

## Merck sought a flooring system which can handle ESD discharge to protect their equipment



**Products used for Merck Electronics Plant, Catalonia, Spain: Stonclad® UR and Stonkote AT5**

### A Surging Industry

Sensing an opportunity for growth in the ever-expanding health sciences market, German pharmaceutical company Merck has invested more than €14,5 million in the expansion of its Electronics plant in Catalonia, Spain. This investment is aimed at meeting the demand for certain biotechnological products used in today's pharmaceutical practices.

### Clamping Down on Static

For many pharmaceutical facilities, it is crucial to control static electricity. Humans can feel a static charge of 2,500 volts. Many production facilities that produce pills, utilize ESD floors to protect employees. In a worst case scenario, a static charge can cause loss of life due to explosions. Fine powders used in pill manufacturing in the pharmaceutical industry, can become combustible. An arc of static electricity can ignite and cause large explosions in these environments.

Merck sought a flooring system that can mitigate ESD surges while also being highly resistant to the heavy foot traffic of daily operations and the inevitable chemical spill.

Such a surface would also help Merck meet necessary Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP) requirements.

Plant managers tested several flooring systems that ultimately failed multiple chemical splash tests. That's when Merck turned to Stonhard.

### Stonhard Takes Charge

Realizing the client's needs, Stonhard installation experts recommended the Stonclad UR polyurethane mortar system, along with Stonkote AT5 sealant.

Stonclad UR is a seamless flooring system that offers superior static control to protect sensitive equipment while also providing a slip, chemical, and impact resistant surface. An added bonus: it's also easy to clean and maintain.

Stonkote AT5 is a four-component static control epoxy coating that is formulated to improve cleanability and further help control static charge generation. Stonkote AT5 can easily be applied and hardens to an attractive gloss finish for a beautiful flooring surface.

Stonhard installed 1.200 m<sup>2</sup> floorsystem in the multi-floor building, turning the facility back over to managers eager to restart production.



### THE STONHARD DIFFERENCE

Stonhard is the unprecedented world leader in manufacturing and installing high performance polymer floor, wall and lining systems. Stonhard maintains 300 Territory Managers and 175 application crews worldwide who will work with you on design specification, project management, final walk through and service after the sale. Stonhard's single-source warranty covers both products and installation.



Pharmaceutical industry



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