

# STONHARD *Solutions*

## *Stonhard's Stylized, Seamless Floors* *Rock Cleveland's Renowned Music Museum*

Can you imagine memorabilia from Chuck Berry, Ray Charles, Elvis Presley, Buddy Holly, Aretha Franklin and Bruce Springsteen in one place, simultaneously? Atlantic records founder Ahmet Ertegun did and along with a small group of music industry professionals created the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum in Cleveland, Ohio. This 84 million dollar, 150,000 square foot museum opened its doors in 1995, and is a dazzling show house of rock and roll memorabilia and a major attraction for Cleveland's North Coast Harbor.

The contemporary and sculptural styled museum was designed by I.M. Pei, the architect responsible for the National Gallery of Art's East Building in Washington, D.C. and the expansion of the Louvre Museum in Paris. "In designing the building it was my intention to echo the energy of rock and roll. I have consciously used an architectural vocabulary that is bold and new." said Pei.

### ***Finding The Right Floor***

One of the design team's considerations was what type of flooring to use in this modern structure. It was determined early on that the floors in the museum had to be design worthy to match the vision set out by Pei, however they were also required to be easy to clean, impact-resistant and sound reducing.

The original floors were rubber tile. Ten years later, after extensive daily wear and tear, along with the damp lake-front location of the facility the floors were in dilapidated condition. The rubber tiles had delaminated. Moisture caused the tiles to peel away and the floor to have a worn and weathered appearance. Furthermore, the maintenance staff faced a significant cleaning challenge because of the dirt and moisture trapped between tiles. The decision makers for the new floors added to their list of criteria a flooring system that would address hydrostatic and osmotic problems.

Stonhard presented Stonres RTZ, a 3/16 inch/5mm seamless, urethane system infused with rubber aggregate chips to provide exceptional acoustic efficiency and ergonomic comfort as well as provide a superior wear and stain resistant floor. Stonres RTZ would also compliment the dramatic design scheme of the museum.

Multi-colored aggregate in a high performance matrix created intricate patterns and a unique design style. Stonres



Stonres RTZ reduces noise from constant foot traffic and blends with the museum's energetic design theme.

RTZ is offered in fifteen standard colors and infinite custom choices. A custom color in tones of dark gray blended to compliment and not detract from the other design elements.

### ***A Flawless Installation***

Stonhard began work in January, 2005. The installation process, performed by Stonhard's own installation teams, involved prepping the substrate by removing the existing rubber tile and concrete. All of this work was accomplished while the museum was open to the public by marking off small areas and completing the job in several stages. Masking and vigilantly draping installation areas prevented dust from landing or settling into exhibits or disrupting museum guests.

To prepare for the application the installation team removed the existing tiles, stripped the substrate of all dirt, grease and oils and flattened it to a smooth, dry surface using concrete blasting equipment, sanders and grinders. An acrylic copolymer primer was squeegeed onto the substrate to produce a strong bond with the base prior to the Stonres RTZ application. Then Stonfil OP2, a three component polymer-modified grout, was applied. This product is a cementitious, osmotic pressure resistant grout developed for areas exposed to water. It permanently seals the concrete and protects against moisture. Stonres RTZ is a three-part application incorporating curing agent, resin and aggregate



Retail concession benefits from seamless, easy to clean floor

and applied using a screed rake and spiked roller. A topcoat was rolled onto the surface. A 12 hour cure time was required before foot traffic was permitted and in only 48 hours cleaning was allowed.

Working in stages not only ensured proper cure times but also made the process invisible to museum staff, other trades completing work and visitors.

The entire 42,500 square foot job was completed in March, 2005. The cleaning of Stonres RTZ proved to be exceptionally easy due to the smooth, seamless surface. The maintenance staff at the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame no longer battles to clean between the tiles. All that is needed to keep this facility's floors sparkling is a mop, residue-free cleaners and on occasion, a power scrubber.

### ***Performance & Results***

As you weave your way through the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame and Museum you'll be met by the army fatigues worn by Elvis Presley, James Taylor's first guitar along with his second grade report card, the original manuscript from John Lennon's *Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds* and a larger than life guitar suspended from a sky-high ceiling. You'll also find Stonhard's Stonres RTZ. This system successfully met

the needs of this unique museum by providing floors that offer a distinct and contemporary design, long-term wear resistance, sound reduction, protection against damp conditions and simple maintenance. Management for the museum as well as its visitors experienced winning results from beginning to job completion. The floor was installed without disturbing guests, staff or other contractors. The floors exceeded maintenance requirements and the design team reached their goal of maintaining the expressive style of this celebrated rock and roll institution.

### ***The Stonhard Difference***

Stonhard is the unprecedented world leader in manufacturing and installing high performance polymer floor, wall and lining systems. Stonhard's seamless, long-wearing and easy to clean floor systems are engineered to perform in both industrial and commercial environments without sacrificing design and innovative vision. You'll experience unparalleled products, easy maintenance, progressive and customized designs and Stonhard's single source warranty covering both installation and products. Stonhard maintains 300 project engineers and 175 installation teams worldwide who will work with you on design specifications, project management, final walk through and service after the sale.

