

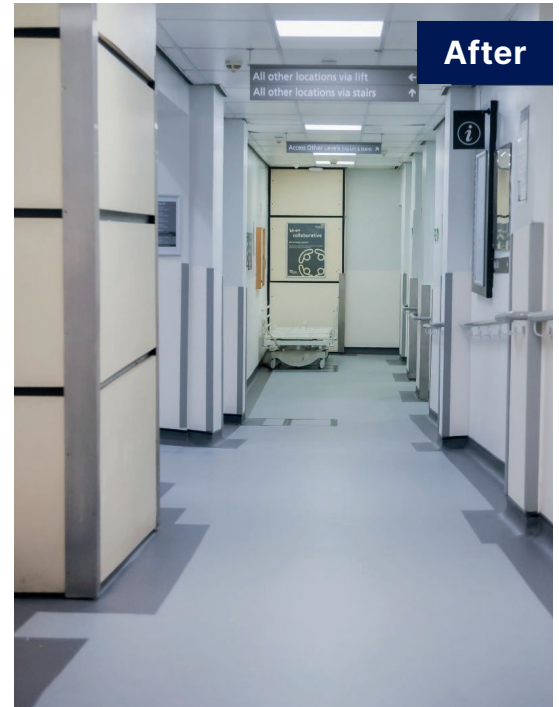
**CLIENT:**  
**SOLUTION:**  
**LOCATION:**BRISTOL ROYAL INFIRMARY  
MIPOLAM AFFINITY, SUREPROTECT ENDURE WALL CLADDING,  
GRADUS SHR40P HANDRAIL  
BRISTOL

## Bristol Royal Infirmary specify Gerflor and Gradus for much-needed Healthcare corridor refurbishment.

The Bristol Royal Infirmary was founded by public subscription in 1735, making it one of the oldest infirmaries in the United Kingdom. When it was in dire need of an urgent renovation for one of its busiest corridors, Gerflor the International flooring expert supplied their highly specialised Mipolam Affinity flooring, alongside Gradus for their world class SureProtect Endure Wall Cladding system in the King Edward Building at the Bristol Royal Infirmary. The End User was able to benefit from a complete solution, reducing time and cost as part of its specification process.

Most healthcare facilities including the Bristol Royal Infirmary see the importance of hardwearing interior finishes and how crucial they are when it comes to the overall building specification. The movement of items such as beds, trolleys, wheelchairs, and heavy medical equipment is a twentyfour-hour operation, therefore any floorings and wall protection products installed needed to withstand the daily rigours of a demanding hospital environment.

This is where the world class Mipolam Affinity collection exceeded the expectations of the Healthcare End User, in its outstanding performance when it comes to durability and easy low-cost maintenance. The Mipolam Affinity range was specified thanks to its 100% pure PVC construction which is a pressed and calendered homogeneous vinyl floorcovering. Its' single layer of PVC delivers numerous benefits including: a remarkably high abrasion resistance, and it is also lighter, more flexible, and less brittle. It is also suitable for hot welding and ideal for creating seamless finishes, making it a widely popular choice for hardworking hospitals, laboratories, and cleanroom environments. The Mipolam Affinity range also comes with a unique and revolutionary surface treatment called Evercare™, that delivers an unrivalled level of chemical and stain resistance.



“ The new flooring and wall protection solutions have significantly upgraded the look and feel of the facility, and we would definitely specify Gerflor and Gradus again as their products are of a high quality. ”

Nicholas Marsh, Estates Officer, Capital & PLACE Projects

In choosing Gerflor's Mipolam Affinity the crucial element of high traffic, was successfully addressed, which was a high priority on the client's specification agenda.

The refurbishment project would also benefit from the specification and installation of the Gradus Wall Protection system, comprising of the SureProtect Endure Wall Cladding and PVC-u SHR40P Handrails, alongside the High Impact Corner Guards, which provided an ideal protective solution for the busy healthcare environment.

Chris Pursey, Gerflor Key Account Healthcare Manager - Flooring commented on the project by saying, "The Estates team at University Hospitals Bristol and Weston NHS Foundation Trust (UHBW) and their contractor Sisk approached Gerflor for a complete flooring and wall protection specification for this highly busy service corridor. The existing wall and floor finishes were extremely worn and damaged and they wanted to quickly and efficiently improve the appearance of the space by introducing some lighter colours. Specifying Gerflor's Mipolam Affinity from the fifty colours available to choose from and the Gradus wall protection system was the ideal fast track choice."

In order to meet the specific requirements of the different areas of hospitals, Gerflor offer products that provide unparalleled resistance to foot, wheeled, heavy loading traffic with particularly durable flooring that is exceptionally hygienic thanks to the antibacterial and antiviral properties of their specialised ranges. Mipolam Affinity flooring was chosen in two colours, with a darker grey used as a border to assist with wayfinding.

Ian Cartwright, Gradus Specification Area Sales Manager – Wall Protection, commented, "When we first visited this corridor, there was excessive damage to the walls, caused mainly by trolleys and wheelchairs. The site team had been making good the walls for a number of years, but long term this could not be sustained. As a combined business,



Gerflor and Gradus were offered the opportunity to improve and renovate the healthcare corridor for both the flooring and walls, to propose some innovations that would deliver the required protection for the facility and ensure that any recommendations would also offer tangible cost savings for the client."

Representing the Bristol Royal Infirmary (BRI) hospital, Nicholas Marsh, the Estates Officer for Capital, and PLACE Projects commented, "We needed a project where Gerflor and Gradus could provide a complete solution for the busy corridor in the King Edward building within the hospital. This corridor was identified as requiring complete renovation by the surveyors." On specification choices, Nicholas Marsh noted that they had problems ordering flooring from other companies due to the lead time, as the materials needed to be shipped in from abroad. The area in question is one of the thoroughfares to the Hospital so there were issues with safe access and times for laying. Gerflor were able to supply the ideal solution that could be delivered in a timely manner.

Delivering excellence in the UK for almost 40 years with a proud record of leadership in the construction industry in Ireland and €1.5bn annual turnover, Sisk have the track record, scale, and capacity to successfully undertake large, complex, multidisciplinary programmes.

Mark Smith, Operations Manager at Sisk commented, "The project came about

with a PLACE Visit which is patient-led and care in the environment. They identified that the corridor was requiring urgent refurbishment. The project had been in the pipeline for a few years but had got curtailed due to COVID and available funds."

Making further comment Mark Smith summed up Sisk's involvement by saying, "We had absolutely no issues with the Gerflor or Gradus products. The client is extremely pleased with the final result. Gerflor and Gradus are now the approved flooring and wall protection supplier for the Trust, with extensive works producing brochures and swatches to ensure the colours are suitable for the Healthcare environment."

Nicholas Marsh ended by saying, "The Gerflor and Gradus products are performing exceptionally well and have been installed now for over six months. The new flooring and wall protection solutions have significantly upgraded the look and feel of the facility, and we would definitely specify Gerflor and Gradus again as their products are of a high quality."

The Gerflor and Gradus healthcare ranges are ideal for use in a wide variety of applications across a healthcare facility. Products can be combined to provide a complete package that balances performance, aesthetics and cost, alongside environmentally responsible manufacturing processes.

For further information on Gerflor's extensive range of flooring solutions please contact us:

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