

# Polyflor News

Spring 2016 | Issue 25 |

Welcome to the latest news from Polyflor

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- Setting The Safety Floor Standard
- Brand New Installations
- Recofloor Awards 2016

expona<sup>®</sup> SimpLay

LOOSE LAY VINYL FLOOR TILES

*The latest addition to the Expona family  
- our new collection of heavy commercial  
loose lay LVT featuring 38 stunning designs.*



## EXPONA® SimPLay

### LOOSE LAY VINYL FLOOR TILES

The Expona SimPLay PUR collection of loose lay vinyl tiles and planks for heavy commercial interiors offers authentic reproductions of beautiful natural materials presented in an adhesive-free, ready to lay product designed to reduce installation time.

Living up to the Expona brand's reputation for offering high design flooring, the new range includes 38 stunning designs featuring a variety of both traditional and contemporary wood, stone and textile effects.

Expona SimPLay's unique, non-skid honeycomb backing layer and thicker 5mm gauge ensures that the tiles stay in position to create a robust and hard wearing floorcovering for high traffic, heavy commercial environments such as the office, retail and leisure sectors.

As it is a loose lay product which can be installed over many different types of existing floorcoverings, subfloor preparation is significantly reduced. Each plank or tile can be installed, lifted and reinstalled elsewhere without leaving any residue, making this range ideal for temporary installations and exhibitions.

Expona SimPLay is beautifully presented within a sampling package which includes a 48 page brochure and a comprehensive presenter.

Download the brochure and find out more at

**[www.polyflor.com/exponasimplay](http://www.polyflor.com/exponasimplay)**

Natural Rustic Oak



Porcelain Weave & Charcoal Weave



Jerusalem Limestone & Ground Limestone

## Forest fx adds a natural feel to the Greenlea Oncology Unit

Polyflor's Forest fx PUR range was used to create an interior inspired by nature for the recently refurbished Greenlea Oncology Unit at Huddersfield Royal Infirmary.

The Rustic Oak design from Polyflor's Forest fx PUR range was fitted throughout the Chemotherapy and Oncology unit based in Ward 7 of the hospital as part of a £2.2m ward improvement scheme.

Jammal Mohammed, Project Manager at Huddersfield Royal Infirmary comments, "We chose this wood effect design from the Forest fx range and wall artwork featuring beautiful natural scenes to bring a sense of the outdoors into the ward and create a calming, less clinical atmosphere for our patients when they are receiving treatment."

To take a look at our case study video visit the [Polyflor TV channel](#).



## More BIM Objects launched ahead of Government's 2016 deadline

Even more of Polyflor's latest products have now been added to our portfolio of **Building Information Modelling (BIM) Objects**, including the new Affinity2<sup>55</sup> PUR range of 2mm gauge heavy commercial luxury vinyl tiles and the relaunched Polysafe Wood fx safety flooring collection featuring brand new shades.

Free to download from the RIBA National BIM Library and Polyflor website, the launch of Polyflor's new BIM Objects comes ahead of the UK Government's April 2016 deadline from which point centrally procured public sector projects will be required to use Level 2 BIM.

Visit [www.polyflor.com](http://www.polyflor.com) or [www.nationalbimlibrary.com](http://www.nationalbimlibrary.com) to download Polyflor's BIM objects.

## Croydon University Hospital gets a dementia-friendly makeover



**Wood effect Forest fx PUR** vinyl flooring in **American Oak** was chosen by Croydon Health Services NHS Trust to create a welcoming dementia-friendly care zone in two reconfigured wards at **Croydon University Hospital**.

Designed by IBI Group, the refurbishment of Croydon University Hospital's wards involved creating a new environment specifically suited to patients who are admitted to hospital and living with dementia.

Jeff Moore, Project Manager at Croydon University Hospital commented, "The flooring is a homely, easy to clean solution and the perfect complement to our bright **dementia friendly care zone**. The finish of the floor is matt and the tone of the floor is not too dark or too light, helping to avoid patients being distracted so that they become unbalanced. Some of our patients were immediately less anxious when walking around on this replacement floor, contributing to a **more peaceful space** that offers the comfort and familiarity of home."

