

Impact Testing

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"It's just like Tectum" is a phrase architects hear all the time. Well, is "it"? Tectum Inc offers a lifetime warranty against breakage on its ceiling and wall panel systems. How do the others stack up? Tectum Inc. decided to put the products to the test at an independent testing facility to determine the answer. Tectum grid panels, Martin Acoustiplank** panels and Armstrong Armatuff*** panels were put to the test.

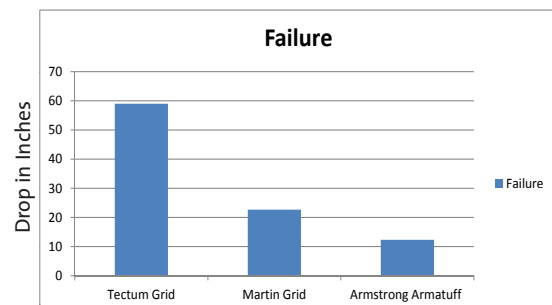
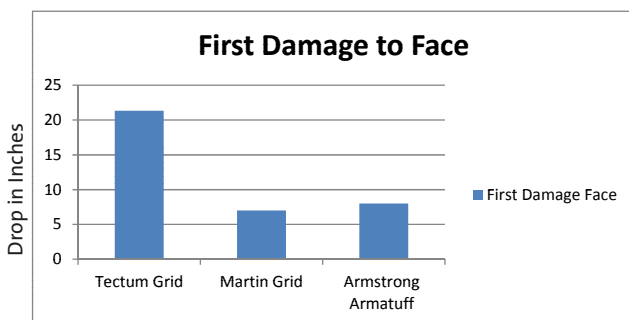
These panels were tested using a steel ball three inches in diameter which weighed 4.1 pounds. The test consisted of dropping this ball from an ever-increasing height starting at 1" (one inch) and increasing the drop distance by 1" (one inch) for each successive drop. Each drop impacted the panel at the same location. Failure was defined as total penetration of the ball through the panel.

As you can see from the chart below, on first damage to the face Tectum panels beat the other manufacturers' panels by nearly three to one. Note that the Armstrong panel outperformed the Martin panel on this important impact resistance property.

At failure Tectum panels again outperformed the others by better than 2.5 to 1 for the nearest competitor.

Of greater importance, first damage to Tectum panels occurred after or near failure of the other manufacturers' panels. Tectum panels take abuse and remain in service.

Therefore, it's not "just like Tectum." Specify Tectum panels and receive the lifetime of performance you demand in an abuse-resistant acoustical panels.



- * Test Report available upon request
- ** Trademark of Armstrong World Industries
- *** Trademark of Martin Fireproofing, GA