

CLIENT:

AXMINSTER LEISURE CENTRE

SOLUTION:

TARAFLEX® PERFORMANCE

LOCATION:

EAST DEVON

Taraflex® triumph for Gerflor at Axminster Leisure Centre.

Specifying and installing 650m² of Gerflor's world class Taraflex® Performance vinyl sports flooring in 'Light Cherry' would turn out to be a pivotal decision for Axminster Leisure Centre in East Devon. The refurbishment project to replace the existing flooring in their main sports hall would yield spectacular results for both the operators of the facility and the end users.

The indoor sports surface solution that was specified would need to be of the utmost quality and readily available, considering how short the timescales were for the project and would need to be competitively priced for the funds available for this iconic renovation.

Chris Pursey, Gerflor Area Sales Manager at the time, Southwest and Channel Islands commented, "East Devon Council contacted Gerflor for advice on replacement sports flooring due to the existing sheet rubber floor failing. Steve Parker was our main point of contact, as he is a Surveyor at East Devon Council. Leisure East Devon (LED) are the Leisure Trust that runs a number of similar sites for East Devon Council, and they have specified Taraflex® on other sites, so they had full confidence in our systems. We also introduced Biddle Sport for the line marking element of the project and they also did an outstanding job."

On installation Chris Pursey said, "There were some critical subfloor issues to be resolved and we introduced Ardex who provided a specification for the preparation including smoothing compounds and adhesive. This gave peace of mind to the end user as they had a full specification from both Gerflor and Ardex."

The installation of the Gerflor Taraflex® Performance flooring by Plymouth-based Roberts Flooring would need to be of the highest quality to meet the exacting standards set by East Devon Council.



“ Leisure East Devon have recently commented that the new Taraflex® floor is ‘outstanding and first class’ and much nicer than what they had before. ”

Steve Parker, Area Building Surveyor, East Devon District Council



Dave Moran, Managing Director, Roberts Flooring said, "The project was issued through a Main Contractor (Jones Group) direct from the Council. The Gerflor Taraflex® sports flooring was specified as part of our tender documents, Gerflor had already been contacted by the council to put forward the best system."

Commenting on the more challenging aspects of the installation Dave Moran went on to say, "The sports hall had numerous historical changes in floor coverings, that made the uplift extremely hard work and challenging for our guys. In addition to this, there was the heat wave, our installation team had to work in an environment with most days topping 30 degrees centigrade."

"The project itself presented several challenges, as well as the extreme weather (heat), other requirements such as large amounts of heavy material removal and labour shortages through the summer holiday period which is always very busy, also potentially could have impacted on the delivery of this critical project. Despite this, our team really pulled it all together and showed great commitment, through their hard

work and efforts from the start to finish of the project and it really does show in the end result".

On final outcomes Dave Moran went on to comment, "We are extremely delighted with the end finish. The project had the potential to be very challenging also due to the unknown condition of the asphalt subbase which if found to be in poor condition, would have required a complete removal and reinstatement of a more modern subbase system, this would have put a massive strain on the programme. Luckily the existing asphalt screed was in good condition with only a couple minor cracks repaired by the Jones Group."

Steve Parker, Area Building Surveyor, East Devon District Council said, "Blisters had formed in the previous rubber-based floor covering which could potentially cause trips and falls. This was a health and safety concern for Leisure East Devon who manage the leisure centre". On specification Steve Parker went on to comment, "I found an advertisement for Gerflor in a building products construction magazine which recommended Taraflex® for sports hall floors".

On the performance of the new Gerflor Taraflex® sports floor Steve Parker said, "Leisure East Devon have recently commented that the new Taraflex® floor is 'outstanding and first class' and much nicer than what they had before. At East Devon District Council, we are also extremely pleased with the new Olympic pedigree Taraflex® sports flooring."

In conclusion Steve Parker finally commented, "I'd like to thank Chris Pursey from Gerflor for his helpful specification advice and support throughout this project. We would definitely specify Gerflor flooring products again."

Dave Moran ended by saying, "Although this project already had Gerflor specified, we have carried out several sports floor installations using Gerflor products, one of which included Torquay Grammar School for Boys, this project had both Roberts Flooring and Gerflor nominated in the CFJ Flooring Awards in 2020."

"I believe that the client and end users are overjoyed with the new Gerflor Taraflex® sports floor."

For further information on Gerflor's extensive range of flooring solutions please contact us:

UNITED KINGDOM
+44 (0) 1625 428 922
contractuk@gerflor.com
www.gerflor.co.uk

REPUBLIC OF IRELAND
+353 (0) 42 966 1431
gerflorir@gerflor.com
www.gerflor.ie

