

29th September 2025

A High- Quality Finish at St George's Health and Wellbeing Hub from Gerflor and Gradus!

The brand-new St George's Health and Wellbeing Hub in Hornchurch, Essex, brings together a wide range of health and care services under one roof. To meet the high standards required for such a busy facility, over 5,000m² of world class flooring products from international interiors specialists Gerflor was specified, alongside Gradus entrance matting and stair nosing's as a complete solution for the healthcare community building.

Gerflor's notable contribution to the project included their highly specialised Mipolam EL7 permanent dissipative flooring along with Taralay Impression Compact heterogeneous floor coverings, as well as Tarasafe Ultra Safety Vinyl. These innovative products were installed throughout the building, covering areas such as clinical spaces, consulting rooms, the dialysis, and renal units, as well as toilets, bathrooms, showers, corridors, and stairs.

Entrance flooring and stair safety were also a key consideration for the project, to ensure the safety and well-being of patients, visitors, and staff. To compliment the specification and provide a complete solution to the End User, Gradus supplied their Mat-in-A-Box entrance matting system and a range of XT stair nosings.

The St George's Health and Wellbeing Hub houses a GP practice, outpatient, and mental health services, and provides access to blood tests, MRI, X-ray, CT, and ultrasound scans. The modern, purpose-built facility operates seven days a week and also includes children's and community services, educational spaces, a community café, and a dementia-friendly garden.

Planning and funding were made possible through a collaborative effort involving health and care partners over several years. The project received planning approval from Havering Council in 2022 and was backed by £17 million in government funding alongside £21 million from North-East London partners.

Flooring Solutions Built for Purpose

Key to this iconic project was the need for a comprehensive range of flooring solutions that would future proof the facility for many years to come. St George's Hub had stringent requirements for finishes that would deliver outstanding durability, optimum hygienic, and safety. Flooring was a critical component, and in this case, Gerflor and Gradus were able to deliver a complete solution tailored to the technical and safety requirements of the specification, whilst meeting the aesthetic needs for the Trust.

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Chris Pursey, Gerflor Key Account Manager for Healthcare, recalled the early stages of involvement: "Nicola Lucas of Northeast London NHS Foundation Trust (NELFT) approached us after being shown a vinyl flooring option that looked far too clinical. After several meetings, both on-site and via Teams, we presented a range of finishes tailored to each area, this included wood-effect designs for corridors and communal spaces, and safety flooring for clinical zones. Once the Trust was satisfied with the proposal, we worked in collaboration with the Flooring Contractor to see the project through."

The project success was accelerated with the involvement of Loughton Contracts, specialists in major commercial flooring contracts, who brought their extensive expertise to the project. With over 30 years of experience and rigorous adherence to ISO management systems, they ensured a seamless delivery. They worked in harmony with both the Trust, Gerflor and Gradus to bring the design vision to life and perfectly executed the project on time and to budget.

Project Manager Lucian Munteanu of Loughton Contracts explained, "Due to the nature of the project, we concluded that Gerflor and Gradus were the right manufacturer for the specification and that they offered the necessary products that best met the design and performance brief for St Georges Healthcare Hub. The products would deliver longevity, safety, and optimum hygiene benefiting patients, staff, and visitors. Our team of four to six fitters was on-site for about six months, and the installation went smoothly, thanks to the quality of the products."

Dan Bowen, Specification Sales Manager, commented, "We have been working with Loughton Contracts for many years, and they are a trusted flooring contractor we closely collaborate with. They have delivered an outstanding installation at the St Georges Healthcare Hub, using our world class Gerflor and Gradus products."

Lucian Munteanu further added "We'd absolutely specify Gerflor and Gradus for similar healthcare projects. I'm also thankful to Dan Bowen, from the Gerflor specification team for his continued support throughout. The project was delivered on time, on budget, and our client is extremely delighted with the results."

A Successful, Collaborative Build

Dr John O' Moore, GP Partner at St George's Country Park Surgery, which moved from its previous Upminster Bridge location, shared his enthusiasm: "We were excited to be the first service to open at the hub. After 20 years at our old site, the move into this purpose-built premises has allowed us to offer a more spacious and integrated environment for our patients. We are pleased with the interior finish which is welcoming and comforting for the local community users of this much needed Healthcare Hub."

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The hub's design also reflects a commitment to community wellbeing, providing spaces for voluntary and community groups, a multi-purpose education centre, and a communal garden designed with dementia-friendly features.

Dr O' Moore further added: "Many people worked incredibly hard to bring this project to life. We're extremely grateful for the support and collaboration that made it all possible from all involved."

Chris Pursey concluded: "This project is a remarkable example of Gerflor and Gradus working together in partnership to deliver a full, specification-led solution that meets all the performance criteria required by the Trust and its Users."

Supporting Information

Gerflor Company Overview

Gerflor is a manufacturer of comprehensive contract interior flooring solutions, including vinyl, linoleum, carpets, and rubber. Gerflor innovations help to create attractive and functional environments, as well as enhance and protect a vast range of healthcare settings and interiors. Gerflor solutions are proven to enhance the longevity of a building whilst reducing long term maintenance costs. Gerflor works in partnership with the healthcare sector to ensure buildings are safe and accessible for all users.

