

STONHARD *Solutions*

Veterans Administration Medical Center Floors Meet Hospital Requirements and Were Installed Without Disturbing Patients and Staff

The Veterans Administration Medical Center (VAMC), part of the larger Veterans Administration Nebraska-Western Iowa Health Care System, is a teaching hospital that provides both inpatient and outpatient care to US veterans. In operation since 1950, it serves more than 170,000 veterans each year who live in the 104 surrounding counties in Nebraska, western Iowa and parts of Kansas and Missouri.

In mid-2006 the VAMC underwent a major renovation to re-vamp the floors in the operating room wing. Facility managers and planners, disappointed by the rapid deterioration of their previous vinyl sheeting and disbanded epoxy flooring system, turned to Stonhard for a high-performing system. Past experience with Stonhard products and application teams on smaller-scale jobs led VAMC planners to put their complete trust in Stonhard and its floor systems.

Facility planners expressed dissatisfaction with the multiple problems they encountered with past overlays over many years' time. Sheet vinyl had lasted only two years in some areas of the hospital, and an epoxy topping was removed because of poor installation and service. Their ideal flooring solution would be one that would last for the long-term,

The hospital was faced with the challenge, how do you renovate hospital floors without drastically disrupting patient care? Stonhard designed the installation in phases so business could go on as usual.

perform better, offer more benefits than traditional health-grade sheet vinyl and provide the overall appearance and feel that planners had envisioned for this facility. Specifically, they were looking for something that would reduce noise and resist damaging betadine staining.

The Solution

Stonhard suggested Stonres RTZ for the procedure rooms where staff members stand for long periods of time. Stonres RTZ was recommended for these areas because of its excellent acoustic efficiency, ergonomic, chemical and stain resistant qualities, as well as its design-worthy appeal. When the surface is sanded, the result is a smooth, modern finish. Additionally, a four-inch Stonclad GS epoxy cove base was recommended for the patient rooms to ensure maximum cleanliness. The cove base forms an integral seal between



Stonres RTZ provides ergonomic support, is stain resistant and easy to clean - all necessary factors for operating room floors.

the floor and wall to guarantee a sanitary, easy to maintain environment and to give the entire system a neat, uniform appearance. The entire seamless floor/cove base system can be cleaned with a basic mop and water.

The VA Medical Center project presented Stonhard's team with a unique challenge: how do you renovate hospital floors without drastically disrupting patient care? The solution: the floor was installed in four separate phases. During the operating room installs, the surrounding areas were still in service. To ensure a safe and hygienic area for patients and hospital staff, the work area was separated from the active hospital area through effective containment planning, which included negative air, plastic zip walls and taped joints.

The Stonhard team of Territory Managers, Area Managers and construction management group provided adept, on-site support utilizing their experiences with meeting safety requirements and adhering to construction schedules.

By summer's end, the Veterans Administration Medical Center project was completed and was successful in meeting the facility's needs. Bob Yager, Projects Branch Super-



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.

Stonres RTZ brings an easy to maintain, hygienic and aesthetically pleasing flooring solution to the halls of the VAMC.

visor of Veterans Administration Medical Center was thoroughly impressed with the Stonhard team involved with the project. "The scheduling of work was most helpful to us. Stonhard worked nights and weekends – around a tight schedule."

An innovative flooring solution that performs where the hospital required complete product performance combined with an installation that worked within the restricted structure of this active healthcare facility resulted in a story of success and continued relationships between Stonhard and VAMC planners.

