

24<sup>th</sup> May 2024

## **Gerflor ‘creating’ success for Monmouthshire Building Society (MBS) in Cardiff.**

The Monmouthshire Building Society (MBS) is a leading financial services provider, that wanted to create a unique and welcoming office space in an historic building in Cardiff that they had recently acquired. High on the specification agenda was the need for extremely high quality, fit for purpose floorings and accessories. These would be supplied by Gerflor, the international flooring specialists and Gradus, a leading UK manufacturer of Flooring Accessories.

The world class products specified as part of this iconic refurbishment included Creation LVT, Tarasafe Vinyl Floorcoverings, & for the complete package Gradus Stair Edgings, Floor Trims & Boulevard 1500 Barrier Matting. The final finish is remarkable and impressive and will serve the employees and local community for many years to come.

Established in Newport in 1869 to help local people build homes, Monmouthshire Building Society now help people across Wales and England buy properties and save for their future. MBS were looking for an interior company who could help them transform the space into an environment that was both functional and aesthetically pleasing. They wanted a warm and natural theme that reflected their brand identity and created a homely feel. They also wanted to introduce sustainable materials and plants throughout the spaces to boost productivity.

The overall responsibility for the project was placed in the talented hands of Cardiff- based office interiors company DGOI. For over thirty years, DGOI has been dedicated to providing a high-quality service by delivering and installing ergonomic office furniture and providing complete office refurbishment turnkey solutions for their clients.

Michelle Sheppard- Head of Design at DGOI said, “The building was an old and empty shell that required a lot of work to transform it into a modern and functional office space. The client also wanted to reflect their brand identity without being too imposing or overwhelming. The D&G team worked closely with the client, contractors, and suppliers to overcome the challenges of working on an old building. We added a raised access floor to the first floor to give the society the flexibility needed in a modern office. Also added were toilet blocks and kitchens on each floor to make the space more functional.”

On design and specification and to reflect the client's brand identity, the designers suggested using a warm and natural theme that featured timber, earthy tones, and tonal oranges. The result was a unique office space that was both functional and aesthetically pleasing and reflected the client's brand identity in a subtle and understated way.

The collection of Gerflor floorings and Gradus accessories supplied would be specified for the main kitchen area, the corridors, and walkways, together with some of the break-out areas, meeting spaces and the toilets.

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The project would benefit from Gerflor's Creation LVT range, Tarasafe Ultra and Ultra H20 Safety Vinyl floorings, together with a selection of Gradus Stair Edgings, Barrier Matting, and Floor Trims.

Michelle Sheppard went onto further comment, "We specified the Creation LVT ranges from Gerflor, as they perfectly suited the project brief in terms of the design and interior, we were trying to create for the clients brief and they fitted well, alongside the level of the carpets we chose. We also specified the Tarasafe safety floorings, as they were extremely fit for purpose and provided the safety aspects we were looking for within the showers, together with being aesthetically pleasing and fitting with the design theme."

Tony Thorne, Gerflor Sales and Specification Manager South Wales said, "Following a visit after launching our new Creation LVT ranges the designers at D&G office interiors (DGOI) thought that some of the new designs would fit in with a project they were working on and went on to specify them for the Monmouthshire Building Society refurbishment. "

On specification Tony Thorne added, "Initial discussions started back in January 2020, but Covid put the project on hold. When we presented the new launch of the Gerflor Creation 70 & 55 Looselay LVT ranges, the team at DGOI all commented on how the new Tatami Raffia design would fit in with a project they were working on along with the Longboard design."

Making a final comment on the Monmouthshire Building Society project Tony Thorne said, "I thoroughly enjoyed collaborating with the designers at DGOI on projects, the interiors team's positivity is infectious and Jake, their office dog always gets a tickle."

Michelle Sheppard concluded, "Tony Thorne, our local Specification Manager from Gerflor, is always extremely helpful and full of advice, which is unbelievably valuable on a large job like this. Ourselves and our client MBS were incredibly pleased with the result and would specify Gerflor and Gradus products again."

### **Supporting Information**

Overview of Gerflor and Gradus and products installed.

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Gerflor Company Overview

Gerflor is a manufacturer of comprehensive contract interior flooring solutions, including vinyl, linoleum, carpets, and rubber. Gerflor innovations help to create attractive and functional environments, as well as enhance and protect commercial and office interiors. Gerflor solutions are proven to enhance the longevity of a building whilst reducing long term maintenance costs. Gerflor works in partnership with the commercial sector to ensure buildings are safe and accessible for all users.

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**Gerflor products overview specified for Monmouthshire Building Society****Creation 70 and 55 LVT**

The credible and well established LVT Collections from Gerflor provide a unique all in one approach which is conceived using a method, offering designers an à la carte choice of design and fitting depending on either renovation or new projects. The Creation Collection also considers the levels of light, moderate or heavy footfall that might have to be required. With the Creation LVT Collections, Gerflor offers a range of solutions that are easy to live and work with, together with providing a stunning floor that is both durable and simply beautiful to look at. With 35 years' experience in decorative tiles and planks, Gerflor continues to innovate!

Aimed at Architects, Specifiers, Decision-makers, and Interiors Professionals, the Creation LVT product ranges provide clients with a complete flooring solution targeted at four levels of traffic intensity. Creation 30 (Class 31) Creation 40 (Class 32) Creation 55 (Class 33) and Creation 70 (Class 34). With exclusive designs and a variety of formats (Solid Clic, Rigid Acoustic, Dryback, and Looselay), the Creation LVT finishes offer over 100 different choices and combinations.

