



Innovative Tile and Stone
Installation Systems

Gaylord National Hotel and Convention Center Project Spotlight: May 2008



LOCATION:
National Harbor, MD

OWNER:
Gaylord Hotels Nashville, TN

TILE CONTRACTOR:
Tiede-Zoeller, Inc., Long Beach, MS

TILE SUPPLIER:
The Stone Connection, Las Vegas, NA

TILE INSTALLATION SYSTEM:
LATICRETE International, Inc., Bethany, CT

LATICRETE DISTRIBUTOR:
BPI, Inc., Harahan, LA

Gaylord National Hotel and Convention Center

By Eric Carson



Employing the concept of “everything in one place,” The Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center is the crown jewel of the new National Harbor development on the banks of the historic Potomac River in Prince George County, Maryland.

Sitting on 41 acres overlooking the monuments and skyline of our nation’s capital, the \$865 million project opened April 25, 2008, earning it the immediate distinction of becoming the largest convention hotel-resort destination on the Eastern Seaboard.

Just minutes south of Washington, DC, the Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center boasts 2,000 luxury guest rooms, including 110 lavish suites, a 20,000 square foot European-style spa, high-end retail shops, several restaurants and eateries from upscale to sports bar, and an impressive 470,000 square feet of meeting, convention and exhibit space. Not to be forgotten, the hotel-resort destination has its own private marina, offering guests the opportunity to take a dinner cruise, get a close-up view of famous monuments, or check out Old Town Alexandria, Georgetown, or Mount Vernon, via a water taxi service that departs from the river’s edge.

Inside, the Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center is anchored by an 18-story atrium with glass to ceiling windows presenting breathtaking views of the mighty Potomac River as it weaves its way on down to Chesapeake Bay.

Amidst the indoor river, winding pathways and gardens under the barrel-vaulted glass dome of the atrium, gorgeous Calacatta Oro marble adorns the floors, planters, the massive escalator bank walls, and the four sided, 12-foot high support columns.

Charged with installing the white marble throughout the atrium, Tiede-Zoeller, Inc., led by project managers Ray Hilton, Bryan Ahrens and Dana Bates, turned to LATICRETE, a global leader in the manufacturing of innovative systems for the installation of ceramic tile and natural stone. Tiede-Zoeller was supplied with all LATICRETE materials for the installation at the Gaylord from Building Plastics, Inc., one of the top 10 floor covering distributors in terms of annual sales volume in the US. BPI is a wholesaler of decorative surfacing products, with the exception of its “Installer Supply Center.”

A long-time member of the LATICRETE Most Valued Partner (MVP) program, Tiede-Zoeller was well aware of the labor-saving benefits provided by a revolutionary LATICRETE product specifically targeted for vertical tile applications, LATAPOXY® 310 Stone Adhesive. A two component, high-strength construction epoxy adhesive for spot bonding large format tiles, like the

5-foot panels of white marble at the Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center, LATAPOXY 310 Stone Adhesive offers unmatched speed and productivity compared to mechanical anchoring, plaster and wire, and thin-set methods. Building code approved for cladding applications by the ICC, LATAPOXY 310 Stone Adhesive is easily applied utilizing the LATAPOXY 310 Cordless Mixer, allowing tile contractors to triple productivity, dramatically reduce labor costs, and help keep the job on schedule by allowing access to other trades in a fraction of the time it would have taken Tiede-Zoeller to install the marble with traditional methods.

Tiede-Zoeller, utilizing the LATAPOXY 310 Cordless Mixer, clad the 30’ x 50’ elevator bank walls with the large format white marble, and then did the same for all four sides of the 12-foot columns that support the wide-open atrium that serves as the centerpiece of the new Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center.

“LATAPOXY 310 Stone Adhesive worked great,” said Hilton. “The product was very easy to use. It really helped to increase our speed. The Cordless Mixer makes it a lot easier and provides a more accurate mix. Without a doubt we will be using it again. I’ve already specified it on our next project.”

On the resort’s third level, open to the atrium, Tiede-Zoeller turned its attention to the floor, setting 25,000 square feet of the same marble, this time with a two-band square of Nero Marquina and Giallo Real accent borders, on the open level where a gazebo and wedding chapel are stationed. To set the marble on the floor, Tiede-Zoeller utilized a combination of GREENGUARD certified products from LATICRETE which also contribute to LEED points. LATICRETE® 220 Marble & Granite Mortar, a fortified dry-set mortar specifically formulated to provide a one-step installation for large format marble and stone, supports the heavy marble tiles and all but eliminated lippage problems.

To grout the marble tiles, Tiede-Zoeller selected LATICRETE 1600 Unsanded Grout for a dense, durable grout joint when cured. LATICRETE 1600 Unsanded Grout eliminates shading and blotching caused by minerals and organic particles commonly found in domestic water, and inhibits the growth of stain-causing mold and mildew in grout joints with Microban® antimicrobial product protection.

