



# SIKA AT WORK

## FLOORING FOR DFO HOMEBUSH SHOPPING CENTER, AUSTRALIA

FLOORING: Sikafloor®

BUILDING TRUST

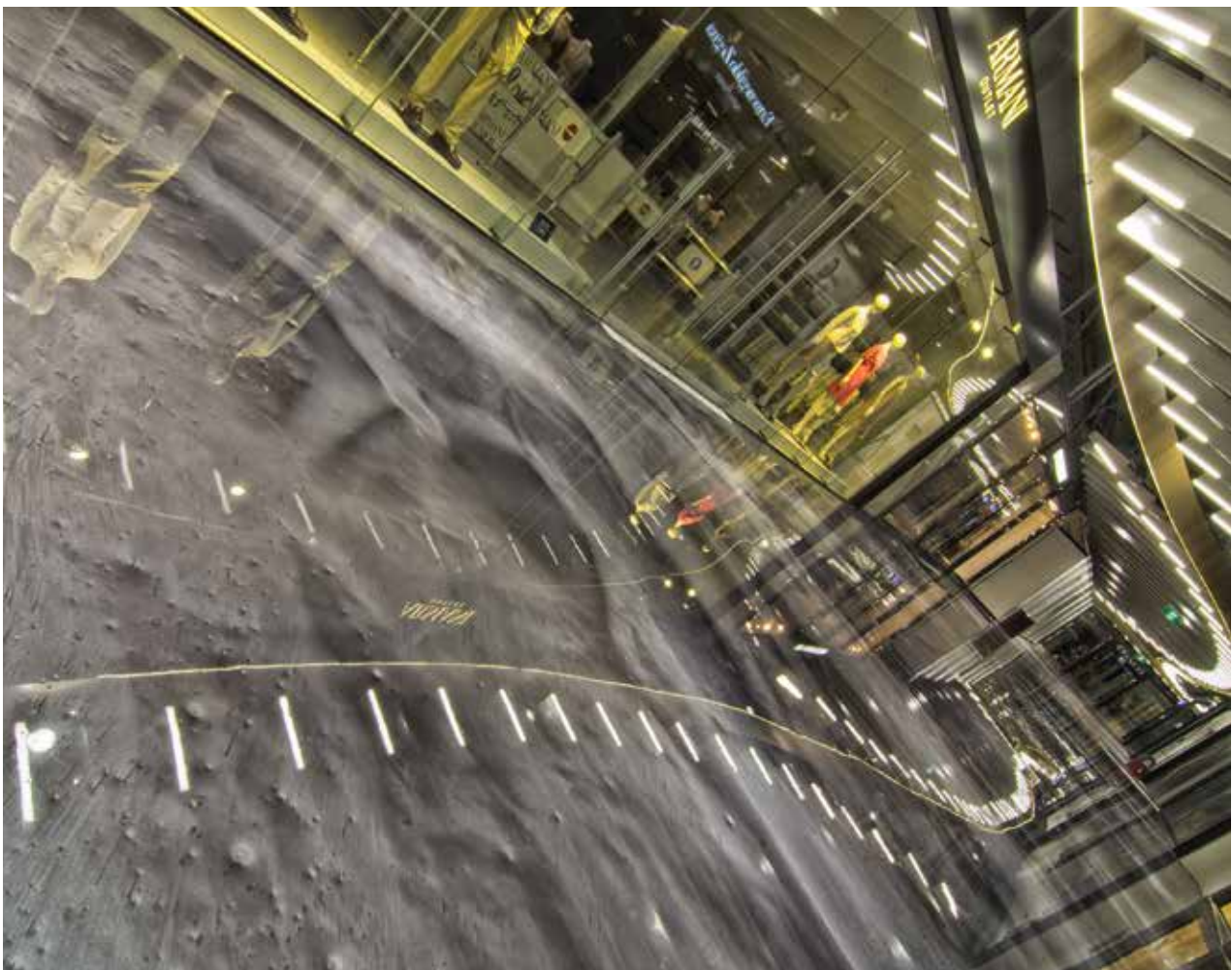


# ARTISTIC FLOORING SOLUTION FOR A SHOPPING CENTER

## PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The direct factory outlet shopping center, located in Homebush, 15 km from the Sydney CBD is a popular shopping destination for tourists and locals alike with over 80 specialty stores offering a range of products including home wares, clothing, electronics and furniture. The center is considered a shopping hot-spot where premium and well known fashion brands such as Hugo Boss, Armani Exchange, Burberry, TopShop and Calvin Klein all have stores within the complex.

DFO Homebush is open to the public 7 days, attracting tens of thousands of shoppers each week making the shopping center a busy area, especially during peak periods such as Christmas. Years of constant foot traffic resulted in the entire center requiring renovations.





Once mixed, Sikafloor®-160 was put down as a self-leveller at 3 – 4 mm in thickness. As the epoxy flowed and the 40-minute curing process began the shards settled and created the desired metallic cloud patterns with a translucent 3D effect.

Given the renovations were taking place during the busy Christmas period, the application of the flooring solution occurred during the evening after the center was closed. Despite this scheduling limitation, Firmstone were able to successfully complete this project within the set time frame and to the exact specification set out by the architect resulting in an extremely happy customer and a one of a kind shopping center floor.

#### PROJECT REQUIREMENTS

The unique project in January 2014 required a complete re-vamp of approximately 1200 m<sup>2</sup> worth of flooring within the center. Given the flooring would be located directly in premium and high end shop fronts, a durable yet very aesthetically appealing solution that tied in with the decorative theme of the surrounding store fascias was needed.

A key requirement for this project was that the same finish and effect that was applied to the flooring would also need to be applied to a 40 m long ramp at a slope of 1:40 leading into the center. This required special attention during the planning stages of the project. A challenge for this project was the application of the flooring while the center was still trading as well as having renovations carried out to other areas.

#### SIKA SOLUTION

Firmstone Flooring Specialists, with their extensive experience were sub-contracted by Mainbrace for this project. Before construction began, a timber mock-up of the flooring was made to ensure that the finish matched the architect's artists impression. Once this was approved, Sika and Firmstone began work on the floor.

Working in areas of 300 m<sup>2</sup>, the floor was vacuum ground before being primed with Sikafloor®-160, a 2-part solvent free, epoxy primer and binder used in past flooring systems such as the MCG and Perth Arena. Sikafloor®-160 was then mixed with the silver and grey metallic shards which would ultimately give the floor the desired metallic effect.



# DFO HOMEBUSH SHOPPING CENTER, AUSTRALIA



## PROJECT PARTICIPANTS

<b>Owner:</b>	Direct Factory Outlets Shopping Center
<b>Architect:</b>	The Buchan Group
<b>Contractors:</b>	Firmstone
<b>Organization:</b>	Sika Australia

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