

Kingspan News

The newsletter of Kingspan Access Floors

Kingspan flooring for iconic Leadenhall building

Over 29,000 sq m of panels to be supplied



Kingspan Access Floors is supplying over 29,000 sq m of floor panels to the 224 metre high Leadenhall Building, which is set to become an iconic part of the London skyline.



Our RMG flooring will be used throughout the 52-storey skyscraper, which has been informally referred to as the Cheesegrater due to its distinctive shape.

Main contractors Laing O'Rourke have scheduled practical completion of the building's shell and core by mid 2014.

Kingspan began installation work in January and we are due to complete the project

in November. Flooring for the Level 2 reception area has been manufactured to a heavy grade to receive stone finishes.

The development's tapering shape, which when viewed from the west will appear to 'lean away' from St Paul's Cathedral, delivers varied sizes of floor plates, all offering spectacular views over London. To work around the tight constraints of narrow and densely populated streets, Laing

O'Rourke has ensured that much of the structure – including the cores, basement and building services – will be manufactured off site.

The project is piloting the application of radio frequency identification (RFID) software – which uses data tags attached to building components to allow them to be tracked through manufacture, supply and installation. This will enable preventative action in the event of any delays downstream.



One of our early access flooring installations, from the 1960s.

Celebrating 110 years!

WE ARE DELIGHTED TO BE CELEBRATING OUR 110TH ANNIVERSARY THIS YEAR, PARTICULARLY BECAUSE IT DEMONSTRATES OUR STRENGTH AND STABILITY.

Our 110 years of trading readily highlights the reassurance that comes with our unique 25 year Total System Warranty.

But despite our position as market leaders we will never rest on our laurels. We are constantly looking for new product opportunities whilst maintaining our commitment to reducing the impact of our business operations, products and services on the environment.

See Page 2 for more about our 110 years in business.

WHAT'S INSIDE

New Video

New video demonstrates our market-leading credentials.

International News

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From timber trader to the world leader in access flooring

Celebrating our 110th anniversary

THE ORIGINS OF KINGSPAN ACCESS FLOORS IN HULL GO BACK TO 21 JANUARY 1903 WHEN THE TIMBER COMPANY J A HEWETSON & CO LTD WAS INCORPORATED BY JOHN ANGELO HEWETSON. THE FOLLOWING ARE KEY TIMES IN OUR HISTORY:

1910: J A Hewetson & Co Ltd was acquired by Horsley Smith & Co Ltd of Hull.

1926: The company had diversified from being a trader in home grown timber to a hardwood importer and supplier of hardwood flooring for both domestic and commercial projects.

Early 1970s: The company started importing raised access floors from America, later starting the manufacture and

installation of its own RAM (Random Access Modular) PSA Medium Grade floor panels.

Late 1970s: The company became part of the International Timber Group.

1985: By this time the emphasis of the company had changed from timber floors to raised access floors.

1991: We installed the World's first truly automated production lines at the Hull factory and

launched the RMG 600 panel. This panel, totally encapsulated in galvanised steel, was the first of its kind on the market and has gone on to become our biggest selling panel.

1998: The share capital of Hewetson plc was acquired by Kingspan Group plc and subsequently the name was changed to Kingspan Access Floors Ltd. During the next 10 years the Kingspan Group made significant investment in the manufacturing site at Hull, making it a state-of-the-art facility.

2002: Launch of the Kingspan RG3 panel.

2009: Launch of the Kingspan RG2 panel, primarily for the export market.

These steel encapsulated RG panels are designed to meet the European standard BSEN 12825.

2010: Launch of Kingspan Acoustideck, designed to significantly reduce noise through party floors in domestic and commercial installations.

2011: Launch of our Super Heavy flooring system to meet the greater load requirements in data centres.

2013: Kingspan made a £1.25m investment in a new production line that will not only increase production output by 30% but



ABOVE: An aerial view of our Hull site in 1955. BELOW: Our head office, also pictured in the 1950s.



RAM flooring installed at Empire Stores Ltd in Bradford in the early 1970s.

will also be energy efficient and reduce consumption by 40%. The commissioning of the new line will be completed by May 2013.

