

Lano sees Justice done

The ability of Lano Carpets to deliver global commercial flooring solutions has been underlined in one of Belgium's most striking and ambitious architectural achievements.

Conceived as a gateway to the city of Antwerp, the Palace of Justice delivers the Richard Rogers Partnership's (RRP) vision of a space that makes justice more transparent and is part of a portfolio that consists of several high profile buildings including the Welsh National Assembly, Paddington Waterside and Madrid Barajas Airport. The finished result delivers unity to the urban fabric and provides public spaces and courtrooms topped with crystalline structures that pour natural light into stunning atria all while taking the environment into consideration.

In order to successfully complete this 250 million Euro landmark, the RRP practice, working alongside VK Studio architects and Ove Arup and Partners, had to ensure that products would meet all strict criteria central to the project – design led, high performance, environmentally considerate – and that their needs for reliable and efficient service could be met.

The unrivalled experience and expertise of Lano Carpets' contract division enabled the Richard Rogers Partnership to refine a bespoke solution that would meet the exacting standards of its brief without fault.

Working alongside the specialist contract design team at Lano Carpets, RRP conceived a bespoke floor manipulated from the manufacturer's existing Matrix 500 SD to equip over 20,000m² of offices and judicial areas with a solution-dyed loop pile carpet tile. The result of the partnership is Matrix 580 SD that delivers a higher pile weight than its parent to deliver years of exceptional service for the Palace of Justice.

Glass aspects adorn the swooping curves of the Palace throughout and Lano Carpets enforced the benefits of a solution-dyed fibre to RRP. The solution dyeing process penetrates the polymer of the fibre so that the dye becomes a part of the fibre itself. This results in exceptional colour-fastness ensuring the appearance retention that is vital to the long term standards of the new Courts of Law.

With environmental considerations central to RRP's brief, the high quality of Matrix 580SD fulfilled the need for a carpet with minimal lifecycle costings. By using a product with an extended lifecycle, the long term will see the Palace of Justice use fewer raw materials and reduce energy consumption, while the nylon tile is fully recyclable at the end of its useful life.

Meeting with the architects at RRP, Pierre Lano, President of Lano Carpets, attended the official opening of the Palace of Justice and enthused:

"We are delighted to have played such a significant role in the successful completion of one of the most architecturally outstanding buildings in Europe. Our contract division has been working tirelessly to deliver specifiers solutions to their carpeting problems and to be used by such a well-known practice exemplifies the strides that we have made.

PRESS RELEASE

"Through the initial briefing period we knew that strict criteria would need to be addressed and our product would have to deliver without exception. In spite of this, we succeeded to work with RRP and produce a carpet that met the design concept and will stand up to heavy foot traffic and continuous sunlight in this stunning building, while still adhering to the environmental concerns raised by RRP.

"The result of our collaboration is breathtaking and will help to provide these new Courts of Law with an attractive flooring solution for years to come."

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- September 2006 -