

Project Case Study

Project

Flinders University

Sturt Road
Bedford Park SA 5042



Project Summary

Substrate

Hard-fired ceramic tiles

Surface Preparation

Mechanical abrading

Project Description

During the design stage of the new science building at Adelaide's Flinders University, budgetary restraints resulted in the project having to be scaled back, consequently a previously covered walk way was left exposed to the elements. The original tiles selected for the project did not meet the minimum slip resistance of the Australian Standards based on AS/NZS 4586. Following hand over of this award winning building it became apparent that the need for some form of non slip treatment was urgently required to meet OH&S standards. Given the emphasis placed on the aesthetics of the building it was necessary to find a solution which met the needs of all parties.

Poly-Tech were consulted to undertake trialling of several options to rectify the problem. It was immediately apparent that any form of surface applied non slip coating would dramatically distract from the overall appearance and provide a less than satisfactory outcome. The method finally selected which met all the clients' requirements was to mechanically abrade the tiles to the required slip rating. This process is performed on site with minimum disruption and provides a visually appealing transition from one surface to another.

In conjunction with the builder Hindmarsh the sample tiles were provided and treated off site and sent for testing at a registered laboratory. The results of which far exceeded expectations and was given a 'V.AV' classification which denotes a 'very low' risk of slipping when wet. These results were provided to the client and Poly-Tech was contracted to carry out the work over a weekend period.

The mechanical abrasive process was performed to a standard of the control tile retained from the testing. The tiles were then treated with a penetrating sealer to protect against staining and provide for ease of cleaning.

Poly-Tech providing yet another practical solution to a complex problem.

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