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With a mission to celebrate the history, grandeur and significance of sports in American culture, the materials chosen for the Sports Museum of America, which opened in New York City in April 2008, were equally grand.

Like the museum itself, the striking terrazzo floors recognize both the past and the future, with Venetian cement terrazzo, epoxy terrazzo and the latest technology—low VOC, flowable grade, polymer modified cement terrazzo, MAPEI's **Terratop**®. Combining epoxy and **Terratop**® allowed the design team to increase the use of terrazzo from 600 square feet to 12,000 square feet.

In the lobby and retail areas, the original design called for bright colors spanning larger sections and smaller areas with intense color schemes. Anticipating heavy foot traffic in these areas, epoxy terrazzo was considered for its durability. Budget constraints prompted the idea for another, more cost effective option: utilizing epoxy materials in the areas with vibrant palettes and **Terratop**® in the larger spanning areas.

The focal point of the floor—and epoxy terrazzo design—is a compass, with a laser-cut zinc plate center with spokes pointing

(continued)

SPORTS MUSEUM OF AMERICA New York, New York



Owner: Sports Museum of America

Architect: Beyer Blinder Belle

General Contractor: Structure Tone

Terrazzo Contractor: Port Morris Tile & Marble Corp.

Craftworkers: International Union of Bricklayers
and Allied Craftworkers, Local 7,
New York/New Jersey

Terrazzo Area: 12,000 square feet

Construction Period: March 2008 – April 2008

Special Project Features: Combination of epoxy
and MAPEI **Terratop**® terrazzo
installation system

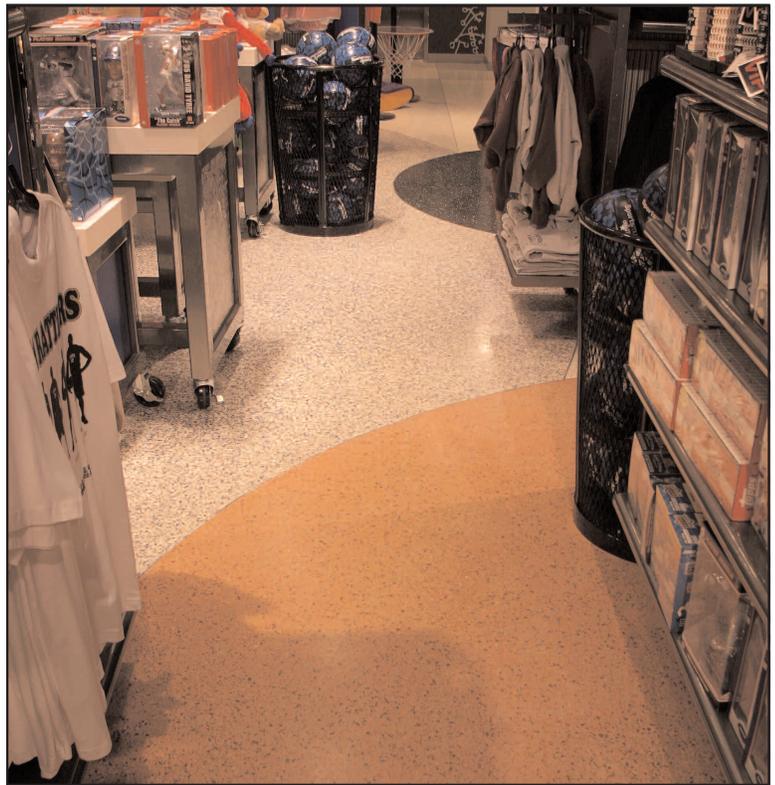
to sites of various sports stadiums. Included in the compass are 28 floor lights flush with the finished epoxy terrazzo.

MAPEI's **Terratop**® terrazzo installation system offered the perfect solution for the retail areas. The quick set and grind times of flowable cement terrazzo allow large areas of floor to be poured and ground more quickly.

To address color concerns, Port Morris Tile & Marble of Bronx, New York came up with the idea of tinting the binder material in the **Terratop**® sections with glass chips and aggregate. Their careful experimentation paid off, with the end result producing a warm gray binder with burgundy red tinted aggregate.

The professionalism of the terrazzo contractor was an equally important ingredient, says architect Michael Tucker of Beyer Blinder Belle, "Working with the contractor was great. They were time intensive pros."

The fast completion time and significant cost savings with the **Terratop**® terrazzo system scored two big points for the Sports Museum of America.



Because of the quick set and grind times of the Terratop system, merchandise was placed in the retail area almost immediately following the installation.



BAC craftworkers from Port Morris Tile & Marble first used MAPEI's Quickpatch for floor leveling. They then placed a combination of 1/8-inch, 3/8-inch and 1/4-inch zinc strips into panels ready for the matrix/binder and broadcasting of aggregate.

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International
Masonry Institute

42 East Street, Annapolis, MD 21401

800-IMI-0988

Fax 301-261-2855

www.imiweb.org

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