## A piece of the action at Royal Bournemouth Hospital's Jigsaw Building



Polysafe safety flooring was installed at Royal Bournemouth Hospital's new Jigsaw Building where the Oncology, Haematology and Women's Health departments are now based.

**2600m<sup>2</sup>** of **Polysafe Wood fx PUR** and **Polysafe Modena PUR** sheet vinyl safety flooring was installed by **Floorsure (Southern) Ltd** of Havant, Hampshire who worked closely with the main contractor Brymor Construction Ltd on this £5.7 million Jigsaw Building project. The design-led safety flooring with built-in slip resistance was

fitted throughout circulation areas, corridors, treatment rooms and reception areas.

Pam Griffiths, Clinical & Commissioning Project Co-Ordinator at Royal Bournemouth Hospital commented, "Polysafe flooring was the ideal choice for creating a fresh and clean look throughout our new Jigsaw Building that was a step away from the traditional, clinical look. The safety credentials of these floorcoverings give us confidence that we have created a safe environment for both our patients and staff in this new facility."



# When a 'Safety' Floor is **NOT** a Safety Floor

Selecting slip resistant flooring that is sustainable for its guaranteed life can be a difficult area for everyone in the specification chain to understand and this is partly due to new so-called pseudo 'safety' products now entering the market which in reality do **NOT** provide adequate sustainable wet slip resistance.

We asked **John Mellor**, Polyflor Market Manager for Safety Flooring, to shed some light on the situation...

“As product manager for Polyflor's safety flooring ranges sold under the Polysafe brand, I take a great deal of interest in competitor activity and new developments of slip resistant flooring products.

Of course, it is healthy to have competition and it helps the market to evolve. It is well known in the trade that specific flooring manufacturers are renowned for their integrity and transparency in terms of sustainable slip resistance claims for safety flooring. However, it is unfortunate to say that there has been an influx of products entering the market over recent months that do **NOT** conform to the required sustainable safety floor performance credentials yet they are marketed as fully fledged safety floors.

We've come across one such 'safety' floor product which claims to provide superior slip resistance and is 'HSE 36+ slip resistant', however on closer inspection of technical information and product samples it is clear that it is not a safety floor that would perform over a long period of time in wet conditions.

When examining the product in finer detail, it does not have any particles within its performance layer and **relies solely on an emboss and coating that will wear in time**, thereby offering only a transient level of slip resistance. A result of 36+ in an ex-factory Pendulum Slip Test in the wet may be achieved for this product due solely to its emboss and coating but once these wear after a period of time there would be no particles to provide continued slip resistance for the product's lifetime. Therefore, an in-situ result of **36+** on the Pendulum is **NOT** likely to be achieved.

With these products on the market offering such misleading claims, slip resistance is becoming an even more confusing area for those specifying floors that need to perform in potentially wet conditions. Polyflor always ensures that its safety flooring products are fully tested and fit for purpose, being constructed in such a way that particles exist through the performance layer for continual traction between foot and floor, of course, assuming the floor has been maintained correctly.

All of us in the flooring industry have a duty of care to provide the correct type of flooring where true sustainable wet slip resistance is needed, ensuring that building visitors or residents have the required underfoot protection, particularly as we have an ageing population. Selected products should be fit for purpose and correctly specified according to HSE Guidelines, also meeting the required particle based safety flooring standard.

Here's the key criteria that you should be looking out for when choosing a safety floor product that is fit for purpose for your project... ”



## Safety Flooring **SHOULD**...

- Achieve a sustainable result of **36+** in the **Pendulum Slip Test** for slip resistance, tested in wet conditions.
- Conform to **EN 13845**, the European standard for particle based safety flooring.
- Meet the **50,000** cycles abrasion test requirements of **EN 13845**, proving that performance of slip resistant particles is sustainable.
- Feature **safety particles in the performance layer** of the product - an emboss or gritted coating will only offer short term slip resistance and once trafficked will leave a smooth floor that is **NOT** slip resistant in wet conditions.
- **NOT** be specified solely on **R ratings** to the ex-factory Ramp Test (**DIN 51130 & DIN 51097**), as these ratings do not demonstrate any longevity in terms of the floorcovering's slip resistance.