Heading down to the massive second-level lobby, Tiede-Zoeller set black granite on the stairs with LATICRETE 220 Marble & Granite Mortar, then turned its attention to the floors of the 35,000 square foot lobby, bar and reception area, setting virtually the

same floor design as the third level with the same LATICRETE System, LATICRETE 220 Marble & Granite Mortar and LATICRETE 1600 Unsanded Grout.

Moving to the lower level, which is the bottom floor of the expansive atrium, Tiede-Zoeller installed tile on the floors and walls utilizing a premium thin-set from LATICRETE. As the centerpiece of the hotel, this floor includes restaurants and eateries, a buffet area, a coffee shop, sports bar, retail store, fitness center and the two-level Pose nightclub, offering plenty of options for the guests at the Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center.

For the bathrooms in the lobby and all of the different venues, Tiede-Zoeller utilized one of the most innovative LATICRETE products ever developed, LATICRETE® Hydro Ban™, the new industry standard for waterproofing membranes. GREENGUARD certified, LATICRETE Hydro Ban once again represents incredible time and labor-saving benefits, eliminating by far the most time-consuming step of installing a liquid applied waterproofing membrane. LATICRETE Hydro Ban does not require the use of fabric in the fields, coves or corners, instead bonding directly to a wide variety of substrates including copper, stainless steel and PVC, forming a flexible, seamless waterproofing membrane. A single component self-curing membrane, LATICRETE Hydro Ban bridges cracks in the existing substrate up to the industry standard of 1/8", and can be flood tested in 24 hours. LATICRETE Hydro Ban protects the substrates at the Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center from harmful mold and mildew growth with antimicrobial protection from Microban®.

Using smaller tiles, and a mix of marble and ceramic tiles depending on the venues choice, Tiede-Zoeller switched to LATICRETE 253 Gold, a superior polymer-fortified cementitious thin-set powder to be mixed with water for interior and exterior floor and wall installations. LATICRETE 253 Gold bonds to most surfaces, exceeds ANSI A118.4 requirements for shear bond strength, and is GREENGUARD certified for better indoor air quality.

When it came time to grout all of the different restaurants and venues, LATICRETE SpectraLOCK®* PRO Grout, with 40 different colors to choose from, was the only choice for Hilton and Tiede-Zoeller. LATICRETE SpectraLOCK PRO Grout is a revolutionary grout that offers unmatched performance, color uniformity, durability and stain resistance with extraordinary ease of use. A component of the LATICRETE 25 Year System Warranty†, LATICRETE SpectraLOCK PRO Grout meets ANSI A118.3 and protects against stain-causing mold and mildew with antimicrobial protection from Microban®.

"LATICRETE SpectraLOCK PRO Grout is the best product out there," said Hilton. "It's an easy product to use and it gives a nice consistent finished looked. There's no shading or blotchiness like you might get from other products. It can be used in place of sanded or unsanded grout, which makes it an easy product to specify. There's no need to change the product from one area to another area."

With the impressive atrium squared away, the Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center would once again call on LATICRETE innovation for eight high-end suites designed by TVS Interiors. Now under the watchful eye of Bryan Ahrens from Tiede-Zoeller, the LATICRETE System was expanded to tackle the ever-important issue of sound control in hospitality construction.

For all of the floors in the suites, Tiede-Zoeller first applied LATICRETE Admix and Primer, a latex primer to ensure the underlayment bonds to the substrate, and then rolled on the LATICRETE 150 Sound N' Crack Isolation Mat. The dual purpose peel and stick acoustical underlayment muffles impact noises, reduces sound transmission through the tiled surface, while eliminating the threat of cracks up to 1/8" from telegraphing up from the substrate.

For the wet areas in the high-end suites, LATICRETE Hydro Ban was roller applied to protect against harmful moisture, mold and mildew, and LATICRETE 253 Gold was the thin-set of choice. All totaled, the eight high-end suites called for 140 bags of LATICRETE 253 Gold in the new LATICRETE dust-free and recyclable plastic bag packaging.

And once again, LATICRETE SpectraLOCK PRO Grout was the grout of choice. In a more designer-orientated setting, seven different LATICRETE SpectraLOCK PRO Grout lifestyle colors were selected, including Bright White, Midnight Black, Silver Shadow, Toasted Almond, Copper Beech, Silk, and Turquoise.

With the grand opening in April 2008, by the time the National Tile Contractors Association (NTCA) hosts its annual Total Solutions Conference in September, the Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center will be booking rooms as quickly as they can on the dynamic waterfront.

With hundreds of tile contractors, manufacturer representatives and several members of the LATICRETE team in the building, the LATICRETE commitment to the research and development of innovative systems for the installation of ceramic tile and natural stone, and the fine work done by Tiede-Zoeller, will no doubt be a hot topic of conversation in the nation's capital.

*United States Patent No.:6881768 (and other Patents).

† See Data Sheet Q25.0 for complete warranty information.

