



Hawthorn Arts Centre in Boroondara

A 19th-century historical building has turned into an Arts Centre

ABOVE. External view of the Hawthorn Arts Centre.

PHOTO 1. Wooden floors were bonded with ULTRABOND P990 1K adhesive.

PHOTO 2. The wooden coverings were treated with ULTRACOAT PREMIUM BASE undercoat and ULTRACOAT HIGH TRAFFIC varnish.

PHOTO 3. Tallowwood wooden floors were laid in the foyer using ULTRABOND P990 1K.

Since its opening in 1888, the Hawthorn Town Hall has been an iconic fixture of the City of Boroondara, located in the eastern suburbs of Melbourne (Australia), and a fine example of Victorian architecture. Designed by architect John Beswicke, the hall used to house the City of Hawthorn's council chambers. Since 1994 the building was used as a library, museum and gallery space. In 2008, the City of Boroondara's adopted Arts and Cultural Strategy 2008 – 2013 that identified the vision 'for a city of harmony where citizens can celebrate, share, express and experience a rich arts and cultural life.' To fulfill this vision, the redevelopment of the Hawthorn Town Hall was recommended. In 2009, concept development for the Hawthorn Town Hall Arts Precinct Project began. Construction of the Hawthorn Arts Centre was completed in September 2013.

The Town Hall Gallery has been transformed into three new professional gallery spaces allowing for a broader exhibition calendar and educational program. Other key redevelopment features include the refurbishment of Town Hall areas with new kitchens, amenities and meeting rooms; new arts studio and workshop spaces; new, expanded exhibition spaces and a café.

Laying wooden floors with eco-sustainable materials

The company in charge of laying over 2400 m² of wooden floorings throughout the Town Hall contacted Mapei Technical Services who surveyed the building site and suggested some laying systems able to meet the site's needs and ensure high-quality and eco-sustainability.

The substrates were first treated and re-



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textile tiles when required. ULTRABOND ECO 350 was instead used to install the vinyl floors in the kitchen and corridor areas. This is an acrylic adhesive in water dispersion with very low emission level of VOC, which forms a tough bond even after being left open for a long time. It is easy to apply and ideal for laying rubber, PVC, vinyl, polyolephinic, linoleum and carpet flooring. ROLLCOLL was also used to install the vinyl coverings on the walls where required. This is a rapid-setting universal adhesive in water

dispersion for the installation of vinyl floor and wall coverings that can be applied by trowel, roller or spray in a single application. The laying company used MAPECONTACT to bond the textile coverings to the many flights of stairs throughout the building. MAPECONTACT is a reinforced adhesive strip for laying profiles, base-boards, coverings and resilient and textile coverings on steps.

PHOTO 4. Before laying textile and vinyl floors, the substrates were levelled and smoothed with UC LEVELLER (manufactured and distributed on the Australian market by Mapei Australia) and ULTRAPLAN.

PHOTO 5. ULTRABOND ECO TACK adhesive was chosen to bond textile floors.

PHOTO 6. MAPECONTACT reinforced adhesive strip was used to bond the textile coverings on the stairs.

Technical Data

Hawthorn Arts Centre, Boroondara (Australia)

Period of Construction: 1888-1890

Design: John Beswicke

Year of the Intervention: 2013

Intervention by Mapei: supplying products to repair and treat the substrates, laying wooden, vinyl and textile floors

Design: Peddle Thorp Architects

Contractor: APM Group

Laying Companies: D Borthwick & Sons (for wooden floors), Floor91 (for textile and vinyl floors)

Mapei Co-ordinators: Scott Coutts and Debby Norgrove, Mapei Australia Pty Ltd

Mapei Products

Preparing the substrates: Eco Prim T, Nivorapid, Planiprep FF (lately superseded by Planiprep SC*), Primer G, UC Leveller*, Ultraplan

Laying wooden floors: Ultrabond P990 1K, Ultracoat Premium Base, Ultracoat High Traffic

Laying vinyl floors: Rollcoll, Ultrabond Eco 350

Laying textile coverings: Mapecontact, Ultrabond Eco Tack

*These products are manufactured and distributed on the Australian market by Mapei Australia Pty Ltd

For further information see www.mapei.com or www.mapei.au