



Hempacore[®] improves passenger safety

The Southern Terminus in Vigo, Spain, is one of the most complex civil works undertaken this decade. Built in the centre of the city, the station includes 180 retail outlets over a number of levels, as well as an underground train terminus for the AVE high-speed trains running along Galicia's Atlantic seaboard.

The station was commissioned by a major Spanish railway management company, which develops rail infrastructure and manages rail traffic in Spain. Due to the high levels of city centre pollution, they needed a coating system that would provide both long-lasting protection against the weather and pollution. In addition, passenger safety is of prime importance to them, and the coating system also had to improve fire safety for the thousands of commuters and shoppers who use the train terminus and shops each day.

Our coating system included Hempacore One, an intumescent coating that enables steel to maintain its load-bearing capacity for up to two hours during a fire. The system was completed with a long-lasting gloss coat that provides excellent protection against weather and pollution. The work was completed in 2015.

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At a glance

Coating system	Epoxy primer Hempacore 43600 Hempathane HS 55810
Total litres	23,000L of Hempacore 43600 3,000L of topcoat

The challenge

The Southern Terminus in Vigo is part of the Atlantic Axis high-speed train line that connects the two main cities of Vigo and A Coruña in the Galicia region of Spain. A complex structure built over a number of levels, the building includes more than 8,000m² of steel. This steel needs a coating system that can provide long-lasting protection against the weather and city centre pollution. In addition, they put commuter safety at the heart of everything they do, and they wanted a coating system that would help improve fire safety for the thousands of people who use the building each day.

The solution

Our Hempacore intumescent coatings are used on the station's indoor and outdoor structural steel to protect commuters during a fire. When exposed to high temperatures, the coatings produce an insulating layer of carbon char that enables the steel to retain its load-bearing capacity for up to two hours, giving people valuable time to evacuate. Hempacore One FD, a fast-drying version of Hempacore One, is specified for in-shop application.

The steel structures are finished with Hempathane HS, a long-lasting low-VOC enamel coating with a beautiful gloss finish and excellent colour retention. Approved under the Network Rail Specification in the UK for both new building and repairs, the coating will ensure the Southern Terminus is protected from corrosion and pollution for years to come.



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