

CONSTRUCTION SPECIALTIES AID RETAIL REVAMP

The £66m refurbishment and extension project at The Mall Shopping Centre, Blackburn, was finished with Construction Specialties' (C/S) Pedisystems® entrance matting and Allway® expansion joint covers (EJC's) to provide a durable and safe flooring finish for the thousands of daily visitors.

Vinci Construction UK contracted the company's in-house installation team, Conspec Contracts, to complete the installation having successfully worked together on several other projects. C/S supplied high dirt containment entrance mats for the building entrances, as well as bespoke and standard EJC's to join the existing shopping centre with the new extension.

Dan Knowles, Quantity Surveyor at Vinci Construction UK, said: "This project presented a challenge in merging all the elements of a new building design with a 50 year old construction to create one complete and seamless retail outlet.

"The reconfigured main entrances needed to incorporate the same clean finish as the rest of the interior. C/S' Pediluxe® entrance mats had previously been used in The Mall to great success so we were keen to incorporate the same product throughout."

In total, nine C/S Pediluxe® entrance mats covering 150m² were installed throughout the centre. To meet the demands of the heavy footfall location, the entrance mats incorporated 'Wrought Iron' coloured interior grade carpet inserts and a black, closed spline with deep channels for high dirt containment. With an exceptional rolling load bearing capability of 500kgs/wheel, the mats created a suitable surface for pedestrian and wheeled traffic travelling in and out of the building.

Dan continued: "We also needed to source heavy duty expansion joint covers for areas where the new extension joined the existing structure. C/S was able to provide the right solution for a number of areas in the shopping centre with the Allway® heavy duty, metal floor joint covers. With no visible fixings and the incorporation of the anti-slip surface on the exposed sections, we were assured that visitors would have a smooth transition throughout the building.

"In addition, the Conspec Contracts team have been very supportive and were willing to offer help and advice whenever required, giving us great piece of mind that they know the products and their application inside out."

The Allway® APF-300 aluminium expansion joint covers in 25mm and 50mm deep options were installed with vapour barriers to assure water tight transitions. In addition, some areas required bespoke solutions with mixed depth side frames due to the differences in screed depth.

The durable, recess mounted APF-300 covers can be installed over joints up to 85mm wide. They allow for multi-dimensional movement of the building, from horizontal (thermal) movement to vertical and lateral shifts, to help maintain its structural integrity.

For more information on C/S products please call 01296 652800, e-mail info@c-sgroup.co.uk or visit www.c-sgroup.co.uk.