The Creation Collections also come with the innovative surface treatments including PUR+Matt on Creation 70 and Protecshield™ on the Creation 30,40 & 55 product ranges. These revolutionary coatings preserve the beauty of the floor-covering over the years, preventing dirtying and wear over time and offering overall optimal protection. These invisible films protect against micro-scratches without changing the matt appearance of the coating. In addition to protecting against external damage during day-to-day use, these surface treatments make maintenance much easier and cost effective. With Co-ordinated finishes from Gerflor, a successful overall appearance is provided, delivering perfect harmony to the finished floor. Matching skirting and threshold planks are available to give a complete effect in which every detail plays its part.

**Creation 55 Essential LVT Dryback, Solid Clic, Rigid Acoustic and Looselay**

The UK stocked Creation 55 Essential LVT Collection is available in Dryback and selected references are also available in Solid Clic, Rigid Acoustic and Looselay formats. The exclusive new Protecshield™ Treatment on the LVT collection is an invisible film that protects against micro-scratches and dirtying, without changing the matt appearance of the coating. In addition to protecting against external damage during day-to-day use, this new revolutionary surface treatment makes maintenance much easier and cost effective. The collections come with a 0.55mm wear layer, are REACH/ compliant & Phthalate Free, there are no Formaldehyde emissions, they contain recycled content and can be also recycled at end of life. With the Creation 55 LVT Essential Collection, clients can Mix and Match. Specifiers can combine, contrast, or mix up designs completely for a unique and customised floor scheme. The options are simply limitless providing a vast palette of incredible choices.

**Tarasafe safety flooring overview**

The high performance Tarasafe Ultra vinyl safety range comes with a unique UV cured Sparclean® surface treatment, for easy cleaning and maintenance and no polish for life. Using mineral crystal particles, rather than carborundum, Tarasafe Ultra, with its improved performance, is easier to transport & install, it is lighter and more flexible to handle. The range has a maximum hygiene rating meeting the EN Standard 22196 for anti- bacterial activity (E. coli - S. aureus - MRSA) (3) returning >99% levels of growth inhibition and comes with a 12-year warranty and is also 100% recyclable.

Tarasafe Ultra H20 is a bespoke vinyl floorcovering ideal for both barefoot and shod applications, a popular choice for wet rooms, lavatories, bathrooms and changing areas. Available in contemporary finishes with a studded design. It also comes with a 12-year warranty and is also 100% recyclable.

Within Gerflor's Tarasafe vinyl safety flooring family, there are over 80 finishes available to choose from. They are reinforced with a glass fibre grid and are suitable for use in all areas of heavy traffic where slip-resistance, durability and hygienic conditions are required.

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Gradus is a manufacturer of comprehensive contract interior solutions, including stair edgings, floor trims, barrier matting, lighting, and wall protection. Gradus innovations help to create attractive and functional environments, as well as enhance and protect commercial and office interiors. Gradus solutions are proven to enhance the longevity of a building whilst reducing long term maintenance costs. Gradus works in partnership with the commercial sector to ensure buildings are safe and accessible for all users.

**Gradus products overview specified for Monmouthshire Building Society****Boulevard 1500 Barrier Matting, Stair Edgings & Floor Trims**

Gradus Boulevard 1500 is a cost-effective secondary barrier matting manufactured from 100% polypropylene yarn with a rubber backing. It offers medium levels of dirt removal and moisture retention and features a ribbed design that is resistant to compression, offering a superior alternative to coir matting in line with the guidance in BS 8300-2:2018 and Approved Document M of The Building Regulations 2010. Boulevard 1500 is suitable for interior use in circulation areas and in some entrances and access points. It can also be used in conjunction with Esplanade 1500 primary barrier matting to provide a complete cost effective, coordinated system. It is available in 2m sheet format for easy installation and is tested for colour fastness, flammability and static. Boulevard 1500 has a 5-year wear warranty (subject to terms and conditions).

The Stair Edgings offer from Gradus is one of the most extensive ranges in the UK, Gradus stair edgings can help reduce accidents on stairs as well as helping to provide an inclusive environment giving access to all building users. Offered in a choice of materials and designs to accommodate most step shapes.

A choice of gauges is offered to suit most floorcoverings, whilst single, double, or multiple channel options are available dependent on traffic levels and conditions.

The Floor Trims offer includes transition strips from Gradus. These reduce the risk of accidents for pedestrian traffic by providing a safe link between floorcoverings. A transition strip can also provide a safe joint where wheeled traffic is expected and ensures that trolleys can move freely between different types and heights of floorcovering, reducing the risk of trolleys tipping over. Available in a wide choice of shapes and colours, transition strips can be selected to either blend in with the surrounding floorcoverings or act as a highlight to help determine walkways and other circulation areas. Gradus offers a comprehensive range of transition strips, which include Clip-Top, Clip-Top fx, MTS, Euro-Clip, PPS, Trans-Edge, Cable Ducts and Specialist Floor Trims.

Learn more about Gerflor solutions, ask for a free sample or contact us to speak to a specialist today by calling 01625 428 922, emailing [contractuk@gerflor.com](mailto:contractuk@gerflor.com), or visiting [gerflor.co.uk](http://gerflor.co.uk) for the latest flooring innovations.

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