

Deterioration Halted at Halton

Halton Lea Multi Storey Car Park near Runcorn has undergone extensive refurbishment works to provide a more-user friendly parking experience and to improve the structural serviceability of the car park as part of its long term maintenance strategy.

Opened in 1972, Halton Lea Multi Storey car park formerly known as Runcorn Shopping Village is a medium sized shopping centre. It was the first 'American style' shopping centre to be built in the UK and at the time was one of the largest in Europe. Wear and tear has meant the 'yellow' car park which is one of the centres four car parks was the first to have a substantial makeover.

The works

To ensure that as much of the car park as possible was kept open during refurbishments and to minimise disruption to users, no more than 40% of all parking bays were taken out of action at any one time.

Many of the materials used were manufactured and supplied in house by USL StructureCare's sister company Nufins. Structural repairs were carried out using Deck Repair Rapid and Nucem HB Mortar, both rapid setting materials which are designed for the repair and restoration of spalled or damaged concrete.

The concrete throughout the car park was coated with Covercrete – a high quality, environmentally friendly, light-reflective coating that protects against carbonation and chloride attack. The coating was applied in white, which significantly enhanced the level of light in the car park and provided a dramatic aesthetic upgrade. Covercrete is unique to the USL group and was again manufactured in house by Nufins, a USL Group company.

To arrest deterioration of the reinforcing bar and afford protection for the future, it was decided to apply a Migrating Corrosion Inhibitor to the whole deck area. Protectosil CIT by BASF was chosen due to its ease of application and compatibility with the following deck coatings.



Before



After

All decks and ramps were prepared, made good and coated with products from BASF's Conideck Range to provide protection against chloride and water ingress. The fully elastomeric Conideck 2205 was used on the exposed roof decks and the Conideck 2257 fast curing system was used as an intermediate deck coating on covered levels.

The refurbishment project has made a radical difference to the visual appeal, efficiency and safety of the car park, leaving a bright, clean and inviting place to park. Customers will be able to enjoy a vastly improved and very positive car parking experience, and the shopping centre management are proud of the car park's new look and feel.



Before



After