

Case study fruit preparation

Reconstruction with Plastifloor® at
Lockwitzer Frischfrucht GmbH, Dresden

Lockwitzer Frischfrucht GmbH is a Saxon company based in the southeast of Dresden, in the middle of one of East Germany's largest orcharding centres. Their main emphasis lies on processing fruits to pie topping fruits and fresh fruit salads. They are also turning vegetables into fresh prepared vegetables and mixed salads. Already a few years ago, a new epoxy resin floor had been installed by a main contractor. However this floor showed deficiencies after a short period of time already. It was considered how a surface of about 320 m² could be reconstructed on one weekend – without compromising production. At the same time, the slope situation, disregarded until then, should also be improved in order to allow the accumulating water a free drain. Additionally the conception of a jointless floor was necessary as the joints – required for an epoxy resin coating – were inappropriate in a wet operation. The choice fell on the **Plastifloor®** flooring system with elastic membrane and interspersed coating 410, R 11 corresponding to the test certificate of material testing institute Hellberg GmbH no.: 124591-S/08, which is being produced by Plasti-Chemie International GmbH.

The following pictures show the situation on-site: As in many similar cases, the main contractor had chosen the "cheapest" sub-contractor for preparing the new construction. An EP based KH-coating with a thickness of 2-3 mm was had been installed. Already after a short usage period, the floor showed spallings around inlets, inlet gutters and wall-floor junction. The selected joint construction was leaky and thus inappropriate for a wet operation.



EP coating is spalling

Gutter junctions have spalled

Cove dismantles from the wall

As the slope situation had neither been paid attention to during the new construction, the defective EP coating needed to be milled off as well. The existing joints were cut free. Finally the concrete was shot-blasted and dried before the new Plastifloor® floor could be installed.



Milling off the EP coating

Shot-blasting

Joints are cramped

The prepared subsurface has now an adhesive tensile strength of 1.5 N/mm². This value is required for ensuring an adhesion of the coating system onto the subsurface. Afterwards the floor has been dried and primed with Plastifloor® 112 0.4 kg/m². Partially the screed needed to be revised with a
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KH-mortar slope wedge made of Plastifloor® 510 and mortar mix C2 in order to guarantee the proper drainage of accumulating water. The inlet gutters were looped-in professionally for ameliorating side adhesion. Afterwards the joints needed to be cast with Plastifloor® 332 and covered with polyester fibre.



Priming with Plastifloor® 112

Reworking the slope

Casting joints



Installing the membrane

Broadcasting the top coat

Sealing with Plastifloor® 526

Then followed the installation of an elastic membrane Plastifloor® 332/z, approx. 3.0 kg/m². This flexible, shock absorbing interlayer allows a jointless and permanently crack-free installation of the new resin coating made of Plastifloor® 410. For achieving the required slip-resistance class R 11, the wet coating is being broadcast with colour quartz sand - size 0.4 – 0.8 mm – before applying the head sealing Plastifloor® 526, approx. 0.6 kg/m². The advantage of the Plastifloor® floor coating is obvious: Due to the short curing times between the single layers, reconstruction works can be effected by a specialized company within a very short time slot. Thus the customer saves precious time and expenses that would result from a loss of production. For example a new tile floor cannot be strained immediately after installation and the problems with joints that are quickly washed out by cleaning will emerge again after a short period of time. Epoxy resins are thermoset materials – they do not withstand the thermal strain by hot and cold water exposure in a grocery plant.

Plastifloor® is a thermoplastic material – elongations of materials on changing temperatures are being coped more easily. Fallen parts are equally easier absorbed by this floor as it is being constructed vibration-absorbing in several layers.

Plastifloor® is skidproof and easy to clean. The coating is tested according to LMBG and approved.

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Thus the floor can be installed in a food processing company without hesitation.

The floor reconstruction has been effected by an authorized flooring contractor from Friday 12.00 o'clock until Sunday 17.00 o'clock:

The result is convincing:



Production could start again on Monday.

Plastifloor® is the ideal floor coating for reconstruction works in the grocery industry. We dispose of 20 years of experience. Ask for experienced flooring companies in your area. You can choose from a variety of colours and slip-resistance classes. Tel.: 03741/5583-0

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