

Armstrong turns a healthy green

Armstrong Ceilings introduced the UK's first ceiling post-consumer recycling programme less than a decade ago and now has several successful projects under its belt. Its End-Of-Life (EOL) recycling scheme takes used mineral wool tiles and recycles them 100 per cent into new ceiling tiles at its state-of-the-art Team Valley production facility in Gateshead. Last year Armstrong complemented the EOL scheme with an Off Cut Recycling (OCR) scheme that stores off cut tiles from new ceiling installations on site in specially supplied bags. These are collected by the company and recycled into new ceiling tiles.

Peterborough City Hospital

More than 80,000 square metres of Armstrong's Bioguard Plain mineral ceiling tiles were used on this project, with some 8000 square metres or 32 tonnes of those saved from landfill.

Omega installer Roskel Contracts was on site for more than 18 months, combining a standard installation, albeit a major one, with the logistics of running its first OCR scheme.

This proved particularly challenging due to the large number of relatively small rooms (4500). Roskel's team filled wheelie bins with pre-sized bags, which when full, were moved to a secure facility. When this was full, the contents of the bins were taken by articulated lorry to Armstrong's plant.

Birmingham University Hospital

As part of a joint procurement initiative with main contractor Balfour Beatty, Armstrong Ceilings provided the ceiling systems installed by Omega-approved sub-contractor Titan Ceilings. The latter was on site for more than four years, installing 117,000 square metres of Armstrong Bioguard Plain tiles and 3000 square metres of Bioguard Acoustic tiles across literally thousands of rooms.

Balfour Beatty gave Titan access to its dedicated recycling area where the bags were sorted and returned to Armstrong's plant. In total, 42 tonnes or 10,665 square metres of product was returned for recycling.

Birmingham Hospital is a true cradle-to-cradle success story. The off-cuts were re-used to make new ceilings tiles that were in turn used to create new hospital 'green rooms'.



Above: 1000 square metres of ceiling tile off-cuts were recycled at Tameside General Hospital in Ashton-under-Lyne, Lancashire, under Armstrong Ceilings' Off Cut Recycling (OCR) scheme.

Left: Armstrong Ceilings' Off-Cut recycling scheme at Birmingham Hospital where the off-cuts were re-used to make new ceilings tiles.

Tameside General Hospital

Some 1000 square metres or 2.7 tonnes of ceiling tile off-cuts have been recycled. Armstrong's Ultima, Bioguard Acoustic and bespoke printed tiles were installed throughout.



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