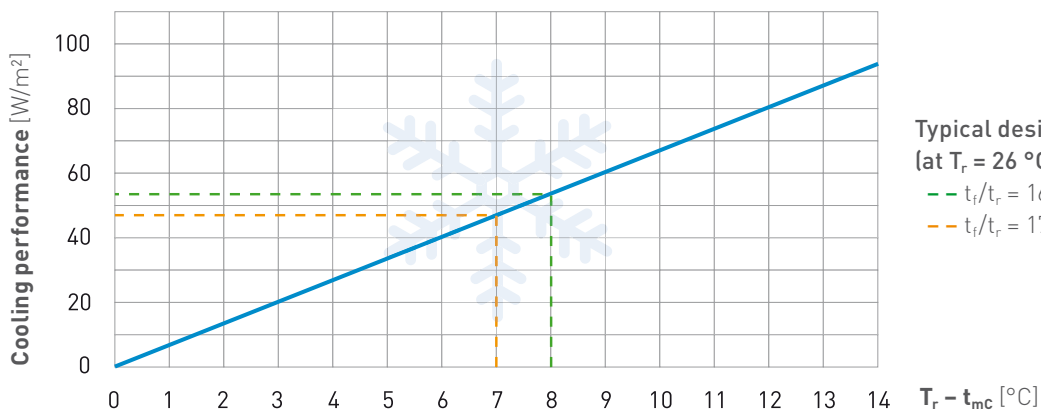
$$t_{mH} = \text{mean hot water temperature} = \frac{t_f + t_r}{2} \text{ [°C]}$$

$T_r$  = room temperature [°C]

$T_0$  = mean surface temperature [°C]

$t_f/t_r$  = flow temperature / return temperature [°C]

### 7.4 Cooling performance



$$t_{mc} = \text{Mean cooling water temperature} = \frac{t_f + t_r}{2} \text{ [°C]}$$

$T_r$  = Room temperature [°C]

$t_f/t_r$  = Flow temperature / Return temperature [°C]

The flow temperature must be selected in such a way or it must be ensured that the surface temperature of the ModularPanel (room-side and cavity) and the pipe never reaches or falls below the dew-point temperature at any point. Whereby the mean surface temperature  $T_0$  corresponds approximately to the return flow temperature  $t_r$ .

Relative humidity [%rF]	Room temperature $T_r$ [°C]				
	24	25	26	27	28
80 %	20.3	21.3	22.3	23.3	24.2
70 %	18.2	19.1	20.1	21.1	22.0
60 %	15.8	16.7	17.6	18.6	19.5
50 %	12.9	13.9	14.8	15.7	16.6
40 %	9.6	10.5	11.4	12.2	13.1

Dew-point temperature [°C]

Condensation can form on the pipes and surfaces if the flow temperature selected is too low. Control measures must be taken to prevent this (e.g. dew-point monitor, see also chapter 5.5).



## 7.5 Arrangement of the surfaces

Wall heating installations are used for heating occupied areas. For this reason, they should be evenly installed over the interior sides of exterior walls. At normal ceiling heights up to 3 m in buildings with good thermal insulation, designing the Modular Wall to a maximum height of 2 m above the finished floor level is sufficient. For a ceiling height of more than 3 m, (e. g. halls, stairwells, therapy areas) the wall heating installations must be designed higher than 2 m.

Experience has shown that radiant heat can be felt at a distance of up to 5 m from the heated wall. In larger rooms it is therefore advantageous to install a wall heating system on two opposing walls because the radiation effect on the body declines in proportion to the square of the distance.

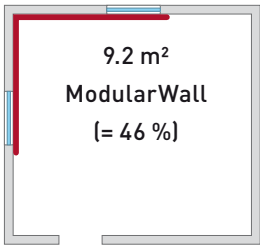
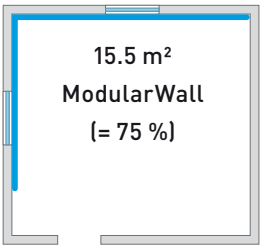
With a good arrangement of the radiant heating surfaces and U-values (exterior wall) of  $\leq 0.3 \text{ W/m}^2\text{K}$ , the room air temperature can be reduced by up to  $2^\circ\text{C}$  while retaining the same perceived temperature (comfort). Seating and glass surfaces (e. g. windows) must be taken into consideration when choosing the arrangement of wall heating surfaces.

### Furniture

Since the radiant heat should radiate into the living spaces, this is to be taken into consideration in the furniture planning. Wall fittings, full bookcases, built-in cupboards etc. should not be planned in front of wall heating systems. Desks, chests of drawers, open seats, small boxes, kitchen corner banks, pictures etc. usually present no problem. General rule of thumb: maximum of 15 % furnished area.

