

PLANNING

Read all warnings on pages 6-7 prior to installation.

Prior to the installation of KERDI-BOARD-SNLT, the Schluter®-LIPROTEC-CW connection cable must be run, with the cable gland positioned to be connected at the top of the niche.

Use the KERDI-BOARD-SNLT Planning Guide to help select the LED power source (the Schluter®-LIPROTEC-ECX all-in-one driver and dimmer or the Schluter®-LIPROTEC-ECD dimmable driver), and to calculate the proper length of LIPROTEC-CW connection cable for your application. The Planning Guide is available on Schluter.com.

Follow the installation steps in precise order.

- Connectors may be damaged by repeated connection/disconnection.
- DO NOT install the LED strip into the profile until grouting is complete.

DO NOT install the KERDI-BOARD-SNLT in a commercial, continuous use steam shower. For residential, intermittent use steam shower applications, please contact your local Schluter representative or Customer Service to determine project suitability and warranty eligibility.

DO NOT install the LED and connection box at the bottom of the niche. Water will accumulate in the cavity and be difficult to clear. Installing in this manner will void the warranty.



- 1 Determine the desired location and trace around the outside of the KERDI-BOARD-SNLT flange ensuring the lines are level and plumb. Cut and remove the KERDI-BOARD or solid backing (e.g. gypsum board) such that the niche will be supported on both sides by the studs or other wall framing.

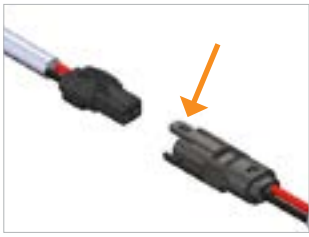


- 2 Once the cut piece of KERDI-BOARD or solid backing has been removed, locate the previously run LIPROTEC-CW connection cable. Please refer to the KERDI-BOARD-SNLT Planning Guide for determining and configuring the required length of the LIPROTEC-CW connection cable for your application.

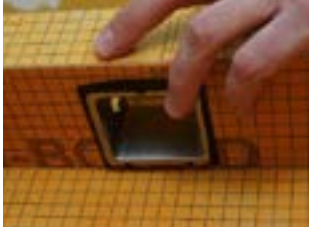


- 3 Test the LED function by connecting the waterproof plugs together (LED connector to end of LIPROTEC-CW cable). Check all connections are complete and correct at the LED power supply (LIPROTEC-ECD or LIPROTEC-ECX driver). Turn on the power and confirm the LED will illuminate by using the wall switch. **Note: DO NOT** test the LED function by connecting the LIPROTEC-CW cable directly to 120V power. This will damage the LED strip light, could result in electrical shock, and will void the warranty.





- 4 Separate the connectors. **INSTALLATION TIP:** Use caution when disconnecting the LED. There is a small locking tab on the connector that needs to be lifted slightly before the connectors can be separated.



- 5 Insert the stainless steel connection box into the plastic cavity at the top of the KERDI-BOARD-SNLT niche. Hold in place as you locate and grab the cable gland end of the LIPROTEC-CW connection cable.

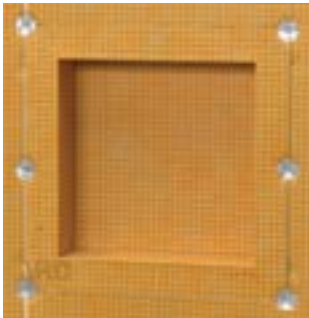
Notes:

- The metal connection box can only be inserted one way; ensure that the side holes are aligned. The hole in the cavity box is oversized so that the cable gland can ONLY be installed with the stainless steel connection box in place.
- Having extra cable length in the wall allows for slight adjustments and ease of installation of the niche.



- 6 Holding the niche near the wall opening, insert the cable gland from the outside into the hole on the side of the box. **PRESS FIRMLY** and snap it into the hole. You will hear a **CLICK**. Be sure the gland is tightly sealed onto the plastic box.

Note: Do not loosen or adjust the placement of the gland on the cable. Improper tightening of the gland could compromise waterproof integrity.



7a Installing over KERDI-BOARD

Insert the niche and fasten to the studs using wood or metal screws and KERDI-BOARD-ZT washers, and place the fasteners along the seam between the KERDI-BOARD and the niche. Fasten all corners and limit fastener spacing to 12" (30 cm) o.c.



7b Installing over Solid Backing

Insert the niche and fasten to the studs using wood or metal screws and place the fasteners approximately 1/4" (6 mm) from the edge of the niche. Fasten all corners and limit fastener spacing to 12" (30 cm) o.c.

Note: Be careful not to pinch or pierce the connection cable during installation with the mounting screws.



- 8 Add **masking tape** around the connector on the LIPROTEC-CW connection cable below the cable gland. The tape protects the connector from being fouled by thin-set mortar. Use extra masking tape to create a tab to pull the wire out of the box during installation.

