

PROVEN PERFORMANCE

TRENCHARD STREET, UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL

TOPTINT EXPOSED
INSTALLED BY SPECIALIST CONCRETE INSTALLATIONS

Product TopTint Exposed Installed by Specialist Concrete Installations
Client University of Bristol
Main contractor RG Group
Architect MUF Architecture / Art LLP
Engineer Meinhardt
Sub-contractor Tarmac Specialist Concrete Installations
Location Trenchard St Bristol
Date of completion 24/09/15

Tarmac Specialist Concrete Installations were approached by MUF Architects as they were seeking guidance on Tarmac's Toptint range of distinctive decorative concretes to help them deliver the artistic concept of replicating a dry canyon river bed in their design.

THE CHALLENGE

Tarmac Specialist Concrete Installations worked closely with the architects and main contractor to make the architectural art concept a reality. Design mixes with certain golden gravels and sands were selected that would provide wonderful surface tone and colour variations as natural light passed over the concrete surface. Continuity of colour and aggregate consistency was vital for the client. Toptint Exposed needed to be installed while the main building fit out continued at a pace to meet extremely tight hand over dates for the beginning of the new student term. This meant that material deliveries had to be programmed to the minute so installation operations did not cause delays or disruption to the other critical site operations.

OUR SOLUTION

Toptint Exposed with a 10mm local golden gravel was mixed and produced at the local readymix concrete plant and then supplied to the installations team on site. The exposure depth of 4mm was critical to providing the aesthetic finish expected by the client. Due to constraints of site access and to allow other works to continue safely around operations, it was decided that the material would be placed by means of a mobile pump. Tarmac's experienced installers placed a slip membrane then reinforced mesh prior to placing and finishing to level the Toptint Exposed concrete followed by the application of a special surface retarder. Detailed programming by Tarmac's Contracts Manager allowed placement and surface exposure to run concurrently so optimum outputs were achieved.

RESULTS AND BENEFITS

Both the client and architect were delighted by the finished surface and the fact that the brief and concept were not only fulfilled but completed on budget and to the programme requirements. Tarmac's experienced and knowledgeable delivery team are continually focused on working to the very highest standards of workmanship and quality. Tarmac, having developed and produced a best in class product, now also install the material thus removing the risks associated with lack of product knowledge and workmanship quality issues. TSCI had early engagement with the main contractor identifying risks and engineering issues that would add cost and impact the completion date.

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