

# Non-PVC flooring for safety

**For cruiseship operators,** the safety of passengers and crew should be paramount, however, some operators are still buying PVC-based floor coverings. This poses a real danger because in the event of fire PVC can produce noxious fumes and gases that can be fatal if inhaled.

To overcome this problem Altro Transflor developed Gallium – the only fully-approved, non-PVC slip-resistant lightweight flooring on the market, now used by many of the world's leading cruise operators. Benefits of this flooring include:

- Class-leading wear resistance
- Extremely high levels of fire retardancy and underfoot slip resistance
- Full compliance to the MED under the guidance of the IMO
- Full US Coastguard approval

Every batch of Gallium is independently tested for fire, smoke and toxicity requirements to ensure 100% compliance.

'The rules on how interior fittings on ships were tested for fire and smoke performance changed after a fire on *Scandinavian Star* in 1990, in which



Safe flooring that looks good too.

158 people died,' says Simon Andrews, maritime sales manager for Altro Transflor. 'It is believed that 90% of the victims succumbed to smoke inhalation from PVC-based floor and wall coverings.'

Gallium is recommended for passenger and crew areas where there is a risk of injury through slips and trips, such as

service corridors, stairwells, mess rooms, dining areas, galleys and food preparation areas, escape routes, muster stations and balconies. The flooring conforms to USPH Vessel Sanitation Programme construction guidelines, as well as the ILO's Maritime Labour Convention 2006 in relation to health and safety and accident prevention. The product also contains Altrosan, an integral bacteriostat that has been clinically proven to inhibit the growth of bacterium, mould and fungus, making it ideal for use in galleys and wet areas.

If cruise lines are tempted to cut corners with maritime flooring – they should think again. Gallium will meet all needs for safety, comfort and hygiene and it looks good too.

Altro Transflor has over 30 years' experience in the transit flooring industry.

## Further Information

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# Insulation and protection

**Mascoat Products** is revolutionising the way that the world insulates and protects surfaces in the industrial, marine and residential markets. The company offers sound damping and thermal insulation solutions by manufacturing off-the-shelf insulation coatings and fully customised coatings.

Delta~dB V2 Sound Damping Coating has solved many issues within excessive noise environments. Owners have reported dramatic reductions in structure-borne sound when the coating has been used on the sidewalls, overheads, decks and stiffener areas of vessels. The coating has obtained USCG, ABS, and Lloyd's approvals to IMO/SOLAS standards.

Delta T Marine V3 Thermal Insulating Coating is a composite ceramic insulating coating that is exclusively designed for thermal insulation and anti-

condensation protection in the harsh marine environment. It is also the only insulating coating to obtain all major marine certifications and approvals.

When a major cruise line operator wanted to retrofit a gym area into the bow of one of its ships, the main problems faced were a limited amount of time to complete the project, and it had to be efficiently insulated from the effects of solar (radiant) heat gain without using a finish wall system. The insulation had to be accepted by Lloyd's Register and be within IMO guidelines.

Delta T Marine was quickly identified as a perfect fit for the project and Mascoat's in-house thermal engineering staff determined that 80mils (2.0mm) of Delta T Marine applied in a series of coat applications would be the ideal solution. In fact, the vessel was coated while underway on a cruise with paying



The Delta T Marine V3 Thermal Insulating Coating is designed for the harsh marine environment.

customers onboard. The staff immediately reported that the coated gym space was cooler and, most importantly, solved the operator's needs for a habitable gym space in a short amount of time. The cruise line is now looking to specify the coating in its next build programmes.

## Further Information

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