Tip: Beds (especially an open headboard) should not be placed directly in the radiation area of wall heating elements.

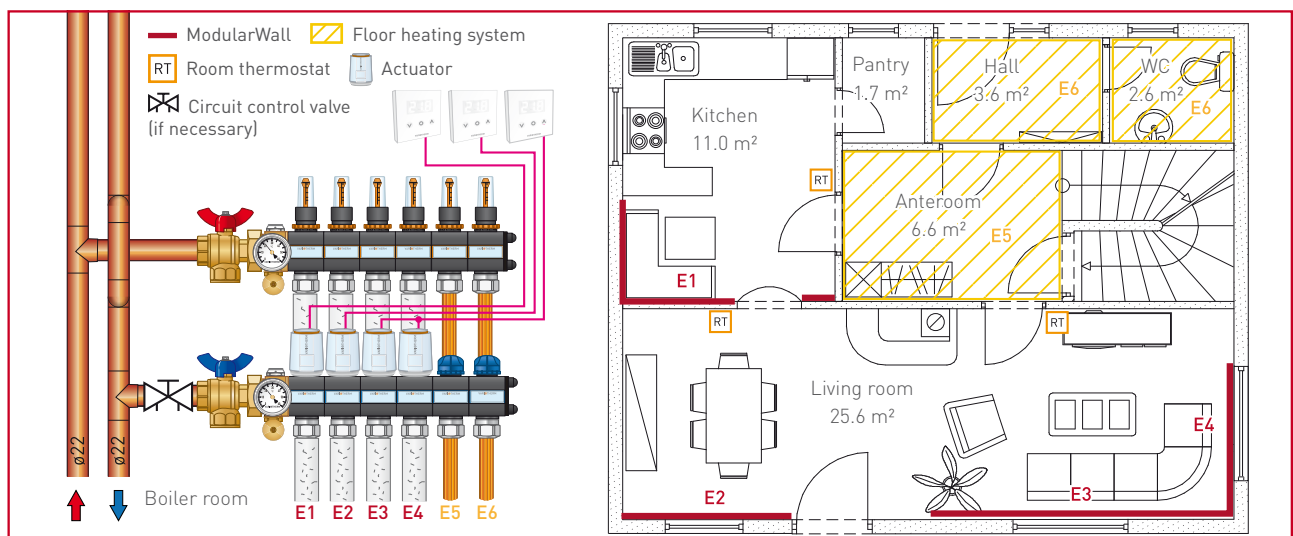
### Guide values for dimensioning<sup>1</sup> the ModularWall:

40 to 50 % of the room floor area	70 to 80 % of the room floor area
+ Heating o Cosy cooling effect	+ Cooling + Heating + Energy saving due to lower flow temperature
Example, 20 m <sup>2</sup> area: 	Example, 20 m <sup>2</sup> area: 

If the wall is dimensioned for heating, experience has shown that it still achieves a good cooling effect (slight cooling) if this surface is used for cooling in summer. Conversely, the flow temperature can be reduced in winter when heating if the wall area is dimensioned for cooling. This saves energy!

### Combination of heating systems

In the example below, the heating system has been adapted to suit the rooms: A floor heating system is planned for tiled rooms and wall heating surfaces are planned in the remaining rooms. A room thermostat for controlling the room temperature is planned for the kitchen, dining area and living room (influence of external heat sources from kitchen appliances, south-facing glass surfaces and tile stoves).



▲ Combination of heating systems, example single-family house (ground floor)

<sup>1</sup> Observe the heating/cooling load calculation for precise dimensioning of the area required!

## 7.6 Pressure loss

Example: The pressure loss of a 6.25 m<sup>2</sup> Modular wall heating (5 pcs. V020-100 at 1 heating circuit) is to be calculated. The desired flow/return temperature is 40/30 °C resulting in a heat output of 111 W/m<sup>2</sup> at a room temperature of 20 °C.

Calculation of the flow rate  $\dot{m}$  from the pressure loss diagram:

$$Q = 694 \text{ W (111 W/m}^2 \times 6.25 \text{ m}^2)$$

$$\Delta T = 10 \text{ K (} t_f - t_r = 40 \text{ K} - 30 \text{ K)}$$

$$c = 1.163 \text{ Wh/kgK (Specific heat capacity of water)}$$

$$m = Q \div c \div \Delta T$$

$$= 694 \text{ W} \div 1.163 \text{ Wh/kgK} \div 10 \text{ K} = 59.6 \text{ kg/h (l/h)}$$

59.6 l/h results, according to the diagram, in:

