



# SIKA AT WORK

## EDINBURGH AIRPORT SCOTLAND

COATINGS: Sika® Unitherm® Platinum

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## **SIKA'S FAST-DRYING FIRE PROTECTIVE COATING ENSURES NEW AIRPORT BUILDING'S READY FOR TAKE-OFF.**

A high performance, fast-drying, fire protection coating system from global building product manufacturer, Sika, ensured steel supports used for the construction of a temporary building at Scotland's busiest airport arrived on site undamaged and ready for immediate installation.

Sika® Unitherm® Platinum is a one coat, factory-applied system that offers high mechanical strength and impact resistance. It was specified for the building of a temporary immigration hall at Edinburgh Airport. Working to a tight deadline, the main contractors required a fast-drying, fire protection coating system to ensure the steel supports to which it was applied could be transferred to site and erected without the need for extensive surface repairs, thus providing a time and cost effective installation.

Sika® Unitherm® Platinum, the first fire protection system in Europe to be tested according to the latest standard EN 13381-8:210, was ideal for the task. Solvent-free, Sika® Unitherm® Platinum is easily applied with standard airless spray equipment; requires no reinforcement, cures rapidly to a very tough and damage resistant finish, and is ready for handling the next day. Unlike other fire-resistant coating systems which can take up to seven days to fully-dry, Sika® Unitherm® Platinum takes just 24-hours to cure.

Its anti-abrasion properties mean Sika® Unitherm® Platinum has a high tolerance to normal transportation methods and can be shipped without damage during the service life of the structure to which it's applied. Products treated by other coating systems can require as much as 30% "touch up" upon arrival at site, adding considerably to construction time and expense. Poor resistance to transportation wear and tear means certain coating systems can only be applied on site - a definite disadvantage for the Edinburgh project as work was carried out in March with weather at its most unpredictable.

Sika® Unitherm® Platinum's excellent corrosion protection properties withstand high humidity and severe environmental conditions. It can be applied with or without primer and top coat for indoor and outdoor use and doesn't require encapsulation once erected. This characteristic proved extremely useful during the Edinburgh Airport works programme.

It allowed the steel to be left open to the elements, therefore speeding up the construction process as onsite work could continue around the supports which remained undamaged due to Sika® Unitherm® Platinum's outstanding protective coating.

Bryan Cathcart, Plant Manager at structural steel manufacturers, BHC, sub-contractors for the Edinburgh Airport project, commented: "We were working to a very tight timeframe which meant the steel had to be delivered to site in designated time slots, ready for installation. There was no margin for error; hence the fire protection coating system had to be fast-drying and resistant to wear and tear.

"It was a pressure situation and we needed a product that was a proven performer - Sika® Unitherm® Platinum was just the product. Once it arrived, it was ready to go, which minimised onsite disruption. Sika® Unitherm® Platinum's specification was key to the project's success." As well as its high-performance fire and corrosion protection properties, Sika® Unitherm® Platinum provides a coating surface which is quick and easy to clean with high-pressure water as it contains fire and corrosive properties which are unaffected by water.

Approved with the CE marking as an international product, Sika® Unitherm® Platinum ensured Edinburgh Airport's temporary immigration hall - an area of high-importance for any major transport hub - was built to deadline and the client's full satisfaction.

**For further information call 0800 112 3865.**

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