

Hygiene and atmosphere go hand in hand



A number of years ago, a new office facility was needed for the development of chips in the Dutch city of Nijmegen. The original design of the building to house this facility was expanded to include a complete conference centre, a hotel, housing, shops, sports facilities, bars and restaurants. Now in 2007, the FiftyTwoDegrees building towers above the surrounding area in a prominent location in Nijmegen. It derives its name from being situated at the 52nd degree of latitude.

The exceptional structure was designed by [Mecanoo Architects](#). The tower is 17 storeys high. The lower levels are 10 degrees out of plumb, as a result of which the building makes an inviting gesture to the city. This kink in the building required special solutions for stability.

While the building has a cold appearance from the outside due to the aluminium and expanded metal façades, the interior is the opposite and radiates warmth. The floor finish is the basis for several areas. For instance in the restaurant, the place where hygiene and atmosphere go hand in hand, the architect has chosen extra special flooring. The [Bolidtop® 525](#) system has been enriched with reflective flakes. These reflective flakes create a dazzling effect! The same look has been extended into the [kitchen](#) of the [restaurant](#). In the kitchen the anti-slip version of the [Bolidtop® 525](#) system (also with reflective flakes!) offers the right balance between practical requirements, safety and hygiene, facilitating HACCP management!