

STONHARD® Solutions

With Recycled Glass, Floors are in the Spotlight of TV Medical Examiner's Facility

Products used at District Nine Medical Examiner's Office:

• Stonblend® GSI-G • Stontec® TRF

But it's the floor — blue-green flecks from broken beer bottles set in a white resin — that is Dr. G's favorite amenity.

"Blood and other stuff gets stuck in the grout at the other building, and it was tough getting rid of that smell," she says as she bends down to rub the glittery floor. "This is seamless, and stuff just washes off. It's also ironic that beer bottles were used to make it, because much of what we see in this room is alcohol-related."

~ as quoted in the Orlando Sentinel, October 19, 2009



Stonblend GSI-G incorporates recycled glass aggregate into the floor surface, creating a sustainable, durable floor for the autopsy area.

As camera crews set up their equipment, newly installed Stonhard floors shine beneath the gleaming television production lights. In October 2009, Stonhard's poured-in place, seamless and sustainable floors were installed at the District Nine Medical Examiner's Office in Orlando, Florida, which was also home to the hit Discovery Health network show, *Dr. G., Medical Examiner*. The show followed Dr. Jan C. Garavaglia, Chief Medical Examiner, as she and her team performed autopsies to investigate causes of death.

The District Nine Medical Examiner's Office moved to a new, 40,000 square foot facility after storage and body capacity issues at their previous location made it difficult to accommodate the daily operations of the busy office.

Conditions inside a medical examiner's office are extreme. Bodily fluids splash and spill on the floor, cooler areas kept between 35 and 40°F are shocked with 120° water during wash downs, heavy, rubber-wheeled carts transport bodies to different areas of the morgue and chemicals are constantly used in cleaning regimens to maintain a sanitary environment. Floors in this type of environment must be able to withstand these conditions and also be easy to maintain. Epoxy and granite tile floors in the former office presented cleaning challenges for the staff at District Nine. "We wanted a seamless, easy-to-clean surface without grout lines, which are very difficult to keep clean in this type of setting," said Steven Hanson, Chief Investigator/Forensic Services Program Manager at District Nine.

Another quality that was important to the design team and District Nine staff was the sustainable aspect of the product, as the new facility aimed for a "green" design and LEED Silver certification.

Stonhard was specified for nearly 11,000 square feet of space in the new facility and promised floors to meet all these needs – seamless floors that would be durable, long-lasting, easy to clean, yet still be sensitive to the environment.

In the morgue and autopsy suites, Stonhard installed the Stonblend GSI-G system. Stonblend GSI-G is an epoxy mortar system that uses a 12% recycled glass aggregate, which not only contributes to the striking, terrazzo-like appearance, but



In the coolers, Stontec TRF floors are reliable, despite temperature extremes and heavy traffic.

creates a long-lasting chemical and wear-resistant, easy-to-maintain surface. The use of recycled glass contributed to the design team's sustainability model. Three shades meshed well together, giving planners the aesthetic appeal they were looking for and helped to set the overall tone for the entire area.

For the coolers and decomp areas, Stonhard recommended Stontec TRF, a mortar-based urethane system that incorporates decorative flakes to provide a smooth, temperature and stain-resistant, sanitary floor surface.

Once the facility resumed full operation, Stonhard floors were put to the test. Everyone at District Nine is extremely happy with the results. "We had a few minor challenges with the facility that were quickly addressed by the Stonhard Territory Manager," said Steven Hanson. This is testimony to Stonhard's ongoing commitment to customer satisfaction, which includes a single-source warranty on both products and installation.

The Stonhard Difference

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



Stonhard's Stontec TRF and Stonblend GSI-G systems are hard-working, chemical-resistant, textured for slip-resistance and easy to clean at the District Nine Medical Examiner's Office.



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