Waterproofing



9a Installing over KERDI-BOARD

Seal the seams between the niche and walls using KERDI-BAND with Schluter®-SET, ALL-SET, FAST-SET, or unmodified thin-set mortar and ensure a 2" (50 mm) overlap in all directions.



9b Installing over Solid Backing

Connections between the niche and walls are made using KERDI membrane, applied with Schluter®-SET, ALL-SET, FAST-SET, or unmodified thin-set mortar. Apply the membrane over the wall and embed it into the mortar throughout its entire surface to ensure proper adhesion. Remove any air pockets. The membrane is subsequently cut to match the niche opening.

Mix the thin-set mortar to a fairly fluid consistency, yet still able to hold a notch. Apply the thin-set using the Schluter®-KERDI-TROWEL, which features a 1/8" x 1/8" (3 mm x 3 mm) square-notched design, or a 1/4" x 3/16" (6 mm x 5 mm) V-notched trowel.

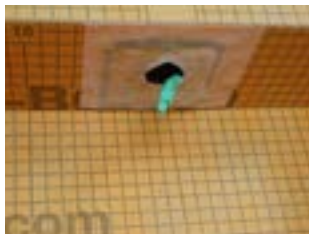


- 10 Snap the stainless steel cover into place. Tuck the LIPROTEC-CW cable into the stainless steel connection box. Determine the position and direction of the mounting profile: back or middle installation (anchoring leg facing in or out). Check the position of the slot in the mounting profile and the opening in the box cover to confirm alignment. For LED placement in the rear, the open side of the cover should be toward the back and the reverse for a middle install.



- 11 Dry fit the self-adhesive KERDI patch at the top of the niche. Mark the spot where the cable will penetrate. Cut a hole of approximately 1" x 1" (25 mm x 25 mm) in the patch for the connector to pass through. The self-adhesive KERDI patch is used for proper thin-set mortar adhesion and to prevent mortar from entering the connection box. It is not intended for waterproofing.





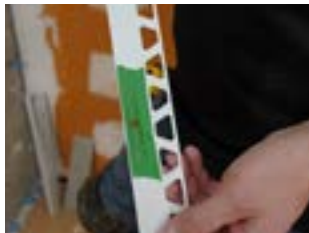
- 12 Remove the paper backing on the KERDI patch and adhere it to the same location as it was tested. Carefully smooth the KERDI from back to front, so there are no bumps or wrinkles.

- 13 Tile the back of the niche and recheck the fit of the profile.

IMPORTANT!

Install the profile WITHOUT the LED strip inserted. The LED strip should only be inserted after the tile has been set and grouted as grouting can damage the surface of the LED strip.

- 14 Trowel thin-set mortar at the top of the niche, being careful not to lose the wire or damage it.



- 15 In order to prevent thin-set mortar from getting into the channel of the mounting profile, add a piece of masking tape across the slot in the back of the profile. A small hole should be added to make it easier to retrieve the tape tab on the connector, so you can pull out the connector in the next steps.



- 16 Embed the profile at the top of the niche. Pull the wire tape tab down through the thin-set mortar and slot in the profile. Be sure the wire can move freely. Clean away all thin-set mortar from the tape, wires, and channel.



- 17 Apply additional thin-set mortar over the anchoring leg of the profile and back-butter the tile as required. Set the surrounding tile and finishing profiles.



- 18 Install tiles on the sides and bottom of the niche. **Note:** A space is created intentionally at the end of the profile above the side tiles. The LED strip will be inserted into this area. Keep this space clear of thin-set mortar.



- 19 Allow thin-set mortar to cure and apply grout. If you do test the fit of the LED strip into the mounting profile, it must be removed prior to grouting. A tab can be made with masking tape to facilitate removal. It is important to remove the LED strip from the profile prior to grouting to avoid damage.

Once the tile has been set and grouted, the LED strip can be inserted.



20 Installation of the LED Strip into the Mounting Profile

IMPORTANT: take care not to pinch the wires or stress the LED in the following steps.

- Pull the wire down through the slot in the profile.
- Remove the tape and clean any thin-set mortar off the cable and connector.
- Plug the LED into the cable; it should click.
- Test LED function.
- Tuck the connectors into the stainless steel connection box above.
- Push the ends of the LED strip into the space above the side tiles first.
- Let the LED strip bow slightly in the center and position the cable so that it is aligned directly below the slot of the profile.
- Press the LED strip into the profile channel while guiding the cable through the slot into the connection box.
- **Ensure that all cable is properly inserted into the connection box.** If cable is positioned in the channel of the mounting profile, behind the LED strip, the LED strip will not sit flush.
- Press the LED strip firmly into the channel until completely flat. Run a clean cloth or finger back and forth to fully seat it.



- 21 Fill in any gaps at the end of the LED above the tiles with grout or caulk.

