



# SIKA AT WORK

## VIVARIUM FLOOR & WALL SYSTEMS

# LASTING SOLUTIONS FOR DEMANDING ENVIRONMENTS

When a major Southwestern Teaching University decided to renovate an aging existing vivarium, they researched resinous surface manufacturers and chose Sika. Their facility was functional, but esthetically, it was dated and uninteresting. The walls were beige glazed porcelain tile and the floors were a combination of several systems and showing their age from years of exposure to impact, abrasion and an aggressive sanitization regimen.

The objective of the renovation was to install robust, durable finishes which would also make the facility attractive, sanitary and able to pass upcoming inspections. How would this be achieved? Typically, removing existing finishes can be loud, dusty, disruptive and expensive. A proper renovation takes more than simply covering over the existing finishes.

The project team consulted with Manchester and Associates, a fourth-generation firm with extensive vivarium experience. Steve Manchester did a thorough site assessment, working with TW Hicks, a Texas-based Elite Level Sika installer. Working with Sika's Technical Department, it was determined that the existing floors and walls did not require removal.

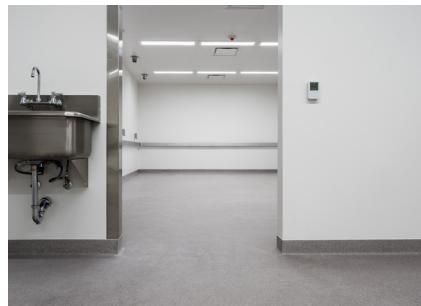
Sika's unique wall coating system, Sika Sikagard with 307W topcoat in a custom color, was installed over the existing tile after surface preparation. It is water based for ease of use, very low odor, cures rapidly and bonds tenaciously to the substrate. This system provides an attractive mid sheen finish and resists hazards typically seen in most vivarium operations. In addition, the wall coating is also easily sanitized and in the unusual case of damage, it can readily be repaired by maintenance personnel.

For the flooring surfaces, a Sikafloor Morritex self-leveling epoxy system was selected that incorporated a decorative flake broadcast to raise the esthetics of the facility. Establishing the proper balance between surface cleanability for the housekeeping staff and slip resistance in wet areas where vivarium technicians and researchers operate was critical. Surface texture options were reviewed and agreed upon and the resulting surface is cleanable yet has enough grip to minimize slip hazards. The top coat for the system, Sikafloor 315N utilizes the latest urethane resin chemistry for maximum stain, sanitizer and wear resistance. The Sikafloor 315N is highly durable and will insure the system will look good well into the future.

## FLOORING CHECKLIST

- Moisture Tolerant
- Seamless Surface
- Slip Resistant
- Non-Staining
- Esthetically Pleasing
- Sanitary
- Durable
- Low Maintenance





"Sika prides itself on having floors that maintain their esthetic qualities and colors for years and years. We allow designers the freedom to select from a limitless array of colors, patterns, textures and finishes", Hendley pointed out. "However, the advanced chemistry of the floors makes them stain, impact and wear resistant."

Immediately behind the renovation project, a new vivarium building was under construction. Again, Sika was selected to provide the floor and wall surfaces. The possibility of high concrete moisture levels in the new concrete slabs led to the selection of Sika PurCem for the floor base layer. PurCem, a polyurethane cement hybrid, has excellent resistance to moisture conditions and has a performance history spanning decades with millions of square feet installed. In addition, PurCem also has excellent chemical, impact and thermal shock resistance.

