

CopperHead® XD™ 3.0 Laser Screed® Key to Successful Placement of 25,000sqm of Concrete Flooring on Mezzanine Deck



The Cornbow Shopping Centre in Halesowen, originally constructed in 1967, is part of a £30 million regeneration project funded by Vale Retail Ltd, Centro-WMPTA and Dudley Council. Once completed, it will boast a new two-storey 6,750sqm ASDA store, a £3.5 million state-of-the-art bus station and a five-storey 600 space car park.

Halesowen-based Wilsons Industrial Flooring were sub-contracted by McDermotts to construct the concrete flooring for the ASDA store and the multi-storey car park. In total, 25,000sqm of concrete flooring was constructed on mezzanine deck with A142 mesh reinforcement using the Somero® CopperHead® XD™ 3.0 Laser Screed®.

Due to restricted access the multi-storey car park was completed in 4 stages producing on average between 1,000sqm – 1,500sqm of completed mezzanine deck per day. A total of 3,750m³ of concrete had to be pumped up to the decks and approximately a third required finishing with a power trowel.

“We mainly used a 36m pump to pour the concrete up to the upper decks due to restricted access. Casting around 1,500sqm per day with a large pump can be hard work at times but the CopperHead helps ease some of the more strenuous tasks when laying a floor” said Dave Wheeler, commercial director, Wilsons Industrial Flooring. “The CopperHead was the perfect choice for this project as it is lightweight and manoeuvrable, plus it’s quicker and less strenuous than using more traditional screeding methods. It performed well on the mezzanine deck and we are really pleased with the results”.

Since purchasing the Somero CopperHead in January 2008, Wilsons Industrial Flooring has been able to pour larger areas in less time, making them more competitive. The CopperHead produces FM2 Special category floors, as specified in TR34 2003 Edition, fast and efficiently with reduced costs compared to the more traditional sit-on machines.

“We are able to compete for much bigger projects now, as we can keep the costs down without jeopardising the quality of our large-area pours using mesh or fibres,” said Dave Wheeler.

Main contractor Bowmer & Kirkland, Groundworks Contractor McDermotts and Flooring Contractor Wilsons Industrial Flooring began work on the redevelopment project in December 2007 and it is expected to be completed in time for Christmas 2008.

Capable of easily screeding 2,000sqm per day the CopperHead XD 3.0 Laser Screed produces flat and level concrete floors every time. And because it is lightweight and compact, it can be used on chaired mesh, double mesh and raised decks. Using Somero’s patented laser-levelling technology to cut the concrete to a finished grade, screed it flat, and vibrate it smooth in one pass, the CopperHead XD 3.0 sets grade automatically allowing the operator to move quickly and efficiently through the work area. The powerful hydraulic drive motors keep the XD 3.0 pulling low slump concrete and riding smoothly over chaired rebar and other obstacles.



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