



Hempacore protection for Birmingham Children's Hospital's new clinical block

Every year, around 1,700 children are diagnosed with cancer in the UK, of which more than 250 new cases are treated at Birmingham Children's Hospital (BCH). That is why BCH is investing £37.5 million on a new, four-storey clinical block.

This new facility will house the UK's pioneering Rare Diseases Centre for children, as well as a combined in-patient and out-patient cancer centre and three new operating theatres, providing increased capacity and streamlined care for young patients with cancer and rare diseases from all over the West Midlands and beyond.

The main contractor is Interserve, the UK-based international support services and construction group, who are planning to deliver the facility in late 2017. The interior colour scheme, inspired on scenes from nature and on the Birmingham canals, was designed in collaboration with children and young people from the hospital's Young Persons Advisory Group.

Similarly, public safety is also of paramount importance to the designers of this eye-catching construction, linked to the hospital's iconic Victorian building from the ground floor foyer, which includes a bright and airy courtyard, café, breastfeeding room and a chill-out space.

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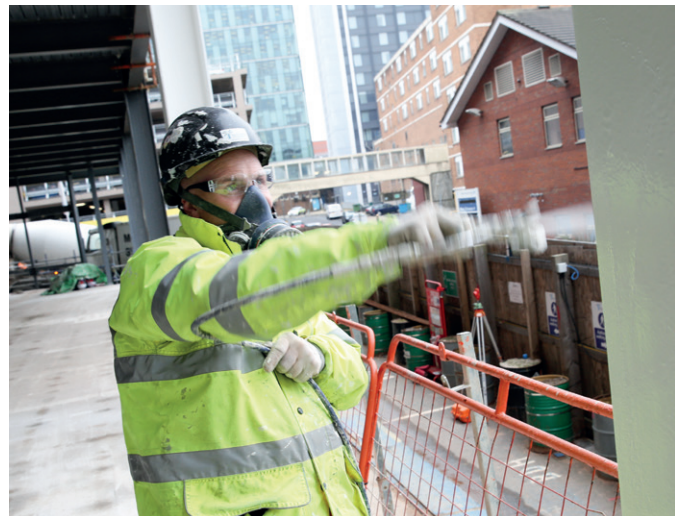
At a glance

Coating System	Hempacore One FD 43601
Application	Airless Spray

Hempel technicians supported Shirley Industrial Painters, long-standing users of our paints, in responding to the hospital governors’ and Fire Prevention officer’s enquiries about the merits of our Hempacore One range of intumescent coatings, which provide up to 120 minutes’ passive fire protection of structural steel against cellulosic fires.

Based on an earlier project at Birmingham University, Shirley selected the fast-drying FD 43601 version as the intermediate/topcoat, because, as a single-component paint with drying times of less than 10 minutes at standard room temperature and humidity levels, as well as providing coating thicknesses of up to 1100 microns per layer, it offers extraordinary advantages in terms of productivity rates for airless spraying on site alongside other construction work in progress.

As David Melbourne, BCH interim Chief Executive, stated “Finally, the world-class care that we know we provide to our children and young people will be given from world-class, hugely improved facilities, which is going to make an enormous difference”. For Hempel, it is an enormous privilege to know that our coatings play a significant role in achieving such world-class standards.



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