For more guidance on safety flooring please contact our Technical Support department on **0161 767 1912** or **tech@polyflor.com**.



# Safety underfoot in laboratories at Withington Girls' School

**Heavy duty Polysafe** safety flooring was installed as part of a refurbishment of the Chemistry department at Withington Girls' School in Fallowfield, Manchester.

Around 800m<sup>2</sup> of **Polysafe Corona PUR** safety flooring in the **Grey Seal** shade was fitted by Taylor Made Flooring of Swadlincote, Derbyshire to laboratories, classrooms and corridors at the independent day school for girls aged 7 to 18.

These new laboratories along with other new buildings at the school formed part of a £5 million development project which was officially opened by HRH The Duchess of Gloucester in September 2015 to commemorate the 125th anniversary of the School's foundation.



# Playtime at Paper Moon Day Nursery

Polyflor's recently relaunched **Polysafe Wood fx PUR** vinyl safety flooring was chosen to help create a safe, child-friendly environment at the Paper Moon Day Nursery in Woodbeck, Nottinghamshire.

The **Grey Toned Silver Oak** design from the **Polysafe Wood fx PUR** collection of sheet vinyl flooring was installed by **Clinton Carpets** flooring contractors of Retford in the playroom areas of the new nursery.

Alison Hill from Paper Moon Day Nursery commented, "We chose Polysafe Wood fx as we needed a practical, hard wearing and slip resistant floorcovering that also looked attractive to help us create a safe environment that the children will enjoy playing and learning in. The fact that it is **easy to clean** is also a massive bonus for us in terms of the everyday running of the nursery. This flooring has also been installed in a number of our other Paper Moon nurseries across Nottinghamshire and Lincolnshire."





## Acoustic flooring helps create peace and quiet at Northampton Academy

2500m<sup>2</sup> of **Polyflor acoustic** flooring was selected to help improve the acoustic performance of Northampton Academy as part of the secondary school's refurbishment project.

The classic, wood effect **American Oak** design from the **Acoustix Forest fx PUR** range was installed along corridors and staircases on multiple levels at Northampton Academy by local flooring contractor **Absolute Coverings Ltd** who are based in Silverstone, Northamptonshire.

Suitable for demanding, high traffic commercial environments like large schools, this acoustic floorcovering produces an impact sound reduction level of **19dB**, reducing the transfer of noise throughout this modern school building that accommodates approximately 1400 pupils.

Jed Queally, Business Manager at Northampton Academy comments, "We specifically wanted an acoustic floorcovering to help create a more **peaceful learning environment** for our pupils, where excessive noise from foot traffic around classrooms would be less of a distraction."







## Expona Flow is a class act at Reigate Grammar School

Beautiful wood effect vinyl flooring from **Polyflor's Expona Flow** range was installed to refresh the look of the school hall at Reigate Grammar School in Surrey.

**400m<sup>2</sup>** of **Expona Flow** sheet vinyl flooring in Blond Oak was installed by **Brampton Flooring** for the school hall refurbishment. Specified by Julian Sawyers of **J S Surveying Associates**, this classic light oak design was ideal for the multi-purpose space

which is used daily for school assemblies, meetings and a variety of school functions.

Carmel Grater, Operations Manager at Reigate Grammar School commented, "For our school hall we wanted a floor that had the **beauty of real wood**, was easy to maintain and would give us years of performance. Expona Flow flooring hasn't disappointed and we're delighted with the final look of our refurbished space."



## New Education Brochure

Polyflor has launched a brand new brochure for the **education sector** which shows how high performance and high design vinyl flooring can help to create inspirational and practical education facilities.

Floors throughout any school or college have diverse needs that can differ from area to area, depending on the function of the room, the age of pupils and expected

activity and traffic levels. The brochure features a number of case studies showcasing where Polyflor flooring has been used on new build and refurbishment projects in the education sector all around the world.

