PLEASANT INDOOR AIR WITH NORA RUBBER FLOORINGS

Property: Karamzin School, Espoo, Finland

Products: noraplan® lona nTx 1,460 m², norament® 926 arago nTx 750 m²

Installation: 2019

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The Karamzin School is a school for around 430 students in Espoo, a sizeable city located on the western edge of Helsinki in Southern Finland. The school provides basic education for grades one to six (seven to twelve years of age) as well as after-school activities. In addition, the facility offers a pre-school education available to children at the age of six. The Karamzin School is composed of two structural elements: the original buildings, dating from 1984, and a modern extension that was added in 2001. As the older part of the school had been struggling with indoor air problems for some time, it underwent an extensive renovation and was recommissioned in August 2019.

During the renovation work, much attention was paid to the building materials with the goal of achieving the best possible result. In terms of the right floor covering, the planners opted for low-emission rubber floorings from nora - specifically, for elegant grey shades from the norament 926 arago nTx and noraplan lona nTx product range.

Another special aspect of this project was that the pupils asked to be involved in planning their school. In response to this request, an art competition was announced, in which the young people were asked to submit pictures that they had created on their own. The winning picture was selected from all the competition entries by the school management and the architects who supervised the renovation. The winning work was ultimately used to create a wall painting for the newly renovated canteen.

Fast and easy installation with nora nTx

nora nTx is a reliable and fast solution that is ideal even for demanding renovation projects. This is a unique technology for the professional installation of nora rubber floor coverings. The nora nTx coverings are delivered from the factory equipped with an adhesive backing protected by an appropriate film. This means that very few steps are required for the installation. All it takes is to lay out the floor covering, cut it to size, remove the protective film, stick it to the floor and roll it flat. The floor is then immediately ready for use.
Like all the nora floor coverings, the adhesive itself is rubber-based and health-friendly. The installation can be performed on the concrete or cement screed subfloors typical in new builds, as well as over other existing floor coverings. Even high residual moisture in the subfloor presents no problem for nora nTx.

**Low-emission nora floors**

As with all other nora floor coverings, nora nTx floorings are low-emission, which is good for a building’s interior. They have been awarded both Greenguard Gold and Indoor Air Comfort Gold certification. Greenguard is an emissions certification system that includes health-based criteria for chemicals to ensure that products are acceptable for use in environments such as schools or healthcare facilities. The Indoor Air Comfort certificate, on the other hand, combines the most relevant emission specifications and requirements in Europe in one certification process. This includes the Finnish M1 certificate, which is regarded as the highest certification for building products in the Scandinavian region.

**Durable and easy to maintain**

norament 926 arago nTx was chosen for the corridors and canteen of the Karamzin School and noraplan lona nTx for the teachers’ rooms and classrooms. The acoustic properties of the rubber material are also excellent. The elastic surface means that noise caused by the clattering of heels, for example, is effectively reduced, resulting in a more pleasant acoustic environment, especially in long corridors or open spaces. The safe nora rubber floorings are an excellent choice for interiors where floors
require long service life, functionality, and easy maintenance. Thanks to their dense surface, they are easy to clean, do not require coating and retain their good looks for many years. This makes them both ecologically and economically beneficial.

Finally, noraplan lona nTx and norament 926 arago nTx, like every flooring product sold by Interface – including carpets, LVT, rubber sheets and tiles – are certified carbon neutral through the Carbon Neutral Floors™ program, at no extra cost to customers. nora’s own rubber plant in Weinheim, southern Germany, is continuously working to eliminate or reduce CO₂ emissions and thus further reduce its own CO₂ footprint. Unavoidable CO₂ emissions are compensated by the acquisition of emission-reduction certificates that are used to finance climate protection projects.