2013: Kingspan Group has set each division a target of achieving Zero Net Energy by 2020, with an interim target of 50% NZE by 2015.

2013: Our Hull facility already has 1,000 photovoltaic solar panels covering the factory roof, and in 2013 all of the light fittings will be replaced with low energy alternatives, lighting occupancy will be installed and a new energy management control system.

The future: We are continually looking at new products and markets to develop into to take the company up to its next milestone; our 125 year anniversary!



A RAM flooring installation in 1970.

Did you know?

- Our largest ever contract by volume was to supply 200,000 sq m of flooring for the Citigroup and HSBC buildings at Canary Wharf in 2000/2001.
- Our largest overseas contract was for 110,000 sq m of panels at Financial Towers, Belgium, with Dynabat.

- Our 133 employees have a combined industry experience of nearly 2,000 years.
- We have installed an average of two million square metres of access flooring in London each year for the past 25 years.
- We introduced our unique 25 year Total System Warranty in the early 1980s and it remains unmatched in the industry.

Coming soon...

A special 110th anniversary issue of Kingspan News will be available shortly and will highlight major iconic projects that we have undertaken over the decades.

How our loyal employees are Kingspan...ning the years

Kingspan would not have grown to become the market leader without the dedication, loyalty and expertise of our employees.

One-third of our workforce (44 employees) have completed at least 15 years' service, and 17 of those employees have worked here for between 20 and 45 years.

It's a tremendous testimony to the dedication of our workforce that only 11 current employees have been here for less than five years.

We recently bid farewell to one of our longest-ever serving employees – John Beckett had worked with us for an incredible 49 years!

As one of our floor layers, John has installed our flooring in numerous high profile buildings, including the Greater London Authority, GCHQ, the Wimbledon Centre Court commentary boxes, the American embassy in London, and security offices at Buckingham Palace.

John, who retired as a Supervisor, said: "I really enjoyed working for Kingspan. They are a very professional



John Beckett (second from left) at his retirement event with (l-r) Mike Stone, Commercial Director; Janet Green, HR Manager; Terry Newman, MD; and Andy Bawn, Construction Director. The people pictured have a combined total of 129 years' service.

company with excellent Health & Safety standards."

John said the main changes during his career was the growth in Health & Safety practices, particularly the use of Personal Protection Equipment, which became evident throughout all industry sectors.

"First it was a hard hat but



The Greater London Authority offices – one of many prestigious buildings where John Beckett installed Kingspan flooring.

then we progressed to hi viz vests, gloves and safety boots, which of course was a good thing for all concerned."

John's first installation was in 1965 at the Grosvenor House Hotel in London.

For that job it wasn't access flooring he was installing but strip flooring in the main dance hall.

One of his most unusual projects was at the Barbican in London where he put pine blocks on all the floors and the stage and completed all the seating.

Does he miss it all? Well it's early days yet and it was on the golf course where we caught up with him – but John says he'll always have fond memories of his near half a century at Kingspan!

New video Highlights our credentials

KINGSPAN HAS PRODUCED A NEW VIDEO TO DEMONSTRATE OUR CREDENTIALS AS THE WORLD LEADER IN ACCESS FLOORING.

The video is available for viewing through our website www.kingspanaccessfloors.co.uk or on our very own YouTube channel at www.youtube.com/user/Kingspanaccessfloors?feature=watch.

The video outlines the following facts:

- Kingspan has installed more than 40 million square metres of raised flooring during the past 20 years.
- Our highly automated factory can produce more than 170,000 panels each week – more than any other manufacturer in the world.
- We can offer a full installation package or provide our flooring on a "supply only" basis.



Kingspan's factory is highly automated.

Kingspan flooring for London school renewal project

KINGSPAN IS INSTALLING OVER 14,000 SQ M OF ACCESS FLOORING IN FIVE NEW BUILDINGS THAT ARE PART OF A £29 MILLION RENEWAL SCHEME BY WANDSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL AT BURNTWOOD SCHOOL IN LONDON.

The steel encapsulated Kingspan RG3 and FDEB floor panels are being installed in the Maths & Science, Skills Centre, Arts & Technology, Communications, and Dining, Drama & Music buildings. The panels will generally have a Finished Floor Height of 150mm to allow for underfloor services.

