Historic Eaton Block and Eaton Hotel
Wichita, Kansas

Wichita, Kansas, 1887. The legacy of the historic Eaton block began when entrepreneur John Carey built the magnificent Carey Hotel on the corner of Douglas and Fourth Street for $100,000 dollars, providing the grandest lodging accommodations available east of Denver. The hotel was made famous in December, 1900, when prohibitionist zealot Carry Nation entered the lounge hurling rocks and metal, destroying crystal, mirrors and the pride of the establishment, a mural of Cleopatra at the Bath. Shortly thereafter, the property sold to Ben Eaton. The renamed Eaton Hotel existed for over 80 years changing hands many times, while still catering to the evolving commerce of Kansas.

Wichita, Kansas, 1999. After purchasing the historic Eaton block, the City of Wichita and Key Construction, Inc. undertook a $15.5 million dollar rehabilitation and redevelopment effort to revitalize Eaton Square and the Eaton Hotel. Dynamic Drywall, Inc., a Licensed Applicator of Hacker Floor Underlayments, was awarded renovation responsibility over the entire assembly, from installing structural framing, floor and roof joists, insulation, drywall and plywood subfloors, to finishing off the project by pouring 28,200 square feet of FIRM-FILL® Gypsum Concrete. This application of FIRM-FILL® Gypsum Concrete creates smooth, level floors ready for installation of finished floor goods. The end result was 115 completely unique and prestigious apartments with over 40 different floor plans, and 30,000 square feet of commercial space, doubling the residential population of Old Town Wichita.

FIRM-FILL® Gypsum Concrete is a cementitious floor underlayment designed for use in multi-family housing to satisfy acoustical ratings and fire codes, making it the perfect choice for this renovation project. Roger Roper, owner of Dynamic Drywall, Inc., feels they were chosen for this project based on their access to Hacker Floor Underlayments, and their ability to take on multiple tasks in the renovation, allowing control over the schedule for a timely project completion. If your construction needs call for quality gypsum floor underlayments, contact Hacker Industries, Inc. for product information, or for a Licensed Applicator in your area, (800) 642-3455.

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