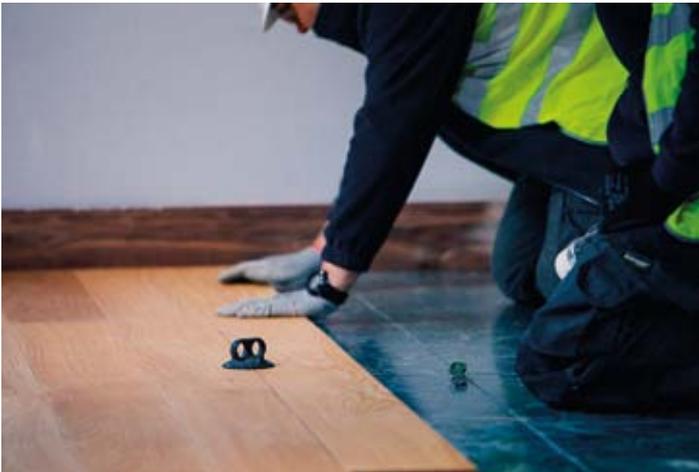


Kingspan News

The newsletter of Kingspan Access Floors

New timber faced product fastens with magnetism

Kingspan launches new product for high spec projects



How do you provide an access floor that offers the aesthetic appeal of a solid timber floor whilst still providing easy access to the panels beneath it?

This has not been possible in the past because, to allow access to the floor panels, the finish has had to be bonded to the floor, with the constraint that it had to be 600mm sq.

However in a UK first, Kingspan has overcome the problem by developing oak veneer staves that use magnetism to fasten to our steel encapsulated floor panels, enabling architects to design the look of a solid timber floor.

The new Kingspan product, called Attiro, is available in lengths of 1200mm to

2000mm per staff and in widths of 90mm to 200mm. Its depth is 17mm, which includes a 4mm solid oak veneer, available in a wide range of shades and finishes.

Attiro has been developed for installation in high specification, prestigious office and educational premises and can be fitted as part of a new build or tenant fit out where Kingspan steel encapsulated floor panels have already been installed. We have already gained a contract to manufacture and install 35,000 sq m of Attiro at a major

City of London headquarters development.

The launch of Attiro follows extensive testing by our R&D department on aspects such as temperature and humidity change, varying loads, acoustic properties and optimum magnetic strength.

Attiro also meets various environmental and sustainability criteria – installation using magnetism means that it can be easily lifted and reused in another area or project and the product has FSC third party Chain of Custody accreditation when supplied and installed by Kingspan.

Attiro offers cost savings over pre-bonded timber panels – because it is installed at the fit out stage of a project there is

far less chance of damage, if a staff does need to be replaced it can be easily removed, and the floor can be walked on as soon as it has been laid.

Ian Lomas, Kingspan National Specification Sales Manager, said: “We have developed and aggressively tested Attiro in response to customer demand for more versatility in floor finishes. It enables an architect or interior designer to achieve the impression of a timber floor, assembled on a raised access floor, safe in the knowledge that it is serviceable and practical for their client or end user occupant.”

The extensive testing has been carried out by CATAS in Italy, the leading Italian research institute and test laboratory for timber.

Kingspan warns about the dangers of reusing access floors

Kingspan has warned about the dangers of contractors taking up raised floors from buildings being renovated or demolished and then reusing them elsewhere.

Managing Director Terry Newman said: "There is a relatively new but growing trend of contractors attempting to recycle complete second hand flooring systems. This is causing some concern because it is impossible to determine what wear or damage has been inflicted on the system during its life or whilst it is being dismantled and removed, particularly as it is a structural product.

"Raised floors must generally perform

safely under conditions of excess load in the order of 9kN. The raised floor is normally subjected to its greatest levels of abuse during the initial construction period, but during its life heavy equipment may often be pulled across it as plant and machinery is replaced or updated.

"The primary performance specification in the UK, the PSA Specification, recommends that a raised floor should have a life of at least 25 years so the floor will see numerous changes over its life, some of which might have a detrimental effect on its structural performance, especially if it has been overloaded.

"We have seen examples where a raised floor has been used for 20 years and has been offered for reuse with a performance warranty of 5 years; i.e. the PSA Specification recommended 25 year life



cycle, less the period of time it has been in use. Although that may sound logical, you would not know whether the floor has been subjected to abuse, overloading etc. that may have had a detrimental effect on its ongoing performance."

Mr Newman said Kingspan would not provide any ongoing warranty for a floor that had been reused unless it was only a few years old and had been inspected by Kingspan before it was reused.

"Reusing a flooring system would be admirable from a recycling point of view if the practice was not open to so many risks. Kingspan is committed to the environment and recycling, and we offer a service where we will take back our old raised flooring systems and recycle the steel and chipboard cores for reuse," he added.

Kingspan would not suggest that raised floors cannot be re-used but simply that an expert view should be sought to ensure that the system is in such a condition that it is suitable to re-use. This appraisal should include representative sampling of the system being considered for re-use. Kingspan's Technical Department would be pleased to provide such a service.

This is especially important when we have seen raised flooring panels being re-used with pedestals sourced that are not approved for use with the particular panels – raised floors must always be tested as a system, whether PSA or BSEN specified, and not as a collection of products taken off someone's shelf!

R&D operations expanded

KINGSPAN HAS EXPANDED ITS R&D DEPARTMENT BY APPOINTING ANDREW WRIGHT AS SENIOR TECHNICIAN AND ALEX DUNCAN AS APPRENTICE TECHNICIAN.

R&D Manager Carl Binney said the appointments will support both Kingspan's development of existing product ranges and also new product development.

