Solaire Manila Resorts Casino

Project Spotlight

LOCATION: Paranaque City, Philippines

Globally Proven Construction Solutions

LATICRETE SUPPLIER: Euroasia Marble & Granite Inc.
San Juan City, Philippines

DEVELOPER/OWNER: Bloombury Investments Holdings Inc.
Las Vegas, NV

CONTRACTOR: D.M. Consunji Inc.
Makati City, Philippines

ARCHITECT/CONSULTANT: Steelman Partners
Makati City, Philippines

LOCAL ARCHITECT: Casas + Architects
Makati City, Philippines

STONE INSTALLER: Euroasia Marble & Granite Inc.
San Juan City, Philippines

LATICRETE SUPPLIER: Euroasia Marble & Granite Inc.
San Juan City, Philippines
It is big — and then some. At $1.2 billion, the Solaire Manila Resorts casino is the heart and soul of a complex called Entertainment City, the Philippines’ high-stakes bid to join the likes of Macau, China, and Las Vegas, Nev., in an elite group of gaming destinations. The complex — Solaire, a French word meaning “the breeze from the sun” inspired by the Manila Bay Sunset — is the first of four on reclaimed land in Manila Bay. The resort/casino is expected to boost the country’s annual gaming revenues up to $10 billion. Government officials anticipate the sprawling Entertainment City complex will deliver 10 million newly well-off Asian tourists annually (as a comparison, it has attracted just over 4 million in 2012).

Run by Las Vegas-based Global Gaming Asset Management (GGAM), Solaire Manila is a unique blend of casino and resort. The nearly 900,000-square-foot (83,000 square meters) resort complex, which is decorated with mother-of-pearl-covered columns and a floor embedded with colored glass, includes nearly 300 gaming tables for baccarat, blackjack, craps, money wheel, pontoon and roulette, as well as 1,200 slot machines and a nearly 20,000 square foot (6,000 meters) VIP gaming salon. Other Las Vegas-type attractions include an entertainment lounge offering live music.

On the resort side, there are 500 hotel rooms and suites, bayside villas that overlook Manila Bay ranging in size from 2,000 to 3,200 square feet (600 to 1,000 meters). In addition, there is a state-of-the-art ballroom and meeting space, a fully equipped spa and fitness center, and a diverse array of world-class dining experiences, including signature, casual and quick-serve restaurants. The dining venues, headed by world-renowned chefs, showcase a comprehensive selection of authentic local and international flavors.

To house the anticipated influx of visitors, Solaire boasts more than 2,000 parking slots. Looking to the future, developers plan to add another wing, which will include 300 all-suite hotel rooms, 30-40 high-end shops and a theatre for travelling Broadway shows and foreign lounge acts.

In a luxurious resort of this magnitude, every detail, down to the tiles in the bathroom, is of the upmost importance. That’s why the stone installer, Euroasia Marble & Granite Inc. of San Juan City, Philippines, looking to put its best foot forward, turned to LATICRETE® for assistance. Euroasia had worked with the LATICRETE team in the past, giving it a comfort level that was critical on such a big project. Citing the firm’s penchant for superior technical support and products that offer stronger results than competing brands, Euroasia called on LATICRETE.

“When we bid for the project, there was a list of suppliers indicated for adhesives for the installation of marble,” said Mary Grace Lam, vice president of finance for Euroasia Marble & Granite. “We found LATICRETE products to be superior, and had complete testing data on all their products, plus LATICRETE has a very strong marketing and technical support group. Also, in our time working with them, LATICRETE has been very conscientious on following the schedules for production and delivery demanded by the project.”

In sitting down with the Euroasia team to sketch out the project, the design and installation team put together a list of LATICRETE products that would be...
vital to the finish installation, which featured Crema Marfil Stone Tile. The team’s list included 335 Flexible Cementitious Adhesive (white), LATAPOXY® 310 Stone Adhesive, 4237 Latex Additive mixed with 211 Powder and 1600 Unsanded Grout.

“The developer (Bloombury Investments Holdings) and contractor (DMCI) backed Euroasia on the fact that LATICRETE 335 Flexible Cementitious Adhesive could deliver the type of performance they needed to install the floor,” said Dennis Puno of LATICRETE Southeast Asia. As part of a routine verification of the installation methods, the team conducted an internal compatibility test with the stone (Crema Marfil) and 335 Flexible Cementitious Adhesive, and then submitted the report to the project managers with a certification letter that guaranteed the project.

Euroasia used a dry-packed method for the screeding and leveling followed by 335 Flexible Cementitious Adhesive to install the marble for all the interior stone flooring. The Crema Marfil marble finishes for the bathrooms were 20 mm thick, 300 x 600 mm size for the bathroom walls, and 20 mm thick, 600 x 600 mm for the flooring.

In addition, Euroasia used LATICRETE Flexibond to install a decorative German white stone in the bathroom and toilet areas and LATAPOXY 310 Stone Adhesive for the stone work, which included vertical columns and steel-framed staircases. The adhesive, a two-component, high strength epoxy adhesive, is formulated for the spot bond fixing method of tile and stone installations on vertical surfaces. LATAPOXY 310 Stone Adhesive is ideally suited for applications that require non-sag characteristics during the installation. In addition, it can be used over a variety of substrates while increasing productivity and ultimately lowering labor costs.

The LATAPOXY 310 Stone Adhesive and LATICRETE Flexibond were used as alternative solutions for the German white stone installation, which is very moisture sensitive, as well as for the steel-framed staircase.

Other LATICRETE products included 4237 Latex Additive mixed with 211 Powder for the installation of calacatta stone for the interior water features and 1600 Unsanded Grout, specified in the following colors: almond, sauterne, bright white and butter cream.

When it was all said and done, the bathroom and toilet areas add a sense of sophistication to what the developers were trying to accomplish with the Solaire Manila Resorts. The resort, which opened in March, joins the ranks of the other projects that Global Gaming Asset Management have created, including the Venetian Las Vegas, The Sands Macao, the Venetian Macao and Marina Bay Sands in Singapore.

“We like working with LATICRETE because their people are knowledgeable about their products, and they are very responsive on our needs as contractors,” Lam said. “The success of this project is the product of cooperation between everyone involved. We had good marble suppliers who delivered good materials on time. We had a very strong project team handling the installation on our end. We had strong support from the construction management team, DCI, and the general contractor, DMCI, and the project management team of Solaire.”