



OLI Lacke at the Mövenpick Hotel, Berlin

Oak in the restaurant, bamboo in the spa

The 4-star Mövenpick hotel in Berlin opened in March 2004 in a neo-classical building known as the „Siemenshöfe“. 243 hotel rooms have been fabricated here, where the industrial tycoon Carl Friedrich von Siemens took up residence in 1919. Existing parquet was renovated in the course of refurbishing but new parquet also had to be installed. The entire wooden surface was finished using Oli lacquer.

The „Siemenshöfe“ used to contain Siemens's representative offices and meeting rooms with panelled ceilings, wall columns and Italian walnut panels. After the Second World War the building was again used by the Siemens company. When Siemens moved to Munich it was sold and the district financial administration took up occupancy.

Mövenpick engaged an international group of architects, Schmidt & Schmidt Association, Switzerland to remodel the building. An innovative interior architecture evolved from their drawings, containing a firework of colours, shapes and materials – designed to unite the historic flair of the monument in a interesting mix with modern elements.

The contract for installing the 900 sqm of parquet was given to Lehndorf Parketthandwerk, a regional craftsman who has

been using Oli lacquers for years.

Finishing the renovated parquet

Restoring the stairway, which is under a historic protection order, was particularly arduous. Prior to sanding and sealing, 103 wooden steps had to be freed from a textile cover. Careful sanding of the steps as well as of the oak boarded parquet on the landings (100 sqm) was time very consuming. The wood was then impregnated against possible residues of wax in the substrate with OLI-Universalgrund 1.50 (100 g/sqm).

Subsequently OLI-PUR 2K Parkettsiegel 25.10 silk matt was applied. This hard wearing, colour-boosting finish was rolled on in three layers, each application with 120 g/sqm.

The craftsmen choose this solvent borne lacquer warranty to rule out adhesion or surface anomalies due to wax residues and to

prohibit any swelling and/or shrinkage in the renovated floor. The same laquer system was used for the same reasons to seal the historic „Siemenssaal“. This room was neglected for a long time and therefore had to be thoroughly renovated. A big area of the original parquet could, nevertheless, be saved. Single strips were replaced and the frieze received a general renewal. Business meetings and festive banquets are now held on the 150 sqm of oak herringbone.

Sealing the new parquet

A waterborne lacquer with hard wear resistance was specified for finishing 550 sqm of newly laid parquet. OLI-AQUA TOP 2K Parkettsiegel 51.20 was the obvious choice as this water borne system has been developed to take extrem wear.

In an section of the restaurant , the so-called „Annex“, 100 sqm of oak strip parquet (16 mm) were glued to the ground. In this highly frequented area it was important to protect the flooring not only against wear but also against stains from beer and red wine. The new parquet was primed with OLI-Universalgrund 1.50 and then sealed with OLI-AQUA TOP 2K Parkettsiegel in three layers amounting to an overall thickness of 360 g/sqm.

The wellness-area containing sauna, fitness room, solarium and spacious rest area also received new parquet to promote relaxation. Light vertical bamboo parquet was chosen. However, its light, delicate appearance was not to be altered by the finishing process. This aim was achieved by using OLI-2K Parkettsiegel. The parquet was filled in advance with OLI-Universalgrund (100 g/qm) to prevent possible lateral adhesion or changes of colour. Afterwards sealing layers of OLI-AQUA TOP 2K Parkettsiegel 51.20, each 120 g/sqm, were applied.