Visit the Polyflor website to read online or order your **free copy**.



# Restoring Lido Ponty to its former glory

Polysafe safety flooring was used to help return Lido Ponty, the National Lido of Wales in Pontypridd, to its former glory as part of Rhondda Cynon Taf Council's £6.3m restoration project.

Installed by **CS Flooring Solutions** under main contractors Kier Construction, **Polysafe Arena PUR** in the Cement design was installed in The Waterside café and the visitor centre where the lido's rich heritage is showcased, whilst **Polysafe Modena PUR** safety flooring in the **Blue Quartz** and **Andesite shades** was used in back of house zones and the centre's busy reception area.

Amy Griffiths, Assistant Site Manager on the Lido Ponty project comments, "We are delighted with the finished result at Lido Ponty where the flooring perfectly complements and enhances the new look of the lido. Thanks to the Polysafe Arena and Modena ranges we were able to create a **safe and sustainable** slip resistant environment for visitors without having to compromise on our creative vision for the interior design."



## A winning new look for Cardiff Blues Rugby Club bar

Polyflor's high design and hard wearing vinyl flooring was installed in brand new bar area for fans to socialise in at the home of Cardiff Blues rugby club, Cardiff Arms Park.

**Forest fx PUR** sheet vinyl flooring in **Rustic Oak** and **Expona Design PUR** luxury vinyl tiles in **Atlantic Slate** were both used in this updated café bar area at the stadium in the centre of Cardiff. Expona Commercial luxury vinyl tiles in **Blue Recycled Wood** were also fitted to hospitality boxes overlooking the pitch. The refurbishment

was designed, managed and carried out by local interior fit out specialists **Office Image**, with the flooring installed by **Gareth Wood Contract Flooring Services**.

Neil Humphries, Managing Director at Office Image commented, "As dedicated Cardiff Rugby Football Club sponsors, we wanted to create the right atmosphere for the Cardiff Blues bar through the design concept. Polyflor's collection of vinyl tiles has helped us achieve a **great result** which the club is delighted with."





## A move in the right direction for Hampshire community centre

**Forest fx PUR** vinyl flooring was used to create striking design floors at The Pavilion on the Park, a youth and community centre in Eastleigh, Hampshire. The flooring was installed by Tildan Construction as part of Eastleigh Youth and Community Trust, Eastleigh Borough Council and Hampshire County Council's £700,000 project to develop the Pavilion.

Daisy Robinson, Community Development Manager at The Pavilion on the Park commented, "We're delighted with the finished look of the floors in our newly refurbished Park View Café and Woodpecker Hall. The compass designs which Polyflor created for us look really impressive and have received many positive comments from our visitors."



Specified by Southampton based architects Michael Weakley Associates, **Forest fx PUR** vinyl sheet flooring in the warm **Rich Cherry** shade was selected for the installation with a further four **Forest fx shades** used to create the detailed compass designs which sit in the centre of the café and hall floors. These bespoke compass designs were created by Polyflor's experienced **in-house Design Service** team using water jet cutting technology.



## Adding a contemporary design edge to Arts centre

High design **Expona luxury vinyl tiles** were installed at 20-21 Visual Arts Centre in Scunthorpe to give the café area a modern new look as part of their renovation project.

Situated in a grade II\* listed former church, 20-21 Visual Arts Centre is a leading visitor attraction in Scunthorpe town centre run by North Lincolnshire Council which features five gallery spaces showing a range of contemporary art, design and crafts, as well as hosting workshops for adults and children. Polyflor's **Expona Design PUR** luxury vinyl tiles in the abstract Light Contour design were installed by **Direct Carpets** flooring contractors of Scunthorpe in the centre's popular café.

Lynne Emeny, Visual Arts Officer at 20-21 Visual Arts Centre comments, "We wanted a **modern and contemporary** floor design for our refurbished café area that would fit in with the aesthetic style of our arts centre, but would also be a hard wearing and easy to clean floorcovering that would look good for years to come. We're delighted with the finished look of our new space."



