



Resin Technology at its Best

LONDON
SEA·LIFE[®]
AQUARIUM

REFURBISHMENT





LONDON SEA·LIFE[®] AQUARIUM

REFURBISHMENT

INTRODUCTION

The SEA LIFE London Aquarium was first opened in 1997 and is located on the ground floor of County Hall on the South Bank of the River Thames in central London, near the London Eye.

In May 2008, the aquarium was purchased by the world's second-largest attractions operator, Merlin Entertainments. The attraction has recently undergone a £5million refurbishment and has taken a total of six months to complete. The refurbishment has unveiled a series of new attractions aimed at getting large numbers of visitors through the doors. The attraction officially became SEA LIFE London Aquarium in April 2009 with London Mayor Boris Johnson officially re-opening the attraction on 17th April.

The newly refurbished SEA LIFE London Aquarium is spread over three floors and 14 themed zones; some of the new highlights include a collection of water tanks showing around 650 species of fish. As well as a fun and interactive family experience the new attraction will provide the UK with a leading centre of excellence on marine management, conservation, preservation and education in the heart of the capital.

RICHCO

During the redevelopment Richco were asked to provide our recommendations on a number of flooring areas including the Entrance / Admissions, Introduction Walkway, Rock Pool Area, Ocean Walk, Nemo's Kingdom, Seahorse Temple, SEA LIFE Conservation, Atlantic, Tropical Rainforest, Photo Pickup and various other toilet areas and staircases.

Richco worked closely with the client to match colours required for the flooring in each individual area. Richco provided the client with a number of colour samples and decorative finishes before a final decision was made. The client required specific colours in each individual area; therefore Richco manufactured bespoke colours to meet with the clients' requirements.

Throughout the refurbishment works, Richco worked closely with the client and other contractors' onsite to ensure that the works were completed with minimum disruption to other contractors and within the specific timescales required by the client.

The completed flooring works met with the clients' requirements in all areas by providing decorative bespoke flooring systems whilst being in-keeping with the themed areas.

Richco are continuing to provide our flooring systems in other areas throughout the SEA LIFE London Aquarium.

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ENTRANCE/ADMISSIONS & INTRODUCTION WALKWAY REFURBISHMENT

ENTRANCE/ADMISSIONS

The requirements for the refurbished entrance were to give an immediate SEA LIFE branding and to pre-empt the entire experience. It required more alignment and directional queuing than the original entrance to hold guests within the building allowing for entertainment and information during their entrance.

The entrance and admissions area measured 209m², Richco recommended that a self levelling flooring system in a bright blue colour was installed with the same colour flake. Richco SL E-Coat was applied which is a self-levelling epoxy flooring system which provides a smooth, easy to clean surface with excellent resistance to chemicals.

This colour was specifically manufactured for this bespoke application to ensure that the floor matched the original concept and re-theming. The completed floor area met with the client's requirements by providing a seamless, hardwearing anti-slip surface in the bespoke colour of their choice.

INTRODUCTION WALKWAY

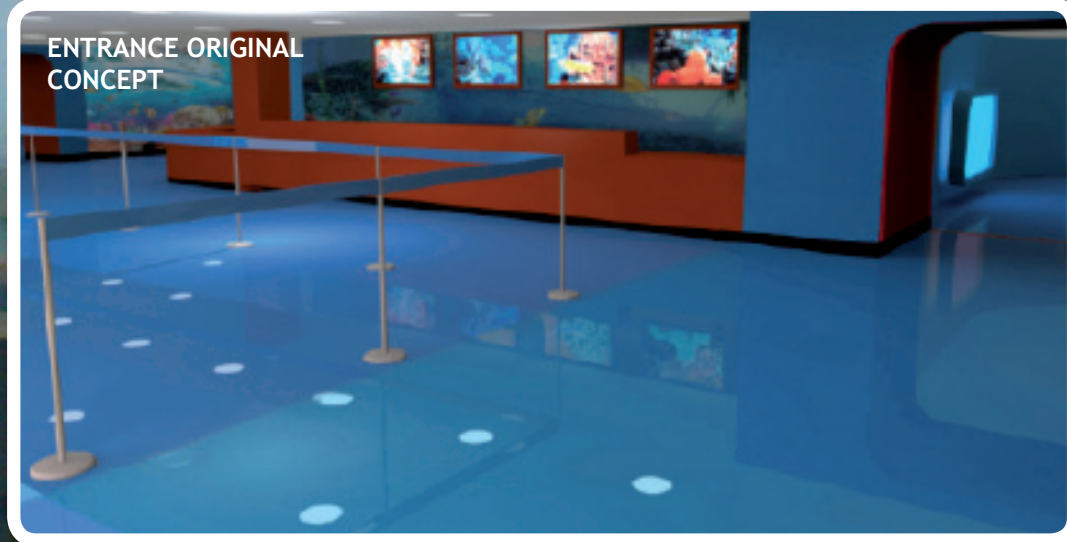
The introduction walkway required an ambient "underwater" environment with SEA LIFE London Aquarium compilation video and audio narrative to tell the story of the Atlantic conveyor.

