

SECTOR: HEALTHCARE
CLIENT: NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ROYAL INFIRMARY
SOLUTION: ATTRACTION, TARASAFE ULTRA, SPM DECOSHEET

Healthcare solutions that are built to stand the test of time

“SPM wall protection had already been used extensively throughout the hospital. It is easier now during refurbishments to be dealing with one company rather than two.”

Rachel Morris, Building Maintenance Manager, North Staffordshire Royal Infirmary.

Introduction to the new Gerflor and SPM International organisation

An innovative approach through research and development, and a dedicated focus on achieving high levels of customer satisfaction, has ensured that Gerflor continues to develop a range of market-leading products that are specifically suited to meet the needs of clients.

The healthcare market and, in particular, both public and private hospitals, have not only specific needs in terms of hygiene, maintenance and resistance to wear and tear but also complicated and stringent procurement policies for approved suppliers and tendering procedures.

The Gerflor Flooring Group and SPM International have joined forces to offer the healthcare markets with a complete solution for both new and refurbishment projects. This is not only from a product choice point of view but also with regards to providing a tailored service package for healthcare clients. Gerflor has successfully established key partnerships with approved contractors in order to, firstly, understand procurement policies within the NHS and, secondly, to provide support to make the procurement process from design through to installation more efficient. The obvious benefit is that, by providing an integrated solution, the customer will save money and time by dealing with one supplier for vinyl flooring, door, corner and handrail protection! Whilst working as part of a delivery team with an approved contractor network, the customer can be assured of innovation both in the products selected and also the quality of installation.

The brief for the MIU

Gerflor's ability to provide an integrated approach that is matched by a range of innovative solutions, has been clearly demonstrated at the Royal Infirmary Site within the University Hospital of North Staffordshire.

Here, a range of products was installed by an approved flooring contractor and Gerflor partner, Crown Flooring, in the refurbishment of the Multiple Injuries Unit (MIU) and main corridors.

The 200m² MIU posed a huge challenge. With seven beds containing critically ill patients on ventilators, a nurses' station, plus extensive equipment and cables, the unit had to remain fully operational throughout the installation of the new flooring. The team had to work with clinicians to ensure minimum disruption in this very sensitive area of the hospital. In addition, the team had to ensure the very highest standards to help NHS staff prevent the risk of infections to these very vulnerable patients.

The solution for the MIU

To address this critical issue, Gerflor was selected as a supplier for its Attraction range of loose lay floor tiles, and was considered as the best market solution as they can be laid directly over the existing flooring and, in this case, beds and equipment could be easily moved onto the new flooring as the installation progressed.

Attraction is highly durable, has a unique dovetail joint; this ensures that tiles are quick to install or replace whilst also creating an-all-but invisible seam. They require no adhesives, welding or grouting and are easy to maintain as a result of a UV cured polyurethane (PUR) treatment applied to the surface and the Sanosol[®] fungicidal and antibacterial protection within the tiles.

The Attraction range of flooring was also installed in the corridor from the entrance into emergency theatre to the helicopter patient treatment area. As this corridor is limited in width and may be used at any time for helicopter patients, it was impossible to close the area off whilst refurbishment was taking place. Again, Attraction allowed the client to progress with the installation without the worry and fear that it could impact on the healthcare services provided by the hospital.



The brief for the hospital corridor, linkway and walls

When it came to renewing the flooring in the main hospital corridor and its respective link way, whilst this was less challenging than that of the other areas mentioned, it was still evident that the designated space had to be kept operational at all times. Working through the night, half the flooring in the 2.5m wide corridor was removed at any one time and the area was re-screeded.

The solution for the hospital corridor, linkway and walls

Tarasafe Ultra was chosen primarily because of its extreme durability. Not only is there constant foot and trolley traffic in these corridors but also heavy electric 'tugs' carrying laundry and rubbish. As these also travel on external roads, they are prone to bringing in dirt and, during the winter, de-icing salt. Tarasafe's dense construction and deep inlay of carborundum particles provides permanent slip resistance, meeting HSE guidelines and ensuring its suitability for heavy traffic use. Sanosol anti-bacterial and fungicidal treatment is incorporated along with SparClean® surface treatment allowing for extreme resistance to soiling and staining.