# Expona LVT creates a simple statement floor in farm shop

**Expona Design luxury vinyl tiles** were chosen to create a unique design floor at The Balloon Tree Farm Shop and Café in York recently.

**Natural Brushed Oak** and **Silvered Driftwood** luxury vinyl tiles from the Expona Design collection were installed by **Elvington Floorcraft Ltd** flooring contractors from York, with the grey-toned Silvered Driftwood shade creating a large circle in the middle of the shop floor.

With the concept for the store refurbishment developed by **The Creative Suite of York**, this simple yet effective floor design using contrasting wood effects helped to highlight the displays of local produce, fresh fruit and vegetables, meat, delicatessen, baked goods and gifts in this family run farm shop.

Owner of The Balloon Tree Farm Shop Matthew Machin commented, "We're delighted with the refurbishment and new floor design which has given our farm shop a **modern refresh** in time for our busy Christmas period."



# Expona Design flooring brings style to RED5 Gadget Shop

**Expona Design luxury vinyl tiles** were selected to create a modern look for gift and gadget retailer RED5 in their store at Princes Quay Shopping Centre in Hull recently.

Tapping into the growing trend for concrete effect floorcoverings, Expona Design luxury vinyl tiles in **Dark Concrete** were installed throughout the shop floor area at this high street gadget shop by local flooring contractor **The Hull Flooring Co Ltd**.

**Jonathon Simpson** from The Hull Flooring Co Ltd commented, "With Expona Design luxury vinyl tiles we were able to deliver a high performance flooring solution with a high design finish that our customer RED5 was delighted with. We're confident that this floor will continue to look great in the store for years to come."



## Expona luxury vinyl tiles look sweet at Cadbury World

Stunning **wood effect luxury vinyl tiles** were chosen for the refurbishment of The World's Biggest Cadbury Shop at one of Birmingham's largest leisure attractions, Cadbury World.

**Expona Design luxury vinyl tiles** in the **American Oak** wood effect design were installed by Alpha UK Ltd flooring contractors of Walsall in the gift shop at this family tourist attraction on Cadbury's Bournville manufacturing site. This classic and subtle wood design perfectly complements Cadbury's signature purple

shade and the store's big and bright display units which feature some of the chocolate manufacturer's best known brands.

**Tim Gimbert**, Cadbury World Operations Manager comments, "We welcome over **600,000 visitors** a year to Cadbury World, with The World's Biggest Cadbury Shop being a popular attraction for those wanting to pick up a souvenir of their tour. The Expona Design flooring from Polyflor is the perfect combination of high performance, attractive design and fuss-free maintenance for our busy gift shop."



## Monochrome design for Warsaw shopping centre

Around 5000m<sup>2</sup> of Expona luxury vinyl tiles were installed at **Factory Outlet Ursus** shopping centre in Warsaw, Poland. Hard wearing **Expona Design** flooring in the Light Contour design was used in circulation areas, with planks of the contrasting Dark Contour design placed randomly throughout the space for an **unusual monochrome look**.

Find out more about Polflor, our Polyflor subsidiary in Poland at [www.polyflor.com.pl](http://www.polyflor.com.pl)



# Top recyclers recognised at Recofloor Awards 2016

Recofloor, the UK's award-winning vinyl flooring recycling scheme, celebrated the success of its members at the fifth annual Recofloor Awards event on March 3rd 2016 at **Old Trafford, the Home of Manchester United FC**.

Attended by flooring contractors, distributors and construction companies, the free event was hosted by **Matt Le Tissier**, the former Southampton and England footballer who is now the star of Sky Sports' 'Gillette Soccer Saturday' and a columnist for skysports.com.

Speakers from the flooring industry included Richard Catt from the Contract Flooring Association, Ian James from the National Institute of Carpet and Floorlayers, Anthony Francis of Mayfield Floors and Polyflor's own Technical Director Bob Smith.

Co-founded by Polyflor, Recofloor collected 508 tonnes of material in 2015 and has collected more than 2,700 tonnes since 2009. Material collected by Recofloor's 650-plus membership is recycled back into products, including new flooring, which benefits the environment and can reduce collectors' waste disposal costs by up to 70%.