The Introduction Walkway measured 101m², Richco recommended that a self levelling flooring system was installed in a bright blue colour with the same colour flake. Richco SL E-Coat was applied which is a self-levelling flooring system which provides a smooth, easy to clean surface with excellent resistance to chemicals.

This colour was specifically manufactured for this bespoke application to ensure that the floor matched the original concept and re-theming.

The completed floor area met with the client's requirements by providing a seamless, hardwearing anti-slip surface in the bespoke colour of their choice.

ENTRANCE ORIGINAL
CONCEPT



INTRODUCTION WALKWAY AFTER REFURBISHMENT



INTRODUCTION WALKWAY AFTER REFURBISHMENT



AREA AFTER REFURBISHMENT

OCEAN WALK REFURBISHMENT

The Ocean Walk is a wonderful walkway through the tropical display. The Ocean tunnel leads across the depths of the tropical seas with dramatic views of turtles, cow nose Rays and colourful shoaling fish in all directions. Within the tanks there are divers and cameras undergoing discovery and unearthing ancient fossils. This area gives guests the opportunity to participate in the dive discovery through touch buttons, hosted talks, controlling the lights, sounds and capturing photos and views from the dive bell camera.

It was specified by the client that the Ocean Walk floor finish needed to match the colours on the rock wall effect. Richco recommended an Epoxy Marble Finish was installed, which is a unique decorative flooring system which is created by blending a number of colours during application. The completed system offers long-term wear, is chemical resistant and provides the unique colour blend the client requested.

The completed floor area met with the client's requirements by providing a seamless, hardwearing finish. The Epoxy Marble Flooring was specifically designed and installed for this particular project, thereby creating a bespoke installation for SEA LIFE London Aquarium.

AREA AFTER REFURBISHMENT



AREA AFTER REFURBISHMENT



ORIGINAL CONCEPT

ROCK POOL REFURBISHMENT

The Rock Pool Area required a discovery area featuring rock pool displays at the SEA LIFE London Aquarium where hosted talks allow visitors to get close to the tiny creatures that inhabit the rocks. The first opening views into the south Atlantic tank takes on a dive school theme - creating the story leading up to the underwater dive discovery walkway.

The Rock Pool area measured 315m², Richco recommended that an Epoxy Flake Flooring System was installed in buff colour (with the same colour flake). Richco Flake Flooring is a decorative solvent free epoxy floor coating which is hardwearing, chemical resistant and provides a decorative anti-slip finish.

This colour was specifically manufactured for this bespoke application to ensure that the floor matched the original concept and re-theming designs.

The completed floor area met with the client's requirements by providing a seamless, hardwearing anti-slip surface in the bespoke colour of their choice.



AREA AFTER REFURBISHMENT



AREA AFTER REFURBISHMENT

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NEMO'S KINGDOM, CORAL CAVES & SEAHORSE TEMPLE REFURBISHMENT

NEMO'S KINGDOM

The Nemo's Kingdom area required an underwater cave with illuminated decor of coral and colour. It also required more intimate displays to create child focused areas exploring all the wonders of colourful species, coral and anemones, including jellyfish displays.

The Nemo's Kingdom & Coral Caves measured a total of 163m², Richco recommended the installation of an Epoxy Flooring System in two colours; currant and passion fruit with glitter incorporated into the final finish.

Richco Glitter Flooring is a decorative solvent free epoxy floor coating which is hardwearing, chemical resistant and provides a decorative finish.

