SIKA AT WORK

UPM-KYMMENE PAPIER GMBH & CO. KG, AUGSBURG, GERMANY

FLOORING: Sika® Ucrete®

BUILDING TRUST

STRONG FLOORS FOR PAPER INDUSTRY

PROJECT DESCRIPTION
Project name: UPM-Kymmene Papier GmbH & Co. KG
Location: Augsburg, Germany
Year: 2000

The fundamental papermaking process, where fibers are suspended in water, drained, and formed into a cohesive web, has remained largely unchanged for over two millennia. The paper machine installed at UPM Augsburg in 2000 uniquely produces lightweight, high-recycled content coated offset papers continuously. This integrated process offers significant ecological advantages by efficiently using energy and raw materials, primarily relying on wood, either as fresh or recycled fiber, along with water and additives. Central to the operation is a 200-meter-long machine, as wide as a two-lane road and over 20 meters tall, stretching from the basement to the roof of the hall.

PROJECT REQUIREMENTS
Paper machines are complex technical systems designed to remove water from the applied fiber suspension through filtering, pressing, and drying. In the screen section, a large part of the water drains off. In the press section, the water content is reduced from 80% to less than 50%. In the drying section, the paper passes through several rows of steam-heated cylinders, where heat and pressure further reduce the water content to less than 10%. The coating and winding stations are the final steps before packaging. The system operates around the clock. In this enclosed production environment, high temperatures prevail, requiring heat-resistant materials and durable components. Engineers and planners, therefore, engage early with manufacturers of such materials. In this case, it was suspected that the resin system intended for the hall floor around the paper machine – the area within the enclosure – might not withstand the expected heat.

SIKA SOLUTIONS

To prevent a resin coating from failing under production conditions and becoming a safety hazard for employees, the planners chose Sika® Ucrete®, the ideal flooring solution for all areas where heat can become problematic. Sika® Ucrete® withstands temperatures from -40 to 130°C (with short-term resistance up to 150°C), is extremely impact-resistant, chemical-resistant, and has a long lifespan. It is ideal for installation in workspaces with high humidity due to its adjustable slip resistance levels.

Paper production facilities require durable industrial flooring that can withstand thermal, chemical, and mechanical stresses. Sika® Ucrete® excels in these demanding environments, resisting moisture, acids, and other harsh substances. It offers excellent cleaning and hygiene properties, is highly abrasion-resistant, waterproof, and provides long-lasting slip resistance, crucial for accident prevention.

PROJECT PARTICIPANTS

Project Owner: UPM-Kymmene Papier GmbH & Co. KG

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