

18th September 2015

## Protection at its best with Gerflor!

Providing high quality handrails, corner, door and wall protection throughout most facilities whether in healthcare, education, hotels, sports or industrial units is both good practice and forward-thinking.

Gerflor has more than 70 years' experience in manufacturing stylish, innovative and eco-responsible vinyl flooring and interior finishes for contract, sport, transport and residential applications. SPM International has been integrated into the Gerflor brand, offering customers a suite of reliable and decorative systems providing safety, hygiene, easy maintenance and noise management.

Gerflor SPM offers a comprehensive range of wall and door protection, corner protectors and handrails in an extensive range of finishes.

The protective PVC panel range includes Decochoc and Decoclean, for large walls and surfaces together with Decowood which is a wood effect panel that combines wall protection and with the warmth of wood without the drawbacks.

For a more original look, Decotrend panels uplift and highlight interiors with impressive visual effects providing a shaped perspective view with composite and the striking appearance of brushed aluminium.

Gerflor SPM can also custom make panels, using digital printing of imagery to create an aesthetic feel or provide signage solutions to cover walls.

Gerflor SPM handrails are designed to protect against hand-borne infections while being ergonomic and providing good levels of grip. The range of handrails has an innovative bactericidal joint and includes elegant wood effect and aluminium finishes or the option of a PVC sheath. These coordinate with a specially developed range of corner protectors that resist impact and the effects of cleaning and constant use of disinfectant products.

Roundhay School is one of seven schools in the first Leeds PFI Project and have adopted a range of SPM's products in order to preserve the pristine condition of the interior. The architect for the project 'Aedas' chose a 120 mm wall protection rail together with 30 mm corner protection which have been used in the corridors to prevent any damage caused by pedestrian traffic, whilst a 120 mm chair rail was chosen and used throughout classrooms in order to prevent damage caused by furniture which comes into contact with the walls.

The project architect from Aedas commented, "SPM's products were chosen because of their durability and cost effectiveness, two important factors for all education projects. Their wide range of colours also allowed us to choose those that complemented the décor of the school, which helped to create a modern environment."

The SPM product range from Gerflor also offers the highest levels of protection for high traffic areas in a host of health care facilities which includes hospitals, clinics and retirement homes. And when the New Century Care Group looked to begin a programme of upgrading its 27 care homes, the project managers, Frankum & Company were keen to evaluate the various flooring, hand rail and wall protection systems available.

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This led to the development of a pilot scheme at the Group's Buxton Lodge care home at Caterham-on-the-Hill, Surrey.

Gerflor's SPM brand Decosheet wall protection and Escort 40 handrails were specified for the main circulation areas, where there is the potential for damage from wheelchairs and kitchen and housekeeping trolleys and where residents need a handrail for support. The PVC-sheathed Decowood handrails are in mature oak to contrast with the cream Decosheet used below. This merged with the neutral paint finishes employed in the corridors. As well as providing long term wall protection, rigid PVC Decosheet is ideal for refurbishment because of its ability to mask uneven walls, something that flexible vinyl wall protection is unable to do. Further protection is added through the use of Cornea 60 corner protectors on all the external angles.

Craig Prior, director of business development, New Century Care Group, commented, "Gerflor offers an excellent product which fits our needs in terms of safety and infection control while the many different colours available match our decorative schemes. The products tick all the boxes and we're happy with the way they're performing, especially as we don't have to maintain and repaint the corridors every five minutes."

The breadth of the SPM range is both vast and specific and also provides protection for all education applications, together with industrial facilities which also includes clean rooms/controlled environments and the pharmaceutical sector.

A host of 'back of house' operations can also benefit from the protective qualities of SPM, as can damp changing areas in all sports areas.

The Gerflor SPM range breaks down into five very distinct categories.

The SPM wall protection range alone comprises three high-end performing systems.

Firstly a horizontal rail protection system fitted at two levels to protect walls.

Linea Punch from Gerflor is the perfect solution for horizontal wall protection against intensive wheeled traffic for corridors, access and storage areas providing a balanced alliance between impact resistances and stunning design.

Plates are provided to protect walls and doors against abrasion from chairs, furniture and repeated impact and Decochoc panels protect large walls, doors and surfaces from impact and abrasion damage.

Corner protection which is self-adhesive for light impact areas or can be mounted on an aluminium core for busier places. Made in PVC in a choice of profiles including stainless steel.

Linea Flex from Gerflor is designed with polyvalence for heavy traffic areas providing extremely high levels of protection in corners against impacts and friction. It's an ideal wall protection systems for reception areas and anywhere there is high volumes of circulation. Linea Flex fits to any height and has maximum levels of hygiene. Installation is quick and easy with two strips of doubled side adhesive tape.

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Door protection systems which provide plates and panels for all doors. Decorative plates with cut-outs and inlaid signage are also available.

Handrails which are made from PVC and aluminium.

These are designed to help mobility and protect walls.

Linea Touch from Gerflor is a unique trilobed shape delivering better ergonomics for moderate traffic areas

It's a handrail system with a unique design providing protection throughout the building, whatever the level of impact resistance required and provides excellent levels of grip thanks to its exclusive trilobed shape. Linea Touch is also available in a reinforced version delivering proven levels of high resistance.

And finally...hygienic cladding using Gerflor's Decoclean panels which were developed for use in areas exposed to a high risk of infection which includes hospitals. Decoclean is also appropriate for kitchen use.

Maxwell Taylor, SPM Specialist, Gerflor, said, "Our range of SPM products are at the very leading-edge of wall, corner and door protection. It's a range that's been developed with the customer and the future in mind. SPM provides stunning design and durability coupled to easy maintenance."

SPM handrails are Equality Act compliant. The anti-microbial joints for handrails have been independently tested\* to ISO 20743, while the Institute of Pasteur, Lille, (IPL) certifies handrails Decosheet and Decoclean appropriate for use in acute medical areas.

Materials used in the SPM range are mainly non-polluting PVC and aluminium. 100% recyclable and PVC products do not contain heavy metals, or breach REACH regulations and are suitable for use in projects adopting High Quality Environment standards.

Learn more about Gerflor solutions, ask for a free sample or contact us to speak to a specialist today by calling 01926 622 600, emailing [contractuk@gerflor.com](mailto:contractuk@gerflor.com), or visiting [gerflor.co.uk](http://gerflor.co.uk) for the latest innovations.

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