

University of Utah Basketball Practice Facility

Salt Lake City, UT



Project Profile (2015)



Project Summary

University of Utah's basketball teams were in need of a new practice facility in order to avoid scheduling conflicts with the school's other teams. A new facility was built that was able to house two basketball courts. Among other amenities, the basketball courts were to be a high quality wood flooring on top of a concrete flat slab on grade.

Slabs on grade can present challenges with shrinkage, but often it is curling caused by shrinkage that presents the biggest challenge. Especially in arid climates, the top layer will dry out faster than the bottom, leading to the top of the concrete shrinking more. This differential shrinkage causes a curling effect at the joints and edges. To place flooring on top of the concrete requires significant grinding and delays in construction timeline and can even lead to expensive flooring failures. Reducing shrinkage and eliminating joints is the best method to avoid curling problems.

With PREVent-C and 4 lbs/CY macro fibers, the entire 14,000 sqft of concrete slab was able to be poured continuously with no joints. The FF and FL (floor flatness and levelness) numbers were twice as stringent as required by specifications and no grinding was needed. Rick Hutchings, the Concrete Superintendent with Okland Construction, stated that throughout his 35+ years and many dozens of wood floors over concrete slabs, he had never had the flatness and absence of complaints from the wood floor installers like he experienced on this project.

Owner: University of Utah

Designer: Populous/Elliott Workgroup

Contractor: Okland Construction

Ready-Mix Producer: Staker Parson Companies (Oldcastle)

Products: PREVent-C®500 Admixture



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