

STONHARD® Solutions

UK Metro Stations Revitalized with Durable, Sound-Absorbing Stonres RTZ Floors

Product used at Metro Stations:

• Stonclad® GS • Stonres® RTZ

The Tyne and Wear Metro is a light rail system that serves Northeast England. With 60 stations covering some 48 miles and with annual ridership of over 40 million, daily wear and tear had taken a toll on the system's facilities. "The Metro" was in the midst of a \$500 million plus, nine-year long modernization process which included a complete overhaul of all existing stations, the addition of new stations and further modernization of the system's infrastructure and technology.

In the first phase of the three phase plan, the Haymarket and Sunderland Metro Stations were scheduled for renovations. The stations had terrazzo tiling, which was noisy under foot traffic, had poor slip resistance and was surface damaged, even though it remained well bonded to the floor. Project management was faced with a dilemma: remove the terrazzo, which would be extremely costly and time-consuming, or install a new floor over the terrazzo, which would limit their product selection, as not all floors can be installed over terrazzo.

Stonhard presented Metro planners and project management with Stonres RTZ, a seamless, urethane-based, ergonomic, sound-reducing, long-wearing and stain-resistant floor system that could easily be installed over the existing terrazzo. Planners were impressed with Stonres RTZ's ability to go over the terrazzo.



Stonhard installed floors in both Haymarket and Sunderland Metro stations while trains continued to pass through the stations. Flexibility during installation was critical to Metro planners.



Stonres RTZ's acoustical benefits were noticed immediately in the upper concourse.

Restrictions on the installation process presented Stonhard with some unique challenges. Stonhard crews would have to adhere to time restrictions, working around public timetables with just limited closures. For the majority of the installation, Stonhard worked while trains continued to pass through the stations. The work areas were unheated, and since the initial installation began in the dead of winter, temporary tents had to be erected so that the resins used in the floor system could be prepared at the proper temperature. The Sunderland station had no on-site storage, so nightly deliveries by rail had to be arranged. Additionally, Stonhard's installation crews had to comply with all health and safety regulations set forth by the railway sector, which closely monitored all work. Stonhard's flexibility with the installation was also a huge selling point for metro planners.

The complicated work environment and restrictions were only minimal challenges for Stonhard, which successfully installed more than 7,500 square feet of Stonres RTZ on the concourses and platforms at the Haymarket and Sunderland Metro Stations. Metro administration and project managers were extremely pleased with their new Stonhard floors. David Thompson, of Tolent Construction, who worked on the planning side of the project, said, "Aesthetically, the finished floor looks very good and the acoustic benefits are particularly noticeable in the upper concourse areas where retail areas result in higher foot traffic. Stonhard provided great support, from the original sales discussion to technical advice and installation."

The Stonhard Difference

Stonhard is the unprecedented world leader in manufacturing and installing high performance polymer floor, wall and lining systems. Stonhard maintains 300 product engineers and 175 application crews worldwide who will work with you on design specifications, project management, final walk through and service after the sale. And, Stonhard's single source warranty covers both products and installation.

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