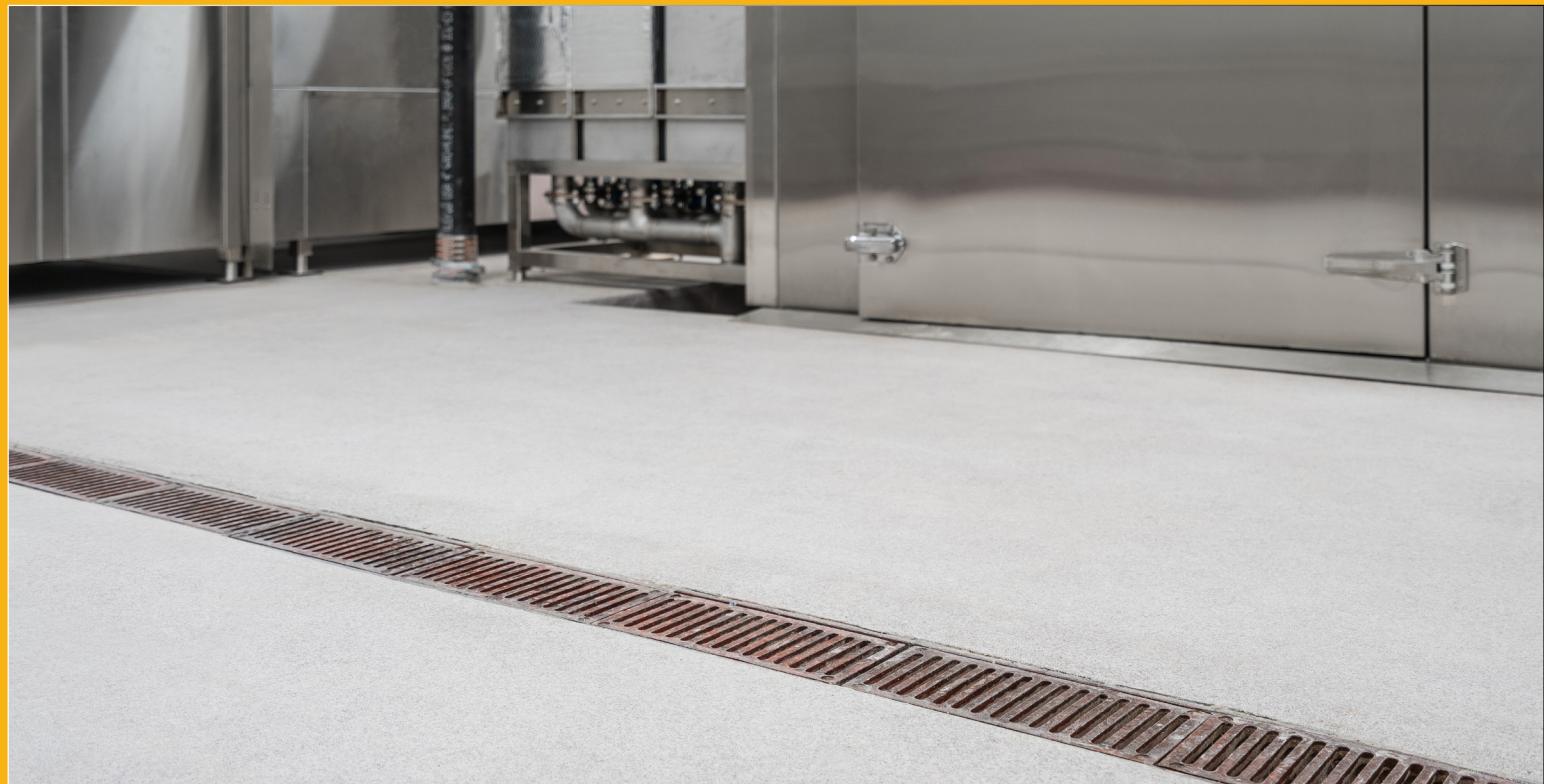
Attracting top level global research talent and, importantly, clients is a continuous challenge to most institutions. Sika floor and wall finishes assist in the effort by ensuring your facilities look attractive and modern but also demonstrate peak performance for which they were designed.



#### CONSULT THE EXPERTS

For over fifty years Sika has been known as the world's premier manufacturer of resinous floor and wall systems. Surface audits and design consultations are offered at no cost by calling 844.529.7101.

# VIVARIUM FLOORING SOLUTIONS



## WHO WE ARE

Sika AG, located in Baar, Switzerland, is a specialty chemicals company with a leading position in the development and production of systems and products for bonding, sealing, damping, reinforcing and protecting in the building sector and the motor vehicle industry. The corporation has subsidiaries in 84 countries, employs 16,000 people worldwide, and has more than 160 manufacturing facilities around the globe.

## SERVING YOUR NEEDS WORLDWIDE FROM ROOF TO FLOOR



Sika Corporation can assist you with your construction needs from roof to floor. Call 1-844-529-7101 to learn about our complete building system solutions.



## SIKA CORPORATION—FLOORING

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