



REALLY SAFE. REAL RUBBER.  
The flooring for perfect hygiene.



**nora**<sup>®</sup>  
by Interface<sup>®</sup>

# Complete disinfectability by nora® Rubber floors for use in high-risk areas

*For years, hygiene departments in hospitals and care facilities have been kept busy with containing infections caused by multi-resistant germs. It has been proven that construction materials such as floor coverings also have a considerable effect on the hygiene standards of healthcare facilities.*



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## **Krankenhaus Aichach**

Architect: a|sh sander.hofrichter  
architekten GmbH, Ludwigshafen  
Product: norament® 928 grano ed

## **nora® rubber floors can be fully disinfected**

As well as the extensive prevention and hygiene measures for patients and medical staff, infection controls are beginning to focus more and more on construction materials. Safe solutions are needed: *nora® rubber floor coverings are easy to clean and can be fully disinfected*, making them perfectly suitable for the usage in high-risk areas where surfaces need to be disinfected regularly. This is the result of a recent study by the Institute of Medical Microbiology and Hospital Hygiene at the University of Marburg. Prof. Reinier Mutters, Head of Hospital Hygiene at the institute, gives some background information on the test:

## **Which products were tested?**

Prof. Mutters: We stress-tested four different nora® rubber floor coverings with various surface structures on full disinfectability under real conditions. Accordingly nora® floor covering samples were tested with and without joints, i.e. installed butt joint-to-butt joint.

## What results were recorded?

Prof. Mutters: When tested, all nora<sup>®</sup> rubber floorings displayed a high reduction in the germs applied after the surface was disinfected. For all installation variants - whether jointed or butt joint-to-butt joint - we recorded reduction rates that go beyond the 5-log removal for disinfectant processing determined by the professional associations - the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Hygiene und Mikrobiologie [German Society for Hygiene and Microbiology] (DGHM) and the Association for Applied Hygiene (VAH).

The hygiene standard of all tested nora<sup>®</sup> rubber floor coverings can thus be classified as very high, making them suitable for use in high-risk areas. This is also specifically the case for the rubber floors with the one word as well as the structured surface.

## In your opinion, which kind of installation is more hygienic?

Prof. Dr. Mutters: *As a hygienist, I would evaluate the butt joint-to-butt joint installation as very positive, since this installation variant also offers a high standard of hygiene over a long period of time.*

With floor coverings that are not dimensionally stable, joints can burst open. As a result, unhygienic cracks form. The joints also get dirty more easily than the floor covering. The resulting build-up of bacteria can be avoided with the tight butt joint-to-butt joint installation.



### Interview with Prof. Renier Mutters,

Head of Hospital Hygiene at the Institute of Medical Microbiology and Hospital Hygiene at the University of Marburg, April 2016

Recommended by hygienists:

nora<sup>®</sup> rubber floorings



- Hygienic joint-free installation
- Simple and efficient cleaning due to a dense surface without coatings
- Visible good cleaning results
- Hospital wards stay in operation around the clock (24/7): No time-consuming and expensive recoating or post-joint-sealing
- Good indoor air quality thanks to reduced cleaning chemicals
- Excellent environmental compatibility: Free from PVC, phthalate plasticisers and halogens.



[www.blauer-engel.de/uz120](http://www.blauer-engel.de/uz120)



**DGNB**

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Nachhaltiges Bauen e.V.

# References

## Newly built hospital in Crailsheim



© Dirk Wilhelmy

“When examined under the microscope, the nora® rubber floors have the smoothest and most dense surface compared to other elastic floor coverings used in hospitals. This means that disinfectant residues can be easily removed even hours after an operation. The entire surface area of the rubber floor covering can also be easily disinfected. nora® floor coverings can be installed without joints and seams, which is a great advantage as joints can get dirty, bulge or develop tears over time, creating hygiene problems.”



**Thomas Schaff**, state-approved specialist in hospital hygiene in Crailsheim and Schwäbisch-Hall

## BGU Berufsgenossenschaftliche Unfallklinik, Frankfurt am Main



© Claus Langer

„Bei Böden in Krankenhäusern schaut man genau hin, ein tadelloses Erscheinungsbild ist hier extrem wichtig.“ Bei den in der BG Unfallklinik regelmäßig stattfindenden Begehungen durch das Gesundheitsamt gaben die nora® Böden nach Auskunft von Erich Noll, dem Leiter der Bauabteilung, noch nie Anlass zu Beanstandungen – weder im Hinblick auf die Hygiene noch auf die Optik.

„Die nora® Kautschukböden sehen nach Jahren noch hervorragend aus. Die Langzeiterfahrung zeigt uns, dass wir das richtige Produkt gewählt haben.“



**Erich Noll**, Leiter der Bauabteilung;  
BGU Berufsgenossenschaftliche Unfallklinik,  
Frankfurt am Main

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