Note: When using the prefabricated shelf (included with the 12" x 28" KERDI-BOARD-SNLT niche), determine the desired height of the shelf and mark with a level line. Set tile up to that line on the back and sides of the niche. For best lighting results, install the shelf in the lower section of the niche to maximize the illuminated area. Butter the sides and back of the shelf with Schluter®-SET, ALL-SET, FAST-SET, or unmodified thin-set mortar and solidly embed it in the niche, resting on the previously installed tile. The shelf may be raised at the back to create a slope, or the tile may be set on a slope, to prevent water from pooling in the finished application.

Customer Service
USA: 800-472-4588
Canada: 800-667-8746

- **Before installing and operating this product, the user and/or installer must read, understand, and follow these instructions and keep them handy for future reference. If you have a question, please contact Customer Service by phone 800-472-4588 (USA) or 800-667-8746 (Canada) or from our website at www.schluter.com.**
- **If this installation handbook and these instructions are not followed, the warranty will be considered null and void and the manufacturer deems no further responsibility for this product.**
- **The following instructions must be adhered to in order to avoid personal injuries or property damages, including serious injuries and potentially fatal electric shocks or fire.**
- **This product must be installed by a qualified person in accordance with this installation handbook and with the Canadian Electrical Code Part I (Canada) or the National Electrical Code (U.S.) as applicable. All electric connections must be made by a qualified person, according to the electrical and building codes effective in your region.**

- Schluter®-KERDI-BOARD-SNLT niche, mounting profile, and all electrical components for interior use only.
- **De-energize all power circuits before installation and servicing.**
- A 120 V power source must be available within the range of the ECX or ECD drivers in order to connect the power supply.
- Never power the LED light strip directly to a 120 V power source. This will damage the LED light strip. The power must be converted to 24 V in order to illuminate the LED light strip.
- For permanent mounting of the LED light strips, the mounting profiles must be fixed in accordance with code requirements.
- All cables, plug connections, and system components outside of the shower must be kept permanently dry.
- The cable length in one strand must not exceed 49.25 ft (15 m).
- The minimum bending radius for the LED light strips is 1.64 ft (500 mm).
- LED light strips must not be bent laterally over the edges.
- Use care when removing the LED light strips. Do not use sharp objects (i.e., screw drivers, etc.) to remove the LED light strips as this will lead to damage.
- Use caution when trimming back the low voltage cable jacket to not cut the insulation on the inner wires.
- The LIPROTEC-CW low voltage cable can be extended using Class 2 (CL2 or FT4 in CA) in-wall rated LED cable or equivalent but must be spliced in an accessible electrical box and following local code. Contact a qualified electrician in your area for guidance.

o See **National Electrical Code, NFPA 70**, especially

- Article 300 General Requirements for Wiring Methods and Materials
- Article 400 Flexible Cords and Flexible Cables
- Article 725 Class 1, Class 2, and Class 3 Remote-Control, Signaling, and Power-Limited Circuits

o **National Building Code of Canada**

- Section 2 — General Rules
- Section 12 — Wiring methods
- Section 16 — Class 1 and Class 2 circuits

- All wiring shall be attached to the permanent building structure.
- All low-voltage electrical work shall be done in a workmanlike manner (neat and organized).
- Penetrations in fire barriers shall be sealed.
- All splices and terminations shall be done in appropriate electrical boxes.
- Low-voltage wiring shall not be strapped to conduit.
- Low-voltage wiring shall not be attached to sprinkler piping.
- Wire shall not be run on top of the drop ceiling panels.
- Wiring shall not be attached to the support grid for the drop ceiling.

Intended Use of the Product

- To produce accent lighting in:
 - o Interior areas
 - o Areas with intermittent humid conditions (e.g., showers, bathrooms).
 - o For residential, intermittent use steam shower applications, please contact your local Schluter representative or Customer Service to determine project suitability and warranty eligibility.
 - o **DO NOT** install the KERDI-BOARD-SNLT in a commercial, continuous use steam room.

Misuse of the Product

- Only use with Schluter®-LIPROTEC and Schluter®-KERDI-BOARD-SNLT shower niche with white LED components.
- Do not trim or cut into LED strip.
- Never remove, strip, or disconnect wire on the LED.
- Do not loosen or adjust the placement of the gland on the cable. Improper tightening of the gland could compromise waterproof integrity.
- Follow the installation steps in precise order.
- Connectors may be damaged by repeated connection/disconnection.
- DO NOT install the LED strip into the profile until grouting is complete.
- DO NOT install the LED and connection boxes at the bottom of the niche. Water will accumulate in the cavity and be difficult to clear. Installing in this manner will void the warranty.
- Only use the LED system in the manner described in the installation and operating instructions.
- Never install the LED system in areas that are completely underwater – continuously or temporarily (e.g., swimming pool lighting).
- DO NOT use the self-adhesive KERDI patch for waterproofing.
- Clean the mounting profile and LED light strips with neutral cleaners. Avoid the use of strong acids (e.g., hydrochloric, hydrofluoric) and bases/alkaline cleaners (e.g., bleach, ammonia, chlorides). Do not use abrasive cleaning agents or tools.

