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Funchal (Madeira) Savoy Palace

A NEW LUXURY HOTEL AND WORTHY "HEIR" TO THE HISTORIC SAVOY BUILT IN 1912 TO HOST THE INTERNATIONAL ARISTOCRACY

The Savoy Palace is one of the latest additions to the family of luxury hotels in The Leading Hotels of the World chain. It is a 5-star Superior class hotel, rich in history and tradition offering refined, comfortable and welcoming surroundings. It is located around 20 minutes by car from Madeira's Cristiano Ronaldo International Airport and just a short walk from the city centre and the sea and boasts a panoramic view of the Atlantic Ocean and the city of Funchal. This is the same privi-

leged location enjoyed by its predecessor, the Savoy Classic, built in 1912 to host the international aristocracy of the time.

The project for the new building was awarded to Saraiva + Associados and RH+ Arquitectos, who wanted to conserve the memory of its past but, at the same time, relaunch it with a view to the future. The structure, characterised by its flowing, swaying lines, has 17 floors, 309 rooms and 43 suites, 14 of which have their own swimming pool, as well as two presidential suites. The complex also has another six swimming pools, five restaurants, three bars and conference rooms with a capacity of up to 1,000 people, as well as the Laurea spa centre, one of the largest wellness centres in the country. At the highest point of the hotel are the Galáxia Skyfood restaurant and the Skybar, with access by lift directly from the road below. Through the installation company SpiteX II, partner in many different projects, Mapei contributed to the construction of the new hotel by supplying various types of material to overcome specific problems in a number of different areas. Let's take a closer look at them.

Problems and solutions

Mapei's part in the construction of this hotel was key in two particular areas: waterproofing of the substrates, where different families of products were employed (PLASTIMUL and MAPELASTIC), and installation of ceramic tiles on internal and external surfaces, using different types of adhesives and grouting mortars according to specific project requirements and areas of use.

Ceramic coverings in interiors and exteriors

PLASTIMUL bitumen waterproofing emulsion was applied on the substrates of the masonry below ground level near the hotel's main entrance. This is an easy to apply emulsion, that forms a waterproof plastic coating which is resistant to re-emulsifying after prolonged immersion in water, even when slightly acid or alkaline, and resistant to aggressive agents present in the soil.

Ceramic tiles were bonded to internal and external walls above ground level with KERABOND T cementitious adhesive with no vertical slip mixed with ISOLASTIC elasticising latex. The joints were grouted with ULTRACOLOR PLUS mortar and the control and expansion joints and joints around the perimeter were sealed with MAPEFLEX PU 45 FT and MAPEFLEX MS45 sealants.

Roofs, balconies and terraces

The product chosen to waterproof these areas was MAPELASTIC two-component elastic cementitious mortar, which was applied in two coats with MAPENET P mesh (distributed on the Portuguese market by Lusomapei) embedded between the first and second coat, along with MAPEBAND EASY rubber tape around the corners between the horizontal and vertical surfaces. Ceramic tiles were then bonded thereupon with KERAFLEX EXTRA S1 non-slip cementitious adhesive with extended open time, while joints were grouted with ULTRACOLOR PLUS. To create elastic seals in the expansion joints, the product chosen in this case was MAPESIL AC mould-resistant, acetic, silicone sealant.

Swimming pools and spa centre

For the internal and external swimming pools and spa centre, the substrates were waterproofed by applying another product from the MAPELASTIC family: MAPELASTIC SMART, which has the advantage of being applicable using a roller or by brush. In this case, too, MAPELASTIC SMART was applied in two coats, with MAPENET P mesh between the two coats and MAPEBAND EASY applied in the corners between the horizontal and vertical surfaces.

For the ceramic tiles installed on the surfaces of the swimming pools and in the spa centre, however, a different solution was adopted because these areas require materials with better mechanical properties and higher resistance to chemicals. The glass mosaic was bonded with ELASTORAPID quick-setting, improved cementitious adhesive, while KERAPOXY CQ epoxy mortar with a bacteriostatic agent was chosen to grout the joints and MAPESIL AC was used to seal the expansion joints.



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1. The Savoy Palace is a colossus in the hospitality sector and is located in the city of Funchal on the island of Madeira.

2. The hotel has a lot of swimming pools constructed using Mapei materials, both inside the private suites and in communal areas. One such product was KERAPOXY CQ epoxy mortar for grouting joints.

3. The substrates of the terraces were waterproofed with MAPELASTIC before installing ceramic tiles with KERAFLEX EXTRA S1 and grouting the joints with ULTRACOLOR PLUS.



Internal resin floors

The floors in the kitchen required a non-slip coating resistant to a medium volume of traffic and chemical agents. This is why MAPEFLOOR SYSTEM 32 was applied, a 3 to 3.5 mm thick, multi-layered epoxy system for floors.

For the floors in the restaurants and bars, on the other hand, another solution from the Mapei line for resin floors was chosen: MAPEFLOOR SYSTEM 31, a multi-layered epoxy system which ensured excellent functionality with an attractive finish.

Bathrooms in the guest rooms

A different solution had to be adopted to waterproof the walls of the bathrooms in the guest-rooms because they were made from plaster-board: the first step was to apply a coat of PRIMER G acrylic primer and MAPEBAND EASY tape in the corners between the horizontal and vertical surfaces. The next step was to apply MAPEGUM WPS ready-mixed, rapid-drying, liquid elastic membrane.

Because the internal areas also had to be covered with ceramic tiles, the product chosen in this case to bond the ceramic tiles and stone materials was KERAFLEX cementitious adhesive with no vertical slip and extended open time. In this case, too, the joints were grouted with ULTRACOLOR PLUS and the expansion joints were sealed with MAPE-SIL AC.



4. The resin floors in the kitchens were laid with MAPEFLOOR SYSTEM 32.

5. MAPEGUM WPS was used to waterproof the substrates in the bathrooms before installing the ceramic tiles with KERAFLEX.



Find out more
KERAFLEX EXTRA S1

TECHNICAL DATA

Savoy Palace, Madeira (Portugal)

Design: Saraiva + Associados, RH+ Arquitectos

Period of construction: 2017-2020

Period of the Mapei's intervention: 2017-2020

Intervention by Mapei: supplying products for waterproofing substrates, installing

ceramic tiles and stone materials, laying resin floors

Owner: Savoy Hotels & Resorts

Main contractor: AFA

Installation company: Spitex II

Mapei distributor: Spitex II

Project manager: Silva Santos

Mapei coordinator: Miguel Duarte, Lusomapei (Portugal)

MAPEI PRODUCTS

Treating the substrates:

Primer SN, Primer G

Waterproofing: Plastimul, Mapelast, Mapelast Smart, Mapeband Easy, Mapegum WPS

Installing ceramic tiles and stone materials:

Kerabond T, Isolastic, Keraflex Extra S1, Elastorapid, Keraflex

Grouting joints: Ultracolor Plus, Kerapoxy CQ

Sealing expansion joints:

Mapesil AC, Mapeflex PU 45 FT, Mapeflex MS45

Resin floors: Mapefloor System 31, Mapefloor System 32

*This product is manufactured and distributed on the Portuguese market by Lusomapei (Portugal)

For further information on products: mapei.com and mapei.pt

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