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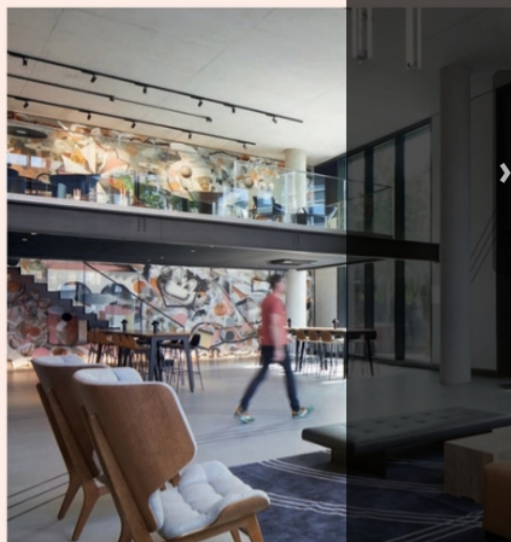
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Right The 'railway tracks' on the floor act as wayfinding, guiding you to key areas such as the cafe and lifts



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Projects Proving that flooring can elevate a variety of spaces

ARCHITECTURE PRACTICE Squire & Partners has completed a nine-storey, 5,500m² office building for real estate firm Newmark. Located in King's Cross, London, Rolling Stock Yard takes a visual cue from its goods yard past and features a striking, light grey, poured resin-based floor that references railway tracks – a nod to the site's history with freight.

Externally, interpreting a goods yard vernacular sees solid oak sleepers used for the building's shading. Steel and perforated panels also feature – to reference corrugated containers and provide an abstract visual of stacked crates and containers.

Other, internal, features include sinusoidal profile cladding on the walls and a plywood reception behind steel sliding doors – an echo of the doors on a goods train.

Rolling Stock Yard

London

'We are putting the railway iconography into the building, but equally we wanted to bring the language of the building outside, inside,' says Henry Squire, partner at Squire & Partners.

To avoid cracking due to movement, the thickness of the floor was an important consideration. At 10mm, it's much thicker than some of the 3mm micro-screed applications.

'Finding a floor material with the right look and feel [was very important] as we wanted the building to have a concrete, industrial feel,' says Squire. 'This floor manages to deliver that visually and technically as it doesn't crack, as sometimes experienced with concrete floors.'

Yeon Sung Lee, architect, Squire & Partners, adds that 'the tracks involved a lot of craftwork, especially around the junctions, so there was a lot of skill used to portray this

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JACK HOBHOUSE

graphic'. To achieve this effect a spacer bar was placed before the grey resin was poured, so that the black resin mixture could then fill the void. The floor was then grinded and polished to create the bold finish.

The tracks also act as wayfinding, guiding you to key areas such as the cafe and lifts. To a degree it has replaced the signage as a more effective solution.

'People spend quite a lot of their time staring at their feet when they are walking,' says Squire. 'For us to have these guiding railway lines means that when you are staring at your feet it is something to look at, but also helps you find your way. Often, signage is in the distance where you can't see it, particularly when someone needs glasses, for example, but these are very literally guiding you through.'

squireandpartners.com



The Clubhouse, Hox Haus

Surrey

MANCHESTER-BASED architects and designers 74 has completed the major conversion project of extending and remodelling a Grade-II listed, two-storey Victorian brick building in Surrey. The repurposed 453m² structure, Hox Haus, now serves as the central focus, clubhouse and social amenity for students attending the Royal Holloway, University of London, Hox Park campus.

Rachel Withey, associate director for 74, says: 'We developed a strong interior design rationale, which worked with the juxtaposition between old and new, creating a series of environments for individuals and groups to harmoniously work, meet, study, relax and have fun.'

The design scheme features flooring by Amtico, which adds texture and an understated elegance to the multipurpose venue. Amtico Signature Ink Wash Wood was used throughout the clubhouse, linking the finishes between the first and ground floors, including the internal stair treads, while Designers' Choice Basket Weave creates a dramatic finish in the first-floor games area.

The colours chosen encompassed the textures and themes used throughout the project, while creating clearly defined zones to enhance the experience of the building for users.

amtico.com

Above Amtico Signature Ink Wash Wood was used throughout the clubhouse

TfL Accessibility Programme

London

Above The porcelain tile should survive for