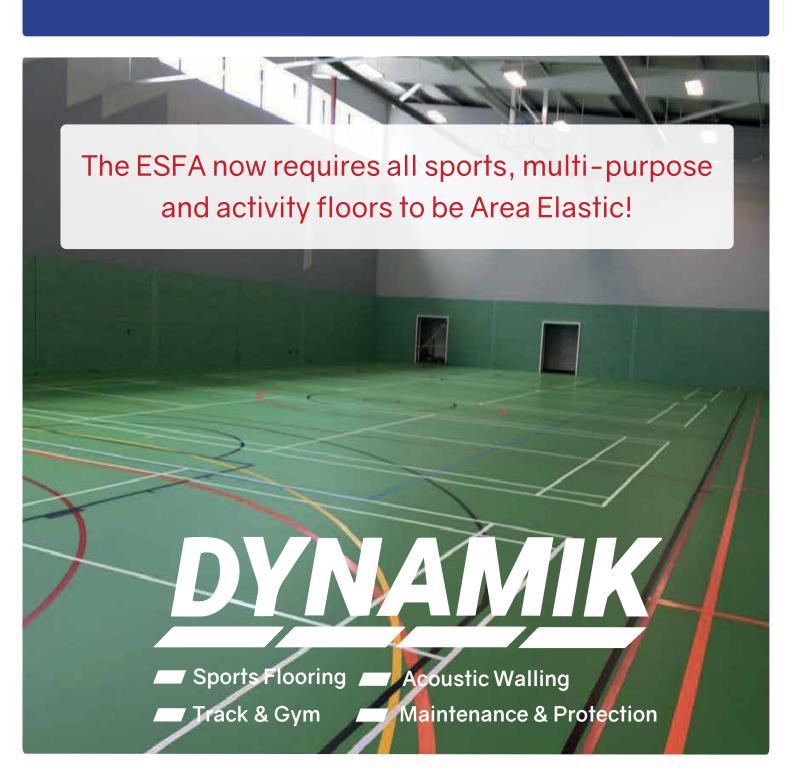
Are you up to date with the latest ESFA Outline Specification?



The ESFA requires that all sports, multi-purpose and activity floors must be **Area Elastic Floors**

Previously the ESFA allowed P1-P3 (Point Elastic) foam-backed vinyls to be used within their funded projects. However, with the new phase of education spending, the ESFA's new guidelines now require the use of EN14904 certified Area Elastic Category A3 or A4 systems only.

Point Elastic, foam-backed or pad-based playing surfaces now have been judged to be unsuitable within ESFA-funded projects. The soft pad or foam sponge backing can expose issues with indentation and point load resistance, as well as not being suitable for portable or bleacher seating units. Additionally, due to their high rolling resistance, point elastic floors are not ideal for wheelchair sports.

Conversely, Area Elastic Systems deflect an impact over a wide surface area, providing the highest levels of shock absorption and comfort. This is the best solution for multi-sports, offering high levels of performance and indentation resistance, therefore making it an excellent choice for all types of sporting and non-sporting activities. Area Elastic Systems are a particularly good choice for wheelchair sports, and are recommended by British Wheelchair Basketball.



Two categories of Area Elastic floor are approved by the ESFA, Categories A3 and A4. They define slightly different levels of shock absorption, comfort, and vertical deformation that area elastic floors must meet under the EN 14904 standard, see Table 1 below.

Test Criteria	Category A3	Category A4
Shock Absorption	≥40 <55	≥55 <75
Vertical Deformation	≥1.8mm<3.5mm	≥2.3mm<5mm

Table 1: A3 & A4 Area Elastic Floor Categories - As Required Under EN 14904 Standard

Category A4 floors are particularly suitable for activities and sports that require high levels of comfort, as they provide superior levels of shock absorption and vertical deformation.

There are several factors to consider when advising clients who are looking to install new flooring or refurbish their existing sports hall or multi-purpose areas.

Current considerations when choosing a new sports floor include: initial cost, performance characteristics, durability, sporting and non-sporting usage such as examinations, comfort levels, compliance with The Equality Act 2010, floor protection for hardwood surfaces to avoid scratch or indentation damage, life-cycle costs, maintenance, rolling and point load resistance.



DYNAMIK A4 area elastic sprung system finished in a solid synthetic surface ideal for use without floor protection

A3 or A4 area elastic sprung systems typically offer high indentation resistance and can withstand high rolling loads from retractable seating or sports equipment, as well as being ideal for non-sporting usage such as school events or community use. The ESFA's latest specification also details a minimum requirement for larger educational establishments (over 900 students) to provide retractable seating therefore sprung systems need to be finished with a solid playing surface such as timber, solid vinyl, solid linoleum or non-pad based seamless PU.



DYNAMIK Sprung A4 System with Retractable Seating

If, as a specifier, you are designing a new space for sports or multi-activity then DYNAMIK can provide up to date technical guidance from the leading UK sports governing bodies. Having Official & Technical partnerships with Basketball England, England Netball, the BBL, British Wheelchair Basketball, and Basketball Wales, and England Handball, DYNAMIK can offer trusted advice to schools, colleges and universities across the UK when it comes to choosing the correct type of sports flooring.

For further advice about the recommended flooring type (F6) please refer to the official ESFA minimum performance requirements table, shown in the ESFA Guidance for Floors DYNAMIK document.









DYNAMIK's Area Elastic Floor Systems

Flexi-Beam Plus



Komfort Elite



Flexi-Beam Elite



Athen



Official Partners



















DYNAMIK A4 Sprung Floor

About DYNAMIK Sport

With over 20 years' experience, DYNAMIK are leading UK providers of indoor sports flooring solutions, gym and fitness flooring. We provide the manufacture, design, specification, supply and installation, enabling DYNAMIK to offer solutions that perfectly meet both the needs of a facility and its users.

Our sprung systems range from high performance LED glass floors, to timber or synthetic surfaces such as Sport Linoleum, Vinyl, Rubber or Seamless Polyurethane.

Whether it's Basketball, Netball, Tennis, Badminton, Futsal, Wheelchair Sport, High Performance Weight Training or Community use, DYNAMIK have the solution.