



Tapping
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2014

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CSC Conference 2014 – TAPPING THE FUTURE
Kitchener, Crowne Plaza Kitchener/Waterloo
May 21-25, 2014

Session 7B
Date May 23, 2014
Time 2:00 – 3:00
Speaker Shamanna Kelamangalam, B.Sc., CTR

Specification of Ceramic and Porcelain Tiles in P3 Projects

The Public Private Partnership is a nice method to procuring public infrastructure. The private sector assumes the responsibility to design, build and maintain the infrastructure and to ensure effective performance of the facility.

There are a lot of advantages in this method as the costs are known up front and span the life cycle of the asset. Infrastructure projects may take time to build but give long-term cash returns.

But the specifications of the floor and wall coverings leave a lot to be desired. What is being seen is that the specifications written for floor coverings have a lot of ambiguity. This gives an opportunity for products that are not suitable to be used in these projects only because they have a price advantage.

In the long term this may not last the life of the building and would require regular maintenance and replacement

To rectify this situation and put in quality products to the P3 projects, right products need to be selected. The spec writers need to specify the selected products with key technical characteristics of the products It applies more when writing a compliance specification.

The power point presentation will walk the attendees through the key elements that need to be selected and specified for a ceramic or porcelain tile. The presentation will cover the below mentioned topics

1. Introduction to P3's
2. Floor covering types
3. Types of porcelain tiles
4. Technical strengths that need to be considered in P3 projects
5. Technical properties like water absorption, abrasion resistance, breaking strength, war page & coefficient of friction.
6. The advantages and benefits are explained to better understand the above technical strengths.
7. Sizing, tile edges explained.
8. Installation of large format tiles- Guidelines
9. Cleaning of installed floors- Importance and removal of grout haze.
10. Conclusion.

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The presentation will help the designer in selecting the right product based on the technical strengths appropriate for the space he or she is designing. Once the right product is chosen it is then forwarded to the specification writers to specify them correctly.

Irrespective of the specification being a proprietary specification or performance specification, the designer can highlight the key strengths of the product that needs to be put in the specification. This will help the contractor choose and install the product that the designer had originally chosen.

Understanding the technical specifications will also help the designer in evaluating substitutions proposed by the contractor or client. They can then justify the need to use the chosen product and reject the substitution.

The presentation will also give an in depth understanding of the various technical strengths and the need to put them in the specification by the spec writers. A brief talk on installation and cleaning is also part of the presentation. Understanding the key technical strengths by project architects or the project managers will help them evaluate the substituted product when proposed by the contractor.

Once a quality product has been selected, specified and used in the building you can be assured that they will perform to the life of the building. It is important to use good performance products in P3 projects as they are meant to service the facility for a long period of time.

The person attending the presentation will gain information and knowledge on the critical technical information that they need to look into when choosing ceramic or porcelain tiles.

Speaker bio

I am a Certified Technical Representative designated by the Construction Specification of Canada. A Science graduate from Madras University, India, I have been in Architectural Sales specifying ceramic and porcelain tiles for over 14 years of which I have spent over 10 years in Canada and over 3 years in Dubai, United Arab emirates.

My visits to ceramic tile manufacturing plants in Holland, Italy and Spain over the years has given me a good knowledge in production process and in understanding the technical strengths. My experience ranges from working on various types of projects like swimming pools, infrastructure, health care, retail, office space, shopping malls and commercial projects. This wide exposure over the last 14 years, has given me a good insight into product selection, specification, installation and maintenance that I am able to share with the architect and design community.

I am presently working as Architectural Sales in Holten Impex exclusively representing a Dutch Manufacturer called Royal Mosa. I have been specifying this product for over 10 years in projects ranging from casinos like the Atlantis, community centers , schools to Toronto Community housing projects

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