

Location Hibiscus Coast, Auckland, New Zealand

Architects Econo Built Systems Ltd

Engineers Econo Built Systems Ltd

Construction Econo Built Systems Ltd

Fit-Out Econo Built Systems Ltd

Total Cost Approximately US\$2 million

Completed March 2004

Too Tough Even For Beckham's Boot.

After giving USG Powerscape's new extremely tough wall linings a thorough pounding, senior soccer players at Kingsway School reckoned they were, "too tough even for Beckham to bend."



The players lined up to put USG Powerscape to the test by repeatedly kicking soccer balls at the new Rocklinings in their recently completed gymnasium constructed by Econo Built. According to Robert Liebert, Director of Sport at Kingsway School, the USG Powerscape® Rocklinings took a considerable pounding and didn't show any sign of damage. "We wouldn't normally condone

this kind of treatment, but we did agree to the test. I have to say I'm very impressed with the resilience of these linings. There are no signs of cracking at all and no dents. And that's very comforting because those kids really did put a lot of power into their kicks. It certainly is comforting to know that the new gym will be able to stand up to rough treatment."

Solid performance

USG Powerscape® Rocklinings are a new generation of wall and ceiling linings developed by USG Corporation, North America's largest linings manufacturer. Utilising revolutionary Fiberock® technology, the board has a high-density consistency, bonded all the way through. This gives it incredible structural integrity with the added benefit of a smooth surface with no face paper. It is prepared with an acrylic surface coating which is ideal for painting, papering, laminating with tiles or finishing by any other method.

The patented combination of cellulosic fibres and gypsum plaster gives USG Powerscape® Rocklinings extra stiffness, unrivalled impact resistance, and significantly greater joint strength than plasterboard linings. Because there is no surface paper to scratch or scuff, the surface is significantly more resistant to everyday knocks; and much simpler to repair if damaged.

Frank Rientjes, Quantity Surveyor at Econo Built, said the company recommended USG Powerscape® Rocklinings because, "Many other so called 'high-impact' wall linings were just not hard enough for our requirements. USG Powerscape Ultra-Mesh meets our criteria for high impact areas. It also allows us to deliver the best possible result for our clients in terms of durability and long term savings in repairs and maintenance."

Cost competitive

"Combining USG Powerscape Ultra-Mesh with other abuse resistant fit-out products, keeps our costs competitive, yet allows us to create an environment that will be able to withstand the rigours commonly encountered in a school gymnasium." Whilst it was more expensive than plasterboard, Frank added, "We still discovered that USG Powerscape Ultra-Mesh Rocklinings allowed us to deliver our client's needs at a price comparable with fibre cement."

"Actually, there was no difference in terms of cost and time for stopping and painting. There was a small increase in the cost of fixing due to its heavier weight, however, this was the same as we would expect for fibre cement."

According to Frank, Econo Built were extremely happy with the result at Kingsway School and fully intended using the product in future projects.

USG Powerscape Health® Rocklinings are suitable for all high-traffic, high-abuse areas. They are recommended for use in buildings which are subject to extreme wear and tear - such as public amenities, institutions, schools, hospitals, commercial buildings, retail and display. Additionally, they are excellent at suppressing noise, and ideal for areas requiring a fire rated system.

USG Powerscape Rocklinings have two tapered sides which makes them compatible for use adjacent to plasterboard linings of equivalent thickness. One innovative feature of the Rocklining material is that sheet ends can be easily tapered on site allowing all joints to be finished flat and strong.



Australian Distributor:

Powerscape Pty Ltd

Phone 1 800 226 215

www.powerscape.com.au

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Superior test results

In tests carried out to current and proposed international standards, new USG Powerscape Health® Ultra-Mesh made a clean sweep for toughness and impact resistance. USG Powerscape Health® Ultra-Mesh was rated highest in both hard and soft body impact tests, and in joint strength. The tests compared USG Powerscape Health® with both fibre cement and plasterboard.



Screw fix directly to the USG Powerscape Lining

A 42" Flat Panel Television weighing 30kg can be hung using 2 screws or 2 double nail picture hooks. In the photograph above the mounting bracket required four screws, which were used.

Another great advantage is that USG Powerscape® Rocklinings allow the placement of wall fixtures, such as shelving or flat screen display monitors, virtually anywhere irrespective of stud location.

In terms of workability, USG Powerscape® Rocklinings are extremely user-friendly. They are more rigid and easier to manage than other boards. They can be cut and shaped using normal woodworking tools onsite, and can be joined with standard plasterboard jointing compounds. They are safe to work with having none of the known health risks associated with asbestos or respirable crystalline silica. And they are an environmentally-sound product, utilising 95% recycled materials.

Key Product Features - USG Powerscape Health®

- Four product thicknesses and suitable for interior linings in wet and dry areas.
- Exceptional impact resistance; USG Powerscape Health® is at least as strong as 9mm fibre cement and scrim reinforced plasterboard, and twice the strength of same thickness regular plasterboard. Powerscape Health® Ultra-Mesh, much stronger again, is in a class of its own.
- Joints easily to provide monolithic finishes.
- Screws, nails, glues and staples easily. Cut to size virtually dust free with multi-score and snap. Hand tools and powered standard wood working tools can also be used when using a dust mask.
- Two way fire rated systems up to 60 minutes (single layer) and 120 minutes (2 layers).
- High mass gives superior noise control, including inter-tenancy rated systems.
- Excellent substrate for paint and tiles, and a number of abrasion resistant coatings.



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