

Epoxy Flooring

Easy-to-maintain, slip- and impact-resistant flooring system

Marketplace	Commercial – Automotive
Project	Lebeau Vitres d'autos, Papineau Street, Montreal
Product	Sikafloor® 261 ^{CA} – System 4
Challenge	Replace an old, worn, epoxy floor with a new, level, easy-to-maintain, impact- and wear-resistant floor
Solution	A self-levelling, slip- and impact-resistant flooring system

A chip and crack-resistant floor for a chip and crack-repair industry



More than 70 years have elapsed since the first Lebeau Vitres d'autos auto glass replacement service centre opened its doors on Papineau Street in Montreal. Today, the group operates 60 service centres, serves 100,000 Québec vehicle owners each year, and is affiliated with the Belron Group, autoglass repair industry world-leader. Nonetheless, the service centre on Papineau Street is where it all started for Lebeau, which is why the centre received so much attention recently when the repair of its service bay floor was undertaken.

Management had set its sites on a new, level, easy-to-maintain floor which, above all, would be impact-resistant. When Sika initially suggested installing an epoxy floor, their reaction was less than enthusiastic: epoxy floors had been installed in other Lebeau centres with unsatisfactory results. Chipping and cracking had proven to be a serious draw-back to the epoxy finishes.



Sika's guarantee that the Sikafloor® 261^{CA} – System 4 – a floor finish system designed specifically to be abrasion- and impact-resistant – would give them the resistance they required finally put their fears to rest. With that, work was quickly undertaken by a group of experienced, Sika-trained flooring installers.

The first step consisted in removing approximately 500 sq. ft. of the old 7,000 sq. ft. floor and repairing the concrete slab below. As minimizing down-time was of vital importance, the installers chose to work with SikaQuick® 1000, a rapid-hardening repair mortar designed for structural repairs to concrete roadways, parking structures and such. The use of SikaQuick® 1000 would make it possible to proceed to the next step and start installing the epoxy finish in as little as 6 hours.



As soon as the repaired slab had cured, it was cleaned to remove all traces of laitance, and prepared with a grinder to obtain a profile equivalent to ICRI-CSP 3 to 5. A first coat of the Sikafloor® 261^{CA} was then applied as a primer coat using a squeegee, and back-rolled. Once dried, a second, self-levelling coat of the Sikafloor® 261^{CA}, to which had been added silica sand, was applied using a notched squeegee and trowel. This second coat was levelled and liberated of trapped air with the help of a spiked roller, and broadcast with sand until rejection. In the ramp areas, larger calibre sand was used to render these areas even more slip-resistant.

Once the broadcast coat had dried, it was cleaned with a vacuum cleaner to remove any loose sand. A last coat of the Sikafloor® 261^{CA} was then applied with a squeegee and back-rolled several times in order to achieve a uniform texture and finish.

In no time, the new floor was back into service meaning it quickly became dirty again. Since installing Sikafloor® 261^{CA}, the floor has never been so easy to clean and, most important of all, so crack- and chip-resistant.

And reaction to the Sikafloor® 261^{CA} - System 4 has been so positive that, today, it is the new standard for all the group's Canadian service centres.

Construction

Sika®

Products Used

Sikafloor® 261^{CA} – System 4

Leading-edge technology, 1/8" to 1/4" (3 to 6 mm) thick, self-levelling, broadcast surfacing to create level, seamless, anti-slip and aesthetic floor finishes.

- High abrasion- and impact-resistance
- Good chemical resistance
- Higher thermal shock-resistance
- Variety of slip-resistant surface profiles
- Durable, impermeable and seamless
- Does not support growth of bacteria or fungus
- Neutral odour
- Unlimited colours, no minimum required
- Canadian Food Inspection Agency/USDA accepted

Complementary Products

SikaQuick® 1000

Rapid-hardening repair mortar with extended working time, designed for structural repairs and more.

- Suitable for applications requiring an extended working time
- Cures rapidly
- Can be used in conjunction with Sikacem® Accelerator in cold weather to increase its early strength and reduce its curing time
- Compatible with Sikafloor®, SikaBond® and Sika® Acoubond Systems
- Ready to be over-coated with epoxy in as little as 6 hours
- Open to foot traffic after 4 hours; vehicular traffic after 6
- Highly freeze/thaw resistant
- Easy-to-use, thereby reducing labour costs
- Easily applied to a sound, clean substrate
- Contains no added chlorides
- Not gypsum-based
- Not a vapour barrier
- Canadian Food Inspection Agency accepted



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