

Newcastle Hospital Relies on GCP waterproofing

Preprufe® 300R and Bituthene® 3000 waterproofing protects UK hospital



Project	Newcastle Hospitals
Client	The Newcastle Upon Tyne Hospital Trust
Main Contractor	Laing O'Rourke
Consulting Engineer	WSP Consulting Engineers
Architect	Anshen & Allen
GCP Solution	Preprufe® 300R pre-applied waterproofing, Bituthene® waterproofing, Hydroduct® drainage sheets

Project Profile

Supporting a state-of-the-art hospital

A £300 million deal transforming health services in Newcastle involved moving all acute healthcare services from the Newcastle General Hospital site to a new, state-of-the-art facility in the Royal Victoria Infirmary and Freeman Hospital, effectively consolidating three sites into two. The hospital design project involved refurbishment to existing buildings in addition to the construction of new commercial buildings.

The plan comprised a new cancer and renal services center built to the rear of the existing Freeman Hospital, as well as a new 810-space multi-story car park. The development of the Royal Victoria Infirmary included a new clinical block, clinical support block, a children's unit, and an accident & emergency department.

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Waterproofing in a confined space

The hospital design specified waterproofing of basement areas to BS 8102 Grade 1 and 3, with membranes suitable for application on basement walls and below grade slabs. The chosen membrane needed to be suitable for application in a confined space and applied to permanent formwork.

Drainage was also required to manage any hydrostatic pressure on the basement walls. The commercial building design was complicated by expansion joints, which are always high-risk areas below ground.

In addition, one of the hospital sites was located on a sloping site with a stepped building, which required semi-basement waterproofing of a grade 3 area. The area also contained a retaining wall that required waterproofing.

Delivering complete waterproofing protection

To meet the requirements of the hospital design, GCP provided both Preprufe®300R and Bituthene®3000 membranes for the basement walls in the grade 1 (multi story car park) and grade 3 basements to protect against the effects of gas penetration.

Preprufe® delivered a pre-applied waterproofing solution, applicable to below slabs and on confined basement walls. Bituthene®3000, a self-adhesive waterproofing membrane, was post-applied to areas constructed with removable formwork, followed by Hydroduct® drainage sheets to protect the membrane.

In addition to supplying products, GCP provided a great deal of design and field support that consisted of site visits and on-site support, plus technical and CAD service, since the project contained complex detailing and required problem solving at each step.

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