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Fast-Track Solution

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By Stephanie Brown

Fast-setting cement provides quality finishing.

Centrally located in the heart of Kansas City, Missouri, a premier Embassy Suites Hotel sought to maintain ambience and appearance, while also improving the hotel entrance to allow for access by wheelchairs and strollers.

With hundreds of customers each week and high walk-up traffic, the owner wanted the 266-room hotel on a fast-track solution that allowed for the entrance to be closed for a minimal amount of time when visitor traffic was low.



RECONSTRUCTING THE ENTRANCE

Cicero's Development Corporation was hired to reconstruct the entrance to be Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant. According to Joe Bill, project manager for Cicero's Development Corporation, schedule was of the utmost importance. The project began in January of this year and during many days the outside temperature was in the teens. As such, specialty fast-setting cement and shrinkage-compensating cement products (CTS Cement's Eisenwall®, OnePass®, and Stucco Patch) were chosen due to their high quality finish and the necessity for timely curing. The Rapid Set®

products were used for interior and exterior applications. Approximately eight bags of Eisenwall, 20 bags of One Pass, and 20 bags of Stucco Patch were used on this project.

FAST-SETTING CEMENT

Eisenwall is a premium plastering cement that is used in exterior plastering applications where accelerated times, higher strength, superior durability, enhanced impact resistance, and reduced cracking is desired. OnePass is an interior and exterior mold-resistant wall repair material and joint compound that is multipurpose, durable, and fast setting. Stucco Patch is a stucco repair material that is a durable, fast-setting patching material. Stucco Patch produces a rich, easy to apply mixture with excellent bonding characteristics.

Completed in just 1 day, the Eisenwall scratch coat was placed on the interior and exterior walls. The brown coat was applied the next morning and cured within a few hours. OnePass was then applied to the interior walls and precast pieces were erected on the exterior wall over the next 2 days. Once the precast pieces were in place, Rapid Set Stucco Patch was used to replicate the exterior wall pattern and texture. This finished look was referred to as a banana peel or butter patch and was easily achieved using Stucco Patch.

“I did not have 20 days to wait for brown to cure and Eisenwall gave us increased setting times so we could move the project along in a timely manner. OnePass and Stucco Patch allowed us to paint the same day instead of waiting 30 days for our finish coat to dry,” says Bill.

EXCEEDED EXPECTATIONS

Subcontractor Richard Barnhart, owner of Barnhart Specialty Contracting, says that the Rapid Set products used on this project were a major benefit. For the interior, they added about a half-gallon of sand per bag to OnePass, which allowed them to match the existing texture of the room. The exterior had some intricate detail work on and around the precast pieces. Barnhart Specialty Contracting used the OnePass around the medallion that was above the door.

“We were very pleased with the ability to use OnePass both inside and outside on this project. I would not have felt comfortable doing that with any other product, but with Rapid Set, I felt good about the application,” says Barnhart. Barnhart was also satisfied with no cracking after applying thick applications of Stucco Patch.

Completed a mere month after the project started, the end product was a beautifully renovated entryway that was accessible and compliant to ADA standards. Cicero’s Development Corporation passed all of their inspections and by using Rapid Set products, they successfully completed the project on schedule, saved money, and achieved high-quality, long-lasting results.

Contractors seeking alternatives for interior and exterior finishing can benefit from the application used for Embassy Suites Hotel. ■

Editor’s note:

About CTS Cement Manufacturing Corporation | Rapid Set®

CTS Cement Manufacturing Corporation is the largest manufacturer of specialty fast-setting cement and shrinkage-compensating cement in the United States. As the leader in advanced cement technology, CTS provides innovative products to the construction industry through continual research and development. Rapid Set® is a brand of fast-setting cement products well known for its versatility and high performance. It gains structural strength in 1 hour, has superior durability, and low shrinkage. Rapid Set® offers a full line of premium products for concrete repairs and new construction projects. For more information, visit www.ctscement.com.

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