

On the Wings of the Golden Angel



The Golden Angel shines like a lighthouse in the late Prague afternoon. The brand new offices with their modern, practical furnishing can be glimpsed from the road behind the glass windows on the top floors. World famous brand names in the shop windows below are lit up during the day to catch the attention of passers-by. This is a new business and administration centre built in Prague between 1999-2001, a prestigious multi-purpose facility designed with the help of Mapei products. The exact use of the premises was not known at the time of their construction: the entire building was actually designed for the tenants eventually renting out the premises. The works mainly concerned the utilities and

floors. Ceramics were used over 1,200 m² (bathroom floors and walls and corridors) owing to the multi-functional nature of the entire complex. The synthetic resin-based primer, PRIMER G*, and the adhesive with no vertical slip and high bonding strength, ADESILEX P9, were used for all the tiling operations. ULTRACOLOR*, a fast setting and drying grout that does not produce efflorescence, was used for the grouting. Special attention was paid to installing an extra 350 m² of sound insulation to meet the designers' and investors' specifications. Mapei helped out with its own MAPEFONIC SYSTEM*, a full sound-insulation system notably reducing noise from treading on the surface or bumps and bangs, even when



1 applied in minimal thicknesses. 23,000 m² of substrata were also prepared ready to be covered by the chosen finishes: most notably the special fast drying hydraulic binder TOPCEM* and then the fast setting, self levelling smoothing compound PLANO 3*. Even the small iron substrata of the periphery walls were smoothed and levelled off using a cement-based compound. NIVORAPID* (ultra-fast setting mortar, also used for vertical surfaces) mixed with an elasticising additive, LATEX PLUS*. The project was finished right on schedule, thanks to Mapei's ultra-fast products. The Golden Angel is one of the most prestigious buildings in Prague; Mapei's involvement in the works ensures it will also take part in future major building programmes in the nation's capital.



Photo 1. The Golden Angel lit up.

Photo 2 and 3. Interiors: pictures of the sanitary facilities and a floor of the business centre soon after its completion.

* The products referred to in this article belong to the "Building Products" and "Products for Ceramics and Stone Materials" ranges. The technical data sheets are available on the CD entitled "Mapei Global Infonet" and at the Internet site: www.mapei.com.



The Mapei adhesives and grouts conform to EN 12004 and EN 13888 standards.

Primer G: a synthetic-based water-dispersion primer

Adesilex P9 (C2TE): cement-based adhesive with high bonding strength and no vertical slip used for ceramic tiles

Ultracolor (CG2): a fast setting and drying grout for grouts measuring 2-20 mm, available in 26 colours; does not produce efflorescence

Mapefonic System: rapid sound-insulation system notably reducing noise from treading on the surface or bumps and bangs, for tiled and stone floors

Topcem: special normal setting rapid drying hydraulic binder (7 days)

Plano 3: fast setting, self levelling smoothing compound

Nivorapid: ultra-fast setting thixotropic cementitious levelling mortar, suitable for vertical surfaces

Latex Plus: elasticising additive for mixing with Keraquick for increased deformability, and with Nivorapid for improved deformability and improved adhesion to tricky surfaces

TECHNICAL DATA

Golden Angel (business and administration centre), Prague-Smíchov, Czech Republic
Works: soundproofing and laying of wall and floor coatings.

Built: 1999/2001

Commissioned by: Ing. Real Estate

Architects: AJN Architectures Jean Nouvel

Main Contractor: PSJ Holding Jihlava

Works Management: Atelier 8000 Sro. - Ladislav Krln

Builders: SPO Sro. Plzen

Mapei products: PRIMER G, ADESILEX P9, ULTRACOLOR, MAPEFONIC SYSTEM, TOPCEM, PLANO 3, NIVORAPID + LATEX PLUS

Mapei Technical Consultant: Radek Netolicka, Mapei Sro.