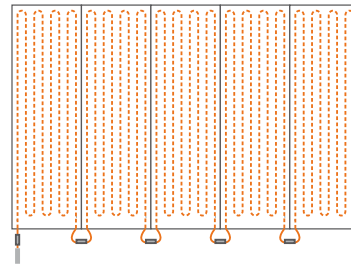
$$\text{Flow rate } \dot{m} = 0.29 \text{ m/s}$$

$$\text{Pressure loss (Variotherm pipe 11.6x1.5)} = 205 \text{ Pa/m}$$

$$\text{Pressure loss (Variotherm pipe 16x2)} = 36 \text{ Pa/m}$$

$$\text{Pipe length for 6.25 m}^2 \text{ heating surface} = 81 \text{ m}$$

$$(1 \text{ pce. V020-100} = 16.2 \text{ m pipe, see table on page 18})$$



$$Q = \dot{m} \times c \times \Delta T$$

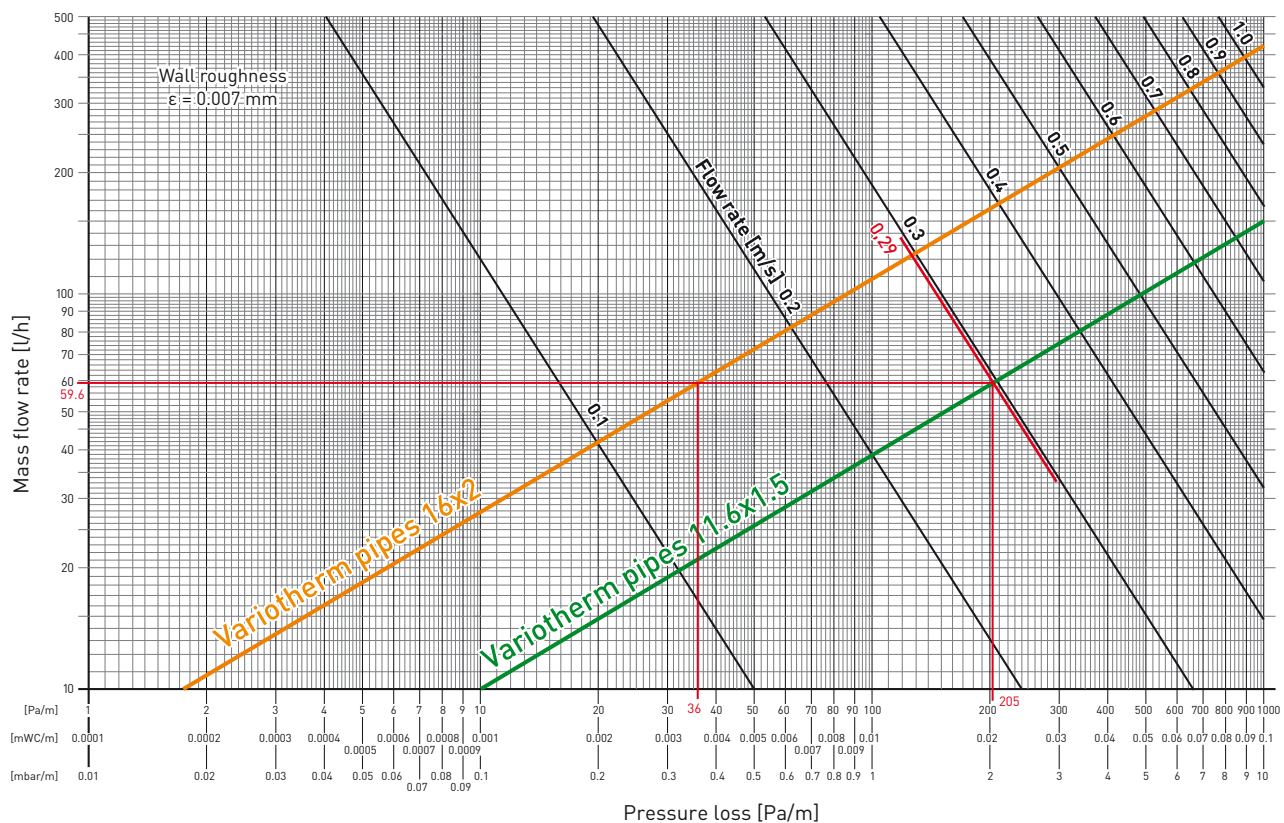
Maximum flow rate per cooling/heating circuit of the VarioManifold:

160 l/h

Press-fit coupling	Coefficient of resistance $\zeta$ (Zeta)
11.6 x 11.6	7.2
16 x 11.6	6.9