Andrew Wright has joined Kingspan after being a packaging technologist following his graduation from the University of Hull.

Alex Duncan is in his first year of a three year engineering apprenticeship with the Humberside Engineering Training Association (HETA) in Hull. He will spend three days each week in the R&D Department and two days at HETA.



Alex Duncan (left) and Andrew Wright (right) with (l-r), Phil Major, Quality Assurance Manager; and Carl Binney, R&D Manager.

Kingspan panels being installed in prestigious new headquarters

Connaught Access Floors is installing over 66,000 sq m of Kingspan access floor panels in the new UK headquarters of the global financial services organisation, UBS.

The RMG 600 panels are being installed on all floors of the 12 storey building at 5 Broadgate, London. The new headquarters will provide state-of-the-art trading floors, enabling UBS to consolidate its London trading operations into one building.

The fit out works were designed by T P Bennett architects, and the works are managed by ISG. The offices are on track to achieve a BREEAM 'Excellent' rating.



A computer generated impression of the new headquarters.

Carbon emissions will be reduced through energy efficient design and renewable energy sources, including solar thermal and photovoltaic panels. The development includes 700 sq ft of green roof space and

242 sq ft of planting and trees at ground level and on the upper terraces. Connaught has started installation of the Kingspan flooring, and the building is due for final handover in April 2016.

Kingspan and the BCO guidelines

THE BRITISH COUNCIL FOR OFFICES SETS OUT THE PREFERRED STANDARDS FOR TODAY'S COMMERCIAL OFFICE ENVIRONMENT, WHICH INCLUDES THEIR RECOMMENDATIONS FOR RAISED FLOORING SYSTEMS.

BCO adheres strictly to the established UK standard of the PSA Medium Grade Specification which, over many years, has been demonstrated to provide maintenance free performance during construction and over the system life.

The BCO Guide actually goes into sufficient detail to state the recommended criteria, including point load and UDL, all taken from the PSA MOB PF2/SPU Medium Grade Specification.

In recent times "value engineered" proposals have appeared in the market place that claim to offer similar performance at a lower cost under the guise of "medium duty" or some other name but, without doubt, PSA Medium Grade has proven to deliver a quality raised floor fit for the life of a modern commercial office development.

In line with the British Council for Offices recommendations, Kingspan Access Floors is proud to offer our RMG600 system,



Kingspan flooring at Brent Civic Centre, one of the BCO award winners.

which is independently qualified as a fully compliant PSA Medium Grade system.

The Kingspan Access Floors steel encased RMG600 system carries the Kingspan 25 Year Total Warranty. When supplied and installed by Kingspan Contracts, it is a Total System Warranty, which includes not only the product but also the installation.

Examples of recent installations which have gained awards in BCO's 2014 Awards Programme to recognise top quality design and functionality are:

National Award Winners

- Number One Riverside, Rochdale (Best of the Best award and Corporate Workplace award)

- Argent, 4 Stable Street, Kings Cross (Projects Up to 2000 m2 award)
- The Walbrook Building, London (Fit Out of Workplace Award).

Regional Award Winners

- 121 Winterstoke Road, Bristol (South West, Thames Valley & South Wales Corporate Workplace Award)
- Brent Civic Centre (London and the South East Corporate Workplace Award joint winner).



Developing export sales to Turkey

KINGSPAN HAS SUBSTANTIALLY DEVELOPED ITS EXPORT SALES TO TURKEY, WITH 2014 HAVING BEEN ONE OF ITS BEST EVER TRADING YEARS.

Kingspan's latest order was to supply 10,000 sq m of RG2 floor panels for new headquarters being built in Istanbul for the general management team of ICDAS, who are one of the largest steel

producers in Turkey. Kingspan is working with AGK in Turkey, who are specialists in commercial carpet tiles and raised floors.

Installation of the flooring in the nine-storey building began in early February and is due to be completed in early March. The images (above) are computer generated impressions of the new headquarters.

Pulling out all the stops for India order

Kingspan's ability to meet tight timescales for manufacture and delivery was a key factor in helping one of our longest serving distributors, Access Floor International, based in Mumbai, to win its largest ever order.

The project involves supplying and installing approx 30,000 sq m of Kingspan RG2 panels at the HSBC Global Technology Centre at Pune in India in just 95 days – a timescale which included Kingspan manufacturing the panels and shipping them to India.

Jagdish Ruwala, of Access Floor International, said: "Kingspan successfully and efficiently moved 36 containers in record

time, and within a further 45 days we have been able to complete the logistics and finish 50% of the installation. This project is a significant demonstration of the joint effort of Kingspan and Access Floor International."

HSBC has relocated its operations in Pune, India, to the new Business Bay mixed-use development, close to Pune International Airport. Business



The installation underway at the HSBC centre.

Bay integrates high quality business spaces, commercial and recreational facilities, a luxury hotel and high-end retail stores.

Access Floor International has been a Kingspan distributor for 18 years and has worked closely with us on many projects.

Hull City captain donates football boots



WHEN HULL CITY CAPTAIN CURTIS DAVIES VISITED OUR HULL MANUFACTURING FACILITIES TO DRAW OUR CHRISTMAS RAFFLE HE ALSO DONATED A PAIR OF SIGNED BOOTS THAT WE INTEND TO RAFFLE OFF AT A LATER DATE.

Curtis Davies is pictured with Gill Ward, our Production Planner and Chair of our Charity Committee

During 2014 we raised £5,000 to be split between Kids (www.kids.org.uk) and the MND Association (www.mndassociation.org)

Questions, comments or feedback

For more information about the articles in this newsletter or about Kingspan's access flooring ranges and services, you can:



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