

2003

## Hilton Gardens Hotel Indianapolis, IN

Renovating a 1910, 16-story downtown Indianapolis office building posed numerous challenges when **TRI-CON Lightweight Floors, Inc.**, an Arcadia, Indiana-based Licensed Applicator of Hacker Industries, Inc., was awarded the opportunity to bid the installation of Firm-Fill® Gypsum Concrete Underlayments for the Hilton Gardens Hotel in Indianapolis.



Throughout the bidding process, TRI-CON Lightweight Floors and Hacker Industries, Inc. worked together to pre-engineer and pre-plan practical solutions that addressed the numerous logistical challenges of the job, including the tight construction schedule, difficult downtown location, poor subfloors, and building height...16 stories.

The first challenge in the bidding process was finding a solution to overcome the dry, porous, 8"m concrete subfloor with 1 1/2" wood embedded sleepers containing numerous cracks, crevices and holes. TRI-CON worked with Hacker Industries, Inc. to develop and install a specially designed floor preparation product to cover the existing floor, sealing the old surface. **Firm-Fill® 4010** was chosen as the gypsum concrete underlayment of choice due to its high compressive strength and quick drying capabilities, allowing the renovation to stay on schedule. In addition, Firm-Fill® 4010, like other Firm-Fill® Gypsum Concrete Underlayments, can be poured before drywall, allowing scheduling flexibility.

One of the first priorities on the job was creating a solution for the height of the building. This is where pre-engineering was extremely helpful. "After studying the building and floor plans, we decided to begin our work on the 16th floor, working down to the 4th," explained Dave Bailie, owner of TRI-CON Lightweight Floors. "The hose was run up the outside of the building affixing it to the frame of the buck hoist so it could be quickly and safely released from the frame as each floor was poured." TRI-CON'S pre-planning allowed the crews to finish each floor at a stairwell and easily move down to the next floor.

The final obstacle was the tight, downtown location as the building was located on a busy intersection with limited access and the concern of neighboring buildings. "Using a 'just-in-time' delivery schedule, coordinated through Hacker Industries, Inc., we were able to stage the deliveries to minimize storage space," added Bailie. Extra safety precautions were taken when operating the equipment and the crew's attention to detail allowed TRI-CON to work seamlessly within the confined space.

With all the careful planning and invaluable solutions, TRI-CON Lightweight Floors, Inc. was able to install 96,400 square feet of Firm-Fill® 4010 in 13 floors



in just eight days. Bailie added, "the efficiency of our pre-planning not only allowed us to meet our client's goals, but we were able to save time and money while providing the same quality product and application."

Sheil Saxxon, general contractor on the renovation, was extremely pleased with final product commenting, "We threw some pretty tough obstacles at TRI-CON Lightweight Floors, but they always came back with a efficient solution to help us stay on track with the renovation."

**FIRM-FILL® 4010** floor underlayment is designed for thin capping of concrete in new construction or over damaged concrete in renovation projects. FIRM-FILL® 4010 floor underlayment's high strength and superior bonding characteristics will provide concrete floors with new life and exceptional surface hardness, offering compressive strengths ranging from 4000 to 5200 psi.

| Job Highlights         |                                  |
|------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Owner:                 | First IND, LLC                   |
| General Contractor:    | Sheil Saxxon                     |
| Applicator:            | TRI-CON Lightweight Floors, Inc. |
| Project:               | Hilton Garden Inn                |
| Assembly:              | Concrete with Wood Sleepers      |
| Application:           | FIRM-FILL® 4010                  |
| Square Feet Installed: | 96,400                           |