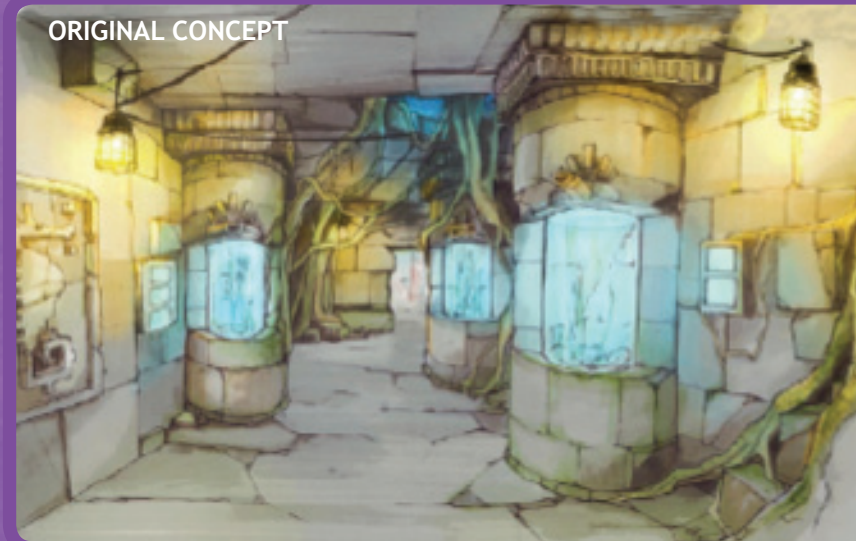
These colours were specifically manufactured for this bespoke application to ensure that the floor matched the original concept and re-theming.

The completed floor area met with the clients' requirements by providing a seamless, hardwearing anti-slip surface in the bespoke colour of their choice.

CORAL CAVES
AFTER REFURBISHMENT



ORIGINAL CONCEPT



SEAHORSE TEMPLE AFTER REFURBISHMENT



SEAHORSE TEMPLE

The Seahorse Temple leads on from Nemo's Kingdom and enters into a display of seahorses. A secret trail uncovers amazing display of seahorses in a sandstone Inca inspired ruinous temple which is illuminated by cylindrical display tanks.

Richco recommended the installation of a Bonded Stone System within the Seahorse Temple area. Richco Stone Binder is a resin bound stone system. This system is trowel applied to the prepared surface and the finished system provides a seamless, decorative, hardwearing, low maintenance surface.

Richco formulated a specific blend of aggregates that met with the client's requirements by providing them with a bespoke colour blend to ensure that the floor matched the original concept and re-theming designs.

AREA BEFORE REFURBISHMENT



NEMO'S KINGDOM AFTER REFURBISHMENT



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SEA LIFE CONSERVATION REFURBISHMENT

The SEA LIFE Conservation area was designed to provide an interactive desert island feel, hosted by costume pirates with video and challenges to educate on conservation issues.

Richco recommended the installation of a Bonded Stone System in the SEA LIFE Conservation and Tropical Castaway Island areas. Richco Stone Binder is a resin bound stone system. This system is trowel applied to the prepared surface and the finished system provides a seamless, decorative, hardwearing, low maintenance surface.

Richco formulated a specific blend of aggregates that met with the client's requirements by providing them with a bespoke colour blend to ensure that the floor matched the original concept and re-theming designs.

ORIGINAL CONCEPT



AREA BEFORE REFURBISHMENT



AREA AFTER REFURBISHMENT



AREA AFTER REFURBISHMENT



TROPICAL RAINFOREST AREA AFTER REFURBISHMENT



TROPICAL RAINFOREST

The Tropical Rainforest area replicates a mangrove swamp environment to begin the rainforest adventure. This area is rich with foliage and hanging ‘mist’ with sounds and smells to create a darker display from terrapins and turtles to piranha and catfish.

Richco recommended the installation of rubberised bark in this area to replicate the Tropical Rainforest theme. Richco Rubber Bark system is a seamless, rubber mulch which is bound by a polyurethane resin. It is mixed and laid onsite as a wet pour product. The finished surface provides a seamless and flexible system whilst providing a natural looking finish.

The completed floor area met with the client’s requirements by replicating a Tropical Rainforest theme.



AREA BEFORE REFURBISHMENT



AREA AFTER REFURBISHMENT

LONDON SEA·LIFE AQUARIUM

ATLANTIC & RAINFOREST REFURBISHMENT

ATLANTIC

The Atlantic area provides tank displays with impressive displays in themed cold climate environments of the North Atlantic deep waters. The Atlantic area provides child friendly displays with dramatic views in the cylinder tanks.

Richco recommended the installation of Bonded Stone System in the Atlantic area and Tropical Castaway Island areas. Richco Stone Binder is a resin bound stone system. This system is trowel applied to the prepared surface and the finished system provides a seamless, decorative, hardwearing, low maintenance surface.

Richco formulated a specific blend of aggregates that met with the client’s requirements by providing them with a bespoke colour blend to ensure that the floor matched the original concept and re-theming designs.

AREA BEFORE REFURBISHMENT



AREA AFTER REFURBISHMENT

