



NEW STERACRYL ANTI BACTERIAL COATING DELIVERS AT CAITHNESS MATERNITY WARD



NHS Highland was one of the first health trusts in the UK to benefit from using Crown Trade's new Steracryl anti bacterial coatings. Caithness General Hospital in Wick took part in a series of field trials carried out by Crown Trade to assess product durability, appearance retention and resistance to burnishing in areas subjected to intensive cleaning regimes.

The Maternity Suite at Caithness General Hospital was selected as an ideal area to assess the performance of Crown Trade Steracryl Anti Bacterial Scrubbable Matt, as the delivery rooms are subjected to scrupulous cleaning from floor to ceiling after every single birth takes place. Despite the sparsely populated location of the hospital, several babies are born at the hospital every week of the year, and the decorative finishes used on the walls need to be resistant to repeated scrubbing with wet cloths and cleaning fluids.

Like every other NHS hospital, Caithness General is waging a continuous battle against 'hospital acquired infections' such as MRSA and other illness-causing bacteria. Recognising that harmful organisms are able to lie dormant and survive on dry surfaces for several months, the hospital is a strong advocate of using anti bacterial decorative coatings in its maintenance programme. The Estates team is also keen to specify coatings which are specifically formulated for long lasting appearance retention and durability in order to extend redecoration schedules and stretch the maintenance budget further.

Back in 2009, redecoration work was completed in the Maternity Suite and two coats of Steracryl Anti Bacterial Scrubbable Matt were applied to the delivery rooms and adjacent areas by the hospital's in-house painter and decorator. Now, many months and many births later, despite the punishing cleaning regime, the hospital reports that the decor still looks "as good as new".





CASE STUDY

continued



“Eric Green, Estates Manager for NHS Highland said:
““From a maintenance point of view, any coatings we use not only have to be based on well proven technology, they also have to be supremely durable in order to withstand our intensive cleaning regimes.

“We were very interested in trialling Crown Trade’s new Steracryl Anti Bacterial Scrubbable Matt emulsion in our maternity ward at Caithness General and found that after repeated scrubbing with cloths and cleaning fluids, the walls still have their flat matt ‘just painted’ finish and there’s no sign of soiling at all.

“Ideally we’d like to see this type of paint used as widely as possible. It’s not just helping to create a healthier safer environment for patients, staff and visitors....from an economic and practical perspective it’s making the cleaning and maintenance task easier for our staff and helping to extend our redecoration schedules.”

Crown Trade Brand Manager Debbie Orr said, “We were confident that Steracryl Anti Bacterial Scrubbable Matt would stand up to the cleaning regime at Caithness because it achieved a Class 1 ‘scrub’ rating when tested according to ISO 11998. Less than 5 microns of film thickness was lost after painted panels were subjected to 200 cycles on a scrub test machine, which represents a 400% increase in resistance to wet scrubbing compared to conventional vinyl matt.”



Debbie adds: “In addition to the Scrubbable Matt finish we also offer Steracryl Anti Bacterial Durable Acrylic Eggshell. These coatings both incorporate SteriTouch® antimicrobial additives which rely upon the well established natural sterilising properties of silver to reduce the growth of harmful organisms. This same silver ion technology is already used extensively in healthcare environments to provide anti bacterial protection in mattresses, textiles, wall cladding panels, furniture surfaces, flooring, door handles, curtains, bandages and surgical equipment.

“Infection control teams should note that our coatings have been independently tested for anti bacterial efficacy using the internationally recognised JIS Z 2801:2000/ISO 22196:2007 method, and provide excellent levels of protection while remaining safe for even the most sensitive applications.”

For further information please click [here](#) or contact the Crown Trade Customer Relations Team on 0845 389 9583