

MAPEI PRODUCTS WERE USED TO LAY VARIOUS TYPES OF FLOORS IN THE NEW HEADQUARTERS OF CSS INSURANCE COMPANY IN LUCERNE.

Installation INSURED

Thanks to over 1.2 million customers and 3 billion francs worth of premiums, CSS is one of the leading Swiss insurance companies employing about 2,000 staff, 600 of whom work at the headquarters in Lucerne. A new building has recently been constructed in the Tribschen neighbourhood of this city. It houses the Company's offices and commercial departments and also includes about 30 rented apartments.

The building work on the CSS headquarters took about two years and required the use of various chemical products supplied by the Mapei

Group's Swiss subsidiary, Mapei Suisse SA.

The Company's wide range of products and continuous on-site assistance provided by its expert technicians meant that all the technical problems emerging on the building site were handled in the appropriate way. Mapei proved its worth as an active partner throughout all the different stages in the work: from building the foundations to constructing the roof.

Over 20,000 m³ of concrete were needed to construct the entire building. Since the building's foundations are actually constructed on the water

table, special waterproof concrete had to be prepared with DYNAMON SX* admixture. The concrete surfaces in the underground garage, prepared using DYNAMON SX 18* accelerating superplasticizer, were treated with MAPETOP N* (a product only available on the Swiss and Austrian markets) for producing abrasion-resistant monolithic concrete. The cellars and rest of the structure's concrete parts were made from concrete formulated with DYNAMON SR 31* admixture.

The various types of floors laid inside the building were installed with the following Mapei adhesives: AQUACOL T*





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Mapei Products:

the products referred to in this article belong to the "Products for Ceramic Tiles and Stone Materials"; "Products for the Installation of Resilient, Textile and Wood Floor and Wall Coverings" and "Admixtures for Concrete" ranges.

The technical data sheets are available on the "Mapei Global Infonet" DVD or at the web site: www.mapei.com.

Mapei's adhesives and grouts conform to EN 12004 and EN 13888 standards.

Adesilex V4 SP: universal adhesive in water dispersion with extended open time and very low emission of volatile organic compounds (VOC) for resilient flooring.

N.B. This product is now called **Ultrabond ECO V4 SP**.

Aquacol T: adhesive in water dispersion with very low emission of volatile organic compounds (VOC) for textile floor and wall coverings.

Dynamon SX: superplasticizer based on modified acrylic polymer for concrete with low water/cement ratio for traditional and self compacting concrete.

Dynamon SX 18: accelerating superplasticizer based on modified acrylic polymer for concrete with good retention of workability.

Dynamon SR 31: modified acrylic-based superplasticizer for ready-mixed concrete with a low water/cement ratio and a long maintenance of its workability.

Mapestone 1 (C2F): fast hardening and drying mortar for small and medium laying beds.

N.B. This product is distributed on the Austrian and Swiss markets by Mapei's local subsidiaries.

Mapetop N: ready-to-use mineral dry-shake surface hardener.

N.B. This product is distributed on the Austrian and Swiss markets by Mapei's local subsidiaries.

Ultrabond P990 1K: ready-to-use polyurethane one-component, solvent-free, elastic adhesive for all types of wooden and laminate flooring.

Ultrabond P902 2K: two-component epoxy-polyurethane adhesive for wooden flooring.

Ultracolor Plus (CG2): fast setting and drying, high performance, anti-efflorescence, polymer modified grout, for joints from 2 to 20 mm. Water-repellent with DropEffect® and antimold Bioblock® technology.



Our thanks go to "Realta Mapei", no. 4, the in-house magazine published by Mapei's German, Austrian and Swiss subsidiaries, from which this article was taken.

Photos 1, 2, 3 and 4.

The various types of floors installed required the use of specific adhesives: from left, Aquacol T for the textile floors; Adesilex V4 SP (now called Ultrabond Eco V4 SP) for the PVC; Ultrabond P990 1K and Ultrabond P902 2K for laying the wooden floors.

Photos 5 and 6.

Some views of the corridors with their travertine floors bonded with Mapestone 1.

TECHNICAL DATA

CSS Headquarters, Lucerne (Switzerland)

Work: formulating the concrete for the building's foundations, structure and several elements of the cellars and the garage; hardening treatment of the concrete surfaces in the garage; laying travertine, textile, PVC and wooden inside floorings

Years: 2003-2005

Customer: CSS Versicherung, Lucerne

Project: Andrea Roost, Bern

Work Management: Bruno Schubiger

Contractor: Anliker AG, Emmenbrücke (Switzerland)

Installation Companies: Marcel Bernasconi, Rotkreuz (Switzerland) for the textile, PVC and wooden floors; Catenazzi AG, Kriens (Switzerland) for the travertine floors.

Mapei Co-ordinators: Marco Ballidoro and Martin Schneider, Mapei Suisse SA

for the approximately 6,000 m² of textile coverings in some of the offices; ULTRABOND P990 1K* for the approximately 3,500 m² of maple floors in the apartments and other offices; ULTRABOND P902 2K* for laying the parquet on the stairs; ADESILEX V4 SP* (this product is now called ULTRABOND ECO V4 SP*) for the approximately 2,000 m² of PVC installed in other interior premises; MAPESTONE 1* (a product only available on the Swiss and Austrian markets, ideal for installing stone slabs with high thickness tolerances) for approximately 6,000 m² of travertine installed in the corridors and on the stairs.

The joints of this latter type of covering were grouted using ULTRACOLOR PLUS* high-performance grout; the product was chosen from the wide range of colours available in a vanilla shade which matched the colour of the slabs of travertine.

Thanks to the help of everybody involved, the work was completed on schedule and the floors were installed to perfection.

