

July 1, 2016

*Burns, TN*

Dear Customers,

Over the past year, American OEM has become synonymous for the domestic production of ultra-long hardwood flooring. This format has been well received because boards with lengths up to 8' install five square feet in a single plank, speeding installation time for your customers.

However, one side effect of manufacturing these long lengths is occasionally boards come down the line with slight deformations such as end lift, crowning or side sweep. Though we try to pull out lifted pieces prior to packaging, it can be hard to identify all of them on the line. A small amount of these types of boards will make it into the box and therefore onto the jobsite.

We would like to offer a tip for installing boards with these characteristics to ensure speed and ease of installation for your customers. A common practice for alleviating lift is to simply cut the board in half and use the cut pieces as the first or last plank in the row. Doing so will reduce the sweep, bow or bend by up to half of the original amount and will allow for much easier installation.

If you have any additional questions about this topic or any other installation related question, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

American OEM Technical Group

The far right board has side bend that can be reduced to an installable level by simply cutting the board in half and using it as a starter/finishing piece.