The design and build contractor for the project is Lend Lease Construction (EMEA) Ltd, and the design team is being led by architects Allford Hall Monaghan Morris.



Photo credit Allford Hall Monaghan Morris.

SUPPLYING OUR OVERSEAS CUSTOMERS

Meeting a tall order!

Our UAE distributor, Al Nabooda Interiors, has won a project to supply 9,800 sq m of Kingspan raised flooring to new headquarters for Al Hosn Gas in Abu Dhabi.

The full quantity had to be supplied within 35 days and installed within 20 days from the date of delivery – this would have been a tall order for some companies but it was plain sailing for Kingspan and Al Nabooda!

We secured the business despite stiff competition from

European competitors. Our Kingspan product quality and Al Nabooda's credibility were key factors in convincing Al Hosn Gas that Kingspan Access Floors was the right choice for the project. The new building with its distinctive wave design is pictured right.



First order for South Africa

WE GAINED OUR FIRST ORDER FOR THE SOUTH AFRICAN RAISED FLOORING MARKET AT THE END OF 2012.

Working via our partners, Access Floor International of Mumbai, India, and London-based Condek Ltd (a modular car park provider internationally), we supplied 14,000 sq m of RG2 panels to a site being developed by ABSA Bank.

The original specification was for cementitious infill core raised floor which is the norm in South Africa. However, the issue of recyclability was uppermost in the investor's mind, so they agreed on our chipboard core flooring with its high recyclability rates.

First business in Colombia

WE HAVE SECURED OUR FIRST THREE ORDERS IN COLOMBIA.

A total of 1,800 sq m of FDEB4 panels will go into the Puente Largo project, a corporate building for the Roman Catholic Clergy.

Calle 144 is a project with 1,100 sq m of FDEB4 and Gategourmet is an 800 sq m FDEB4 project. All three projects will be supplied and installed in Q1 2013 by our Colombian distributor Politi Construcciones.

Spanish bank headquarters

KINGSPAN SUPPLIED SWIVEL HEAD PEDESTALS TO OVERCOME THE CHALLENGE OF INSTALLING PANELS ON SLOPING FLOORS LINKING SEVERAL BUILDINGS TO FORM NEW HEADQUARTERS FOR BBVA BANK IN MADRID.

Working in association with our Spanish joint venture company Kingspan Suelo Técnico, we are supplying 28,000 sq m of flooring for the series of linked three-storey buildings.

Accommodating 6,500 employees, the new bank headquarters will hold LEED certification (Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design).

New partner in the Ukraine

IN THE UKRAINE KINGSPAN HAS STARTED WORKING WITH A NEW PARTNER – THE VERY APTLY NAMED "PARTNER CONSTRUCTION" FROM KIEV!

Our Kiev-based country manager, Leonid Linkov, oversaw the supply of 2,000 sq m of RG2 systems into two projects via Partner Construction – Ukrfinance (1,500 sq m) and Nycomed (500 sq m).

The site for the larger project is the Ukrfinansy Business Centre "Eleven" Building B in Kiev.



Leonid Linkov.

Kingspan at work in the community

KINGSPAN JOINED FORCES WITH THE HULL RADIO STATION KCFM TO LAUNCH A SAFETY PROMOTION HIGHLIGHTING THE IMPORTANCE OF PRIMARY SCHOOL PUPILS BEING SEEN WHEN WALKING IN THE DARK.

Our competition was to find the best safety e-shot or poster that promotes "Dark Night Safety".

The winning poster was designed by Libby Cochran, who won 100 high-visibility vests for her school. Our photo shows (l-r): KCFM breakfast show presenter Matt Hutchinson, Libby and Headteacher Mrs R Murray, and Alison Bache, Kingspan Customer Services Administrator.



Dark Night Safety presentation.



Our Cash for Kids presents.

■ Through collections and direct donations of gifts we handed over presents to the Cash for Kids charity which helps disabled and disadvantaged children in the area.

Questions, comments or feedback

For more information about the articles in this newsletter or about Kingspan's access flooring ranges and services, you can:

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