Overview of Gerflor products installed.

Taralay Impression Heterogenous Floorcovering

Taralay Impression Compact delivers outstanding durability and long-lasting appearance. It comes with a multi-layered construction for excellent dimensional stability and offers remarkable acoustic and indentation performance, thanks to a Very High-Density Foam Backing making it ideal for bearing static and moving loads. It has extreme traffic resistance with a 0.7mm wear layer for outstanding abrasion and scratch resistance, with quick indentation recovery (0.03mm) and superb dimensional stability with minimal rucking when heavy objects are wheeled across the surface. Taralay Impression Compact is a unique, durable, and low-maintenance collection, designed for high-quality interiors. It offers excellent value for money in printed roll formats and is available in 2m width. It is part of a wide and flexible range of high performance floor coverings within the Taralay family and is ideal for hardworking contract interiors. This flooring is also treated with ProtecSol² surface treatment, for easy cleaning and maintenance. The vinyl is scuff resistant and requires no waxing or polishing to maintain its appearance and colour brightness for years.

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Tarasafe Ultra Safety Vinyl

Tarasafe Ultra is a specialist slip-resistant vinyl safety flooring inlaid with mineral crystals particles, as opposed to carborundum giving a brighter appearance. It also comes with a tough PVC wearlayer and meets HSE guidelines. Tarasafe Ultra is reinforced with a glass fibre grid and is suitable for use in all areas of heavy traffic where slip-resistance, durability and hygienic conditions are required. Tarasafe Ultra comes with a 12-year warranty and is manufactured from materials that can be recycled at the end of their life through appropriate collection and processing channels.

The range has a maximum hygiene rating meeting the EN Standard 22196 for anti-bacterial activity (E. coli - S. aureus - MRSA) (3) returning >99% levels of growth inhibition. It comes with a revolutionary Sparclean® surface treatment for easy cleaning and maintenance.

Gerflor has honed their expertise in safety flooring to produce high standards of safety and durability, offering design choices that balance functional needs with visual appeal. Tarasafe Ultra from Gerflor is a perfect fit for a host of healthcare applications where safety is paramount, together with providing the specifier with the crucial element of being able to 'future-proof' the project.

Mipolam EL7 Homogeneous Floorcovering

Mipolam EL7 is a flexible and permanent dissipative homogeneous vinyl floorcovering, available in both sheet and tile formats. This floorcovering is treated with Evercare™: the latest improvements in polyurethane surface treatment obtained by UV laser cross-linking. Evercare™ avoids stain of chemical products used in healthcare like betadine, eosin or anti-bacterial hand gel and increases the durability of the flooring. This treatment has excellent maintenance characteristics; it requires no wax for life.

Learn more about Gerflor solutions, ask for a free sample or contact us to speak to a specialist today by calling 01625 428 922, emailing contractuk@gerflor.com, or visiting gerflor.co.uk for the latest flooring innovations.

Gradus Company Overview

Gradus is a manufacturer of comprehensive contract interior solutions, including stair edgings, floor trims, barrier matting, lighting, and wall protection. These innovations prioritise hygiene, safety, and durability and are designed to withstand the high demands of healthcare settings, offering easy-to-clean surfaces that support infection control protocols. Gradus products also enhance patient and staff safety through slip-resistant finishes and impact protection, while contributing to a calm and professional aesthetic. With a focus on performance, compliance, and comfort, Gradus helps create safer, more efficient, and welcoming healthcare spaces.

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Overview of Gerflor products installed.

Gradus Mat-In-A-Box Entrance Matting

The Gradus Mat-In-A-Box Barrier Matting is a modular barrier matting system, designed to capture dirt and moisture – keeping floors cleaner for longer. Individual sections clip together, meaning for quick and easy on-site assembly, minimising overall disruption. Constructed from 100% textile wipers and a black or grey PVC base: incorporating flexible PVC pads for noise reduction.

XT Stair Nosing's.

XT Stair Nosing's are the ultimate stair edging solutions comprising of bronze, aluminium, or PVC-u Hardnose channels. A unique insert design extends around the leading edge of the stair edging to ensure maximum safety underfoot. A choice of pvc inserts is available, as well as a new metal castellated insert for use with XT bronze and XT aluminium channels.

They can be used in conjunction with floorcoverings from all major manufacturers and are suitable for interior use in all commercial and most industrial applications. They are supported by recommendations from BRE and the guidance contained within BS 8300-2:2018 and

Approved Document M (ADM) of the Building Regulations 2000, Building owners and specifiers can choose XT safe in the knowledge that these innovations offer the ultimate solution in product design and performance to protect all groups of building users.

Learn more about Gradus solutions, ask for a free sample or contact us to speak to a specialist today by calling 01625 428 922, emailing imail@gradus.com, or visiting gradus.com for the latest barrier matting, wall protection, lighting, and flooring accessory innovations.

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