To find out more about Recofloor visit their new look website - [www.recofloor.org](http://www.recofloor.org)



Recofloor Award Winners



Matt Le Tissier and the Polyflor team

**Awards 2016  
Winners**  
★★★★★



Distributor of the Year  
**3D Flooring Supplies (Cardiff)**  
Flooring Accessories  
**MCD Wales**



Contractor of the Year  
**Carpets N Carpets**



Drop-off Site User of the Year  
**Mezmerizin**



Recofloor Champion  
**Mark Purnell (Fantasy Flooring)**



Longstanding Service Award  
**Branagan Flooring**



Outstanding Achievement  
**Birch Distribution, Hull**



Best Newcomer  
**S & D Flooring**



**GOLD**  
Award winners



**SILVER**  
Award winners



**BRONZE**  
Award winners



Greatest Improver  
**STS Flooring (Watford)**

## Prizes from Polyflor

Thank you to everyone who took part in our scratch card competition to celebrate the launch of our new 2mm gauge heavy commercial LVT range **Affinity2<sup>55</sup>**.

We received over **1,000** entries from those who correctly answered questions about our new range on our competition scratch card with 55 people winning £55 worth of shopping vouchers. **Gareth Smith** from Roshal Ltd and **Amy Pearson** from FM Birch Ltd were the two lucky winners who won **£255** worth of vouchers.

Keep your eyes peeled for future Polyflor competitions and promotions for your chance to win prizes!



## New Cleaning and Maintenance Training Course

With many problems with vinyl flooring occurring due to the incorrect cleaning and maintenance of the product once it is installed, Polyflor has developed a **1 day course** to help attendees get a better understanding of the importance of floorcare.

The **Polyflor Cleaning and Maintenance Course** includes both practical and theory work to help facilities management staff and others in the healthcare, education and housing sectors get the best performance from a Polyflor vinyl floorcovering by using the correct cleaning methods and products.

The Cleaning and Maintenance Course takes place at Polyflor's Training School in Manchester, UK and is **FREE to attend**.

For further information and prices contact the Polyflor Training School on **0161 767 1111** [trainingschool@polyflor.com](mailto:trainingschool@polyflor.com)

## Polyflor gives back

Although Christmas now feels like a distant memory, here's an update on some of the charity work that Polyflor got up to during the festive period.

Polyflor's Christmas elves had a busy Monday morning as they were tasked with buying **£1,000** worth of toys for Polyflor's donation to **Wood Street Mission**. Armed with a green van, Polyflor staff visited Smyths toy shop at Elk Mill Retail Park in Oldham to pick up the Christmas presents which the charity gave out to families in Manchester to give them a little extra help this Christmas. As a result of our participation in ITV's Text Santa Christmas Jumper Day recently, Polyflor raised **£143.47** for the charity with help from Polyflor staff and our Twitter followers.

Polyflor also received some excellent entries for our Polyflor Christmas Jumper competition so **thank you** to everyone who entered and congratulations to the winners. Here's one of our favourite winning entries sent in by **Lee Sullivan Contracts**, featuring Frank the bulldog having a look through our Polysafe range.





## Pearlazzo brings bold colour to Norwegian school

Polyflor Nordic recently supplied **Kongsgårdmoen Skole** primary school in Kongsberg, Norway with 4,260m<sup>2</sup> of **Pearlazzo PUR** homogeneous sheet vinyl flooring in a grand total of eight bold and vibrant shades.

The hard wearing and easy to maintain Pearlazzo PUR flooring covers classrooms, corridors, staircases and circulation areas around the primary school.

3,640m<sup>2</sup> of **Acoustifoam** flooring was also installed to improve the acoustic performance of the building. This closed cell PVC foam backing sheet with acoustic properties can be used underneath Polyflor vinyl flooring such as Pearlazzo PUR to achieve an impact sound reduction level of 18dB.

Find out more about Polyflor Nordic at [www.polyflor.no](http://www.polyflor.no)



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