Glendale Galleria Mall Project
Project Spotlight

LOCATION:
Galleria Mall
Glendale, CA

INSTALLER:
Premier Tile & Marble
Gardena, CA

ARCHITECT:
ELS Architecture & Urban Design
Berkeley, CA

GENERAL CONTRACTOR:
VCC Construction
Irvine, CA

LATICRETE DISTRIBUTOR:
Daltile
City of Industry, CA
There are always challenges to renovating existing tile structures, but when the project is also constricted by a small window of opportunity, being able to source high-performing building materials from a single supplier can be critical. That was the task presented to Andrew Games, Vice President of Premier Tile and Marble, when he began work on the Glendale Galleria Mall renovation project, in Glendale, Calif., in 2013. The job called for the tiling of 270,000 square foot (27,871 square meters) of the mall’s interior flooring and wall spaces which included corridors, restrooms and food court. In addition, an 8,000 square foot (743.22 meters) exterior living wall was tiled along with areas of exterior paving.

“During renovation, the Mall remained open for business. All work performed during each shift had to be finished, clean and ready prior to the mall opening,” explained Mr. “Games. Since the Mall’s tenants must be ready for business by 9 a.m., we only had a very small window of time to perform our work. That window was from 9 p.m. to 7 a.m. Based on the schedule, we needed to install around 3,000 square feet of tile per night, finished.”

With this challenge in hand, Games set out to line up his team of suppliers. The majority of the tile was being supplied by Daltile. “We worked with John Christy of Daltile from start to finish in regards to getting the proper tile specified. We also worked closely with the VCC Construction team and General Growth Properties, the owner of the mall, to make sure we were all on the same page, working towards getting a high quality finished product within the time constraints that were required,” said Games.

Once the 12” x 24” (03 x 06 meters) porcelain tiles were ordered, it was time to find a single supplier that could not only deliver the necessary ancillaries, but deliver exceptional service, especially under the job’s tight time constraints. Mr. Games chose LATICRETE.

He explained, “We are very familiar with LATICRETE® products and they have always performed very well under stringent conditions. Just as important was the excellent support we received from LATICRETE sales representative Eddie Obymako. Any time we had a question or an issue that came up, he was on site within hours, day or night.”

The Mall’s intricate stairs were manufactured by Wausau. Crossville/Longust supplied porcelain stainless steel brushed tile for the elevator walls. LATICRETE 254 Platinum, a high performance, polymer fortified thin-set mortar, was utilized to adhere the stainless steel tile on the elevator walls, which was subject to constant movement from the elevator usage.

For the main concourse area, Mr. Games chose LATICRETE’s 253R Gold Rapid a fast-setting, polymer-fortified thin-set for installing ceramic tile, pavers, brick and stone. This flexible mortar is a fast-setting, polymer-fortified thin-set that is ideal for installing ceramic tile, pavers, brick and stone. The advantages of 253R Gold Rapid include being ready for grouting in 2 to 4 hours at 70°F (21 °C). The mortar has a tenacious bond to concrete and masonry and mixes with water. It also meets ANSI A118.4 and ANSI A118.11 standards.

“The 253R Gold Rapid from LATICRETE worked really well for us,” said Mr. Games. “The
workability of the 253R Gold Rapid lets you have the time needed to get the tile set and at proper elevations. It's ready to work and the grout sets within a matter of hours."

The ability to source all the products needed to install the tile from a single manufacturer was key to the project's success, as that not only saved time and money, but it ensured that all the components of the installation would work flawlessly together and the structure would maintain its beauty and integrity for many years to come.

For the underlayment, Mr. Games chose LATICRETE NXT™ Level Plus, a cement-based, free-flowing self-leveling underlayment for use in leveling interior substrates. NXT Level Plus is designed with a superior compressive strength formulation and its rapid setting formula produces a flat, smooth and hard surface for the installation of finished flooring. NXT Level Plus can be placed from \( \frac{1}{8} \)– \( 1 \frac{1}{4} \)" (3–32 mm) in a single lift. Its inorganic formula will not contribute to mold/mildew growth. It can be applied directly over concrete testing at RH of 95% or less per ASTM F2170.

To ensure the tile installation would be waterproofed and protected from potential cracking, Games selected HYDRO BAN®, a thin, load-bearing waterproofing and anti-fracture membrane that does not require the use of fabric in the field, coves or corners. HYDRO BAN® is a single component, self-curing liquid rubber polymer that forms a flexible, seamless waterproofing membrane that bonds to a wide variety of substrates including copper, steel, stainless steel and PVC plumbing fixtures.

PERMACOLOR® Grout was selected as it is a high performance, fast setting grout that provides a grout joint that is dense and hard. It has been designed to set up more quickly than traditional Portland cement based grouts, which creates better color accuracy and consistency. PERMACOLOR® Grout offers the maximum performance available in a cement-based grout, providing consistent color and Microban® to resist stain-causing mold and mildew.

LATICRETE's PERMACOLOR® Grout conforms to ISO 13007 and EN 12888 (CG2WA) certifications and meets ANSI A118.7 requirements.

Finally, LATASIL™ sealant was used to treat the movement joints. LATASIL is a high performance, one component, neutral-cure, 100% silicone sealant designed for ceramic tile and stone applications. It is designed for exterior and interior use, including wet area applications. It conforms to the following properties under ASTM C–920: Type S, Grade NS, Class 25, Use NT, Use L, Use M, Use G. LATASIL is excellent for masonry construction and features excellent movement capacity — 25% extension and compression.

“Having a single source company such as LATICRETE that offers a complete line of installation products from start to finish, along with an excellent warranty is always key for any general contractor and installer,” said Mr. Games. “We been a long time LATICRETE user and with the job this size, we were comfortable with products and service that we always receive form LATICRETE.”
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