



Floor Solutions

Stonhard Floors Help World's First LEED Platinum Snack Food Manufacturing Plant Achieve Performance and Sustainability Goals

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Shearer's Foods has been producing some of America's favorite snack foods, including potato chips, pretzels, pork rinds and tortilla chips, since 1974. Much of Shearer's success is in part to the company's commitment to excellence, which in recent years, has placed a heavy emphasis on sustainability and the environment. In 2009, when the company took on a huge undertaking - to construct the world's first ever LEED Platinum- certified snack food manufacturing facility - Stonhard was eager to offer Shearer's floors that could meet both its performance and sustainability requirements.

The new plant, located in Massillon, OH, would house a massive potato chip production operation, and planners on the project had very specific concerns for the floors that would outfit these areas. Since oil is used in the manufacture of potato chips, a top concern was employee safety; Shearer's needed a floor that would remain slip resistant, even when wet or oily, to minimize the risk of slip and fall incidents. The floor would also need to be extremely

durable, easy to clean, stain resistant and be able to withstand thermal shock. Shearer's was also exploring floor options for its offices, labs, locker rooms and break rooms. Here, they were seeking durable, easy to clean, aesthetically pleasing floors that would contribute LEED points to the project.

Although this was a new construction project, Shearer's was well aware of their flooring options. Previous experience with failed epoxy systems in some of the company's other locations made them reluctant to consider another epoxy system. However, Stonhard offered them a new suggestion: a urethane mortar floor system. Stonhard suggested that Stonclad UT, a highly resistant system that was formulated specifically to hold up to the rigors of the food and beverage industry, would be the best option for Shearer's production areas. The floor would be able to withstand impact, abrasion and temperature extremes, and with the addition of a textured aggregate, would be slip resistant.



The Stonhard Difference

Stonhard is the unprecedented world leader in manufacturing and installing high-performance polymer floor, wall and lining systems. Stonhard maintains 300 Territory Managers and 175 application crews worldwide who will work with you on design specification, project management, final walk through and service after the sale. Stonhard's single-source warranty covers both products and installation.

Stonhard's Stonblend GSI-G system incorporates recycled glass into its composition and provides a durable, easy to clean, decorative floor for offices, labs, locker rooms and break rooms at Shearer's.



Stonhard recommended Stonblend GSI-G for the offices, labs, locker rooms and break rooms at Shearer's. Stonblend GSI-G is a long-wearing, stain resistant, decorative floor system that incorporates recycled glass chips into its composition. Because it uses recycled materials, Stonblend GSI-G contributes to LEED points. Additional LEED points could be accumulated because Stonhard's products are low-VOC emitting and become a permanent part of the building's structure, eliminating the future need to remove and cause landfill waste.

Installation of the new floors began over Thanksgiving weekend of 2010. Because of the demanding schedule, Stonhard was required to work second shift around multiple contractors and had to carefully coordinate heat, lighting and power to ensure optimal work and floor cure conditions. In all, Stonhard installed 40,000 square feet of Stonclad UT in Shearer's production areas. Cove bases formed an integral, seamless transition between the floor and wall, making for easier cleanability. In the locker rooms, break rooms, offices and labs, Stonhard installed nearly 6,000 square feet of the Stonblend GSI-G system. Additionally, Stonhard used Stonclad UT mortar and Stonset TG6 grout to build custom pads for equipment legs to be placed.

Shearer's is extremely happy with the results of their new Stonhard floors. Management at the Massillon plant reports that the floors have withstood construction traffic, along with operations traffic, and is in excellent condition. The company is confident that the floors will continue to live up to their expectations and is considering standardizing all of their facilities with Stonhard products, relying on Stonhard's single-source warranty to guarantee the satisfaction of their floors, whether they're in an office in Ohio or in a production plant in Texas. Stonhard plans to complete work in the Hermiston, OR Shearer's facility in 2011.



Food and Beverage