Tarasafe Ultra was covered up the walls and Gerflor's SPM Decosheet was then applied to the walls and corners to a height of 1300mm. Decosheet offers high impact and scratch resistance and marks can be wiped clean. Previously, the plaster and paint finish of the walls had been subject to severe damage by passing traffic and redecoration was being undertaken on a continuous three-week cycle. The Decosheet reduced maintenance costs to almost zero.

Technical Data

Product Description	Attraction	Tarasafe Ultra	SPM Decosheet
Total Thickness EN 428	5.00mm	2.00mm	2.00mm
Thickness of wearlayer EN 429	≥1.0mm	≥1.15mm	-
Weight EN 430	7420g/m ²	2650g/m ²	2.89kg/m ²
Length EN 426	-	20m	1.3m
Width EN 426	Tile: 635x635mm	200cm	3m
Classification			
Norm / Product specification	EN 649	EN 649	-
European classification EN 685	34-43 class	34-43 class	-
Fire rating EN 13501-1	Cfl-s1 class	Bfl-s1 class	0 class
Static electrical charge EN1815	<2 kV	<2 kV	-
Performances			
Wear resistance EN 660.1	≤0.08mm	≤0.08mm	-
Wear group EN 649	T group	T group	-
Dimensional stability EN 434	≤0.25%	≤0.4%	-
Residual indentation EN 433	≤0.10mm	≤0.2mm	-
Impact sound insulation EN ISO 717-2	4dB	-	-
Thermal Conductivity EN 12 524	0.25W/(m.k)	0.25W/(m.k)	-
Colour fastness EN 20 105-B02	≥6°	≥6°	-
Chemical products resistance EN 423	OK	Good	-
Anti-bacterial & fungicidal treatment	Sanosol®	Sanosol®	-
Surface treatment	SparClean®	SparClean®	-

For full specification details please contact us by phone, fax, email

Gerflor's holistic approach

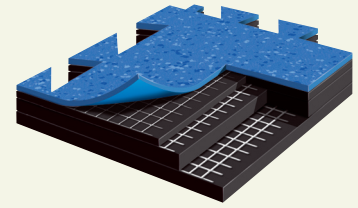
The acquisition of SPM by the Gerflor Group has made the procurement of combined flooring and walling protection packages much easier. The SPM product range embraces protective decorative panels, ergonomic hand rails, wall protection and door and corner protection, providing solutions where safety, hygiene, easy maintenance, noise management and aesthetics are paramount.

What makes projects such as the Royal Infirmary Site successful is not just about the products. Crown Flooring operates nationally, is one of Gerflor's approved alliance partners and is also a recognised healthcare contractor within a 'Buying Solutions' framework agreement.

Buying Solutions is the national procurement partner for UK public services and an Executive Agency of the Office of Government Commerce in the Treasury. It puts together compliant framework agreements which can be accessed by public sector organisations and their private sector procurement partners. It also provides a EU-compliant framework which the public sector can use to procure products and services, without the expensive and time consuming tendering process.

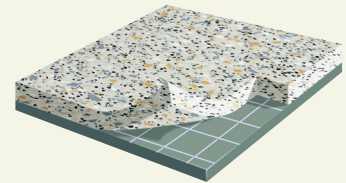
Gerflor and its partners understand the benefits these agreements offer the healthcare sector. Equally important, the company has never had a more comprehensive product range or been better placed to work with designers, specifiers and estate managers to ensure the best 'value for money' option, whilst maintaining the highest levels of quality, innovation and design.

Attraction



- Fast track quick and easy installation
- Covers small sub-floor imperfections
- No need for adhesives, welding or grouting
- Tough and impact resistant
- Hygienic and easy to maintain

Tarasafe Ultra



- Tough and durable (K5 wear rating)
- Slip resistant R10 rating (meets HSE guidelines PTV≥36)
- Hygienic anti-bacterial Sanosol® surface treatment
- Easy to clean SparClean® treatment

SPM Decosheet

- Total protection for large walls and surfaces
- Ideally suited to operating theatres and white rooms with hot welding joints
- Also recommended for use in rooms and corridors
- Shiny PVC finish - a choice of 30 colours
- Hygienic, bacteriostatic and easy to clean
- Extremely durable and resistant to impacts and chemical agents
- Flexible and easy to cut to size