



# Delta Hotels Ottawa City Centre, Indoor Pool Renovation

Ottawa, ON, Canada



## Project Information

**Project category:**  
Concrete Restoration, Waterproofing, and Installation of Floor and Wall Coverings

**Period of construction:**  
1967

**Years of MAPEI involvement:**  
2018-2019

**MAPEI coordinator:**  
Justin Lafontaine

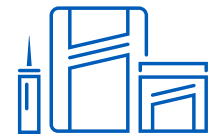
**Project owner:**  
Delta Hotels by Marriott

**Photographer:**  
Justin Richard (Urbano)



## Project Overview

With leaks from the Delta Hotels Ottawa City Centre's showcase 50-year-old indoor swimming pool becoming a nuisance to keep up with, the hotel's management decided it was time to repair the underlying concrete and waterproofing system, while updating the pool area with a new, modernized look.



## Products Used

- Kerabond/Keralastic™ System**
- Kerapoxy®**
- Mapecem® 100**
- MAPEI Ultralite™ Mortar**
- Mapelastic® AquaDefense**
- Planitop® 330 Fast**
- Planitop FD**
- Topcem™ Premix**
- Ultracolor® Plus FA**
- Ultraflex™ 3**



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MAPEI products help make hotel pool  
leakproof (and gorgeous)

Situated steps from Canada's seat of government (Parliament Hill), Delta Hotels Ottawa City Centre caters to a clientele that expects world-class amenities year-round. One point of pride for close to 50 years has been its 10,000-sq.-ft. (929-m<sup>2</sup>) indoor saltwater pool, located on the third floor and suspended over the main conference rooms of the floors below. But in recent years, occasional leaks would seep through the floor of the pool, keeping the hotel maintenance crew busy applying epoxy to cracks (when they were able to find the source). Then in 2018, with the leaks continuing despite these efforts, it became clear to hotel management that a complete renovation was imminently necessary.

The architectural plans called for a complete redesign with patterned tile on the walls, the pool basin and the surrounding "beach" floor, for a modernized look. They also required a state-of-the-art solution for the pool's structural restoration. Lastly, they had to meet a tight timeline to keep the pool's downtime to a minimum, without sacrificing quality. With such exacting criteria, the hotel owners turned to MAPEI for help.

Working with installing crews from Urbano, MAPEI project coordinator Justin Lafontaine saw the breadth of the task at hand soon after they started the removal of the existing structure. Underneath the tile floor and behind the gyprock walls, they found an outdated and degraded, brownish, tar-like membrane that had to be grinded off by hand. The underlying concrete pool basin and the surrounding area had suffered significant cracks and defects that needed major repairs before waterproofing and re-tiling could take place. The basin itself was proved to be at a thickness of between 6" to 12" (15 to 30 cm) of cast-in-place reinforced concrete.

## MAPEI products on the jobsite

**Planitop 330 Fast** quick-setting and non-sagging rendering mortar was used on the stripped walls to flatten them, and was also applied on the floor for leveling and ramping where needed. The pool basin itself was another story. To fill in the

cracks that had formed in the concrete, the contractors turned to **Planitop FD** full-depth repair mortar.

Also, the sand bed had to be removed because its integrity was poor. The contractors replaced it with **Topcem Premix** accelerated-cure screed mortar, and (where needed) by **Mapecem 100** cementitious mortar, used also for resloping by the side of the pool. Meanwhile, the crew applied **Planitop FD** to patch up holes that other trades (such as electricians) had created in the surrounding walls, as in areas where the previous lighting had been removed.

For the pool basin itself, resistance to corrosion from the saltwater was crucial, so the crew applied **Mapelastic AquaDefense**, a premixed, advanced liquid-rubber, extremely quick-drying waterproofing and crack-isolation membrane. That was followed up with **Kerabond/Keralastic System** as the mortar for its new tile surface, and **Kerapoxy** as the grout, which offers excellent stain and chemical resistance, making it ideal for the saltwater environment.

To finish up, new tile was installed over the repaired "beach" floor using **MAPEI Ultralite Mortar**, as well as the surrounding walls using **Ultraflex 3** mortar, with **Ultracolor Plus FA** grout for the walls.

In less than five months, the saltwater pool was completely renovated, re-tiled and back in service. Thanks in part to MAPEI products, the installers were able to deliver world-class results for a world-class client.



## MAPEI Headquarters of North America

1144 East Newport Center Drive  
Deerfield Beach, Florida 33442  
1-888-US-MAPEI (1-888-876-2734) · (954) 246-8888

## Technical Services

1-800-992-6273 (U.S. and Puerto Rico)  
1-800-361-9309 (Canada)

## Customer Service

1-800-42-MAPEI (1-800-426-2734)

## Services in Mexico

0-1-800-MX-MAPEI (0-1-800-696-2734)