- $\Delta p$  for 6.25 m<sup>2</sup> ModularWall:  $205 \text{ Pa/m} \times 81 \text{ m} = \mathbf{16\,605 \text{ Pa}}$
- $\Delta p$  for 15 m pre-insulated VarioModular pipe 16x2:  $36 \text{ Pa/m} \times 15 \text{ m} = \mathbf{540 \text{ Pa}}$
- $\Delta p$  for 4 pcs. press-fit couplings 11.6x11.6:  $\zeta \times \rho/2 \times \dot{m}^2 = 7.2 \times 500 \text{ kg/m}^3 \times (0.29 \text{ m/s})^2 = 303 \text{ Pa} \times 4 \text{ pcs.} = \mathbf{1212 \text{ Pa}}$
- $\Delta p$  for 2 pcs. press-fit couplings 16x11.6:  $\zeta \times \rho/2 \times \dot{m}^2 = 6.9 \times 500 \text{ kg/m}^3 \times (0.29 \text{ m/s})^2 = 290 \text{ Pa} \times 2 \text{ pcs.} = \mathbf{580 \text{ Pa}}$

$$\Delta p_{\text{Total}} = 16\,605 \text{ Pa} + 540 \text{ Pa} + 1212 \text{ Pa} + 580 \text{ Pa} = \mathbf{18\,937 \text{ Pa} = 1.89 \text{ mWC}}$$



# 8 PROTOCOLS

## 8.1 Leak-tightness test in accordance with EN 1264-4

After installation and before completion work (plastering, painting, wallpapering, tiling), the circuits of the Variotherm ModularWall must be checked for leak-tightness by means of a water pressure test. The test pressure should be min. 4 bar and max. 6 bar. Due to the initial pipe expansion, it may be necessary to re-pump the test pressure. If there is a risk of freezing, appropriate measures should be taken, e. g. use of antifreeze and controlling the building's temperature.

Construction project: \_\_\_\_\_

Building owner/occupant: \_\_\_\_\_

Client: \_\_\_\_\_

Heating installer: \_\_\_\_\_

Architect: \_\_\_\_\_

Others: \_\_\_\_\_

- › Installation of ModularPanels finished on: \_\_\_\_\_
- › Installation of pipe connections finished on: \_\_\_\_\_
- › Pressure test started on: \_\_\_\_\_ with test pressure \_\_\_\_ bar
- › Pressure test finished on: \_\_\_\_\_ with test pressure \_\_\_\_ bar
- › Start of completion work (plastering, painting, wallpapering, tiling) on: \_\_\_\_\_
- › System pressure during the completion work was \_\_\_\_ bar
- › The system water was treated (e.g. per ÖNORM H 5195-1) ☐ Yes ☐ No
- › Antifreeze was added to the system water ☐ Yes ☐ No
- › The system was checked for leak-tightness on: \_\_\_\_\_ and approved

Approval:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Building owner/Occupant/Client

\_\_\_\_\_  
Construction management/Architect

\_\_\_\_\_  
Heating installation technician

## 8.2 Functional heating (in compliance with EN 1264-4 or BVF<sup>1</sup>)

The functional heating serves as verification and proof of the creation of a defect-free installation for the heating installer and/or drywall builder.

The functional heating is only carried out after the filling or gluing work has been completed. The filler or joint adhesive must have hardened.

Manufacturer's instructions must be observed.

The maximum calculated flow temperature must be maintained for at least 1 day.

Construction project: \_\_\_\_\_

Building owner/occupant: \_\_\_\_\_

Client: \_\_\_\_\_

Heating installer: \_\_\_\_\_

Architect: \_\_\_\_\_

Others: \_\_\_\_\_

### Preheating of the Variotherm Modular Wall

- › Completion work finished: \_\_\_\_\_
- › Preheating started with constant max. calculated flow temperature: \_\_\_\_\_ |  $t_f =$  \_\_\_\_\_ °C
- › End of functional heating : \_\_\_\_\_  
If there is a risk of freezing, appropriate measures should be taken, (e.g. frost protection mode).
- › The rooms were ventilated without draughts and all windows and external doors closed after switching off the surface heating and cooling system: ☐ Yes ☐ No
- › Operating state and outdoor temperature on handover:

When switched off after the preheating phase, the ModularWall must be protected against draughts and from cooling down too quickly until it has cooled down completely.

Approval:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Building owner/Occupant/Client

\_\_\_\_\_  
Construction management/Architect

\_\_\_\_\_  
Heating installation technician

## 8.3 Commissioning

The flow temperature (heating water) of the ModularWall must not exceed  $t_f = 50$  °C. The main stop valves at the distribution station and the heating circuit shut-offs must be opened. The entire system must be well vented. The circulation pump can be switched on after venting. After commissioning a Variotherm surface heating/cooling system can be considered maintenance-free.

(Subject to technical changes.)

<sup>1</sup> BVF = Bundesverband Flächenheizungen und Flächenkühlungen e.V.

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