

## Case Study

# Manatee Technical Institute



### Details

Location: Sarasota, FL

Description: 5,000 square-feet of

Polyflor Expona

Flooring Choice:

Polyflor Expona light and dark  
contour

### Project Needs

Durable

Easy to Clean

Attractive

### Project Benefits

Wears well/durable

Easy to clean

Attractive

Hygienic

# Expona Flooring Turns Heads Inside MTI's New \$44 Million Dollar Building

The Manatee Technical Institute (MTI) State Route 70 Campus is a post-secondary adult, career and technical education center located in Bradenton, Fla., near Sarasota. MTI offers everything from career prep and continuing education to community training, adult general education, and enrichment programs. The career preparation programs offered by the Institute allow adults to get the training they need to get a job or start a new career path.

The Human Services division, which includes advanced esthetics, barbering and cosmetology, facials, and nails for licensure, is located in a new building that opened in January 2013.

"Human Services are only a fraction of the programs that are offered in this building," said Sarah Colandro, Director of Interior Design with Fawley Bryant Architects, who served as the designer for this project. "More than 2,000 students a year are expected to be served in the new 215,000 square foot building, which cost approximately \$44 million."

"The whole building is extremely high tech," said Allison Sapp, owner of Florida Surfaces Resource, LLC, the company that provided the flooring located in Human Services areas of the new building. Florida Surfaces Resource, LLC is a trusted resource in the Florida design community and represents Ecore Commercial Flooring products in the Sunshine State.

Expona is manufactured by Polyflor, which is one of five innovative brands that includes Everlast, QT, ECO98, and ECOsurfaces, distributed by ECORE Commercial Flooring, a company where recycling meets original thinking. The high tech look of the light and dark contour Expona Stone and Material colors used are designed for use in heavy commercial areas.

"We were looking for a high-tech looking, durable, and easy to maintain floor for the cosmetology, nail, hair, and facial labs," said Colandro. "These areas are open to the public, so we wanted the department to have the look

of a working salon. In addition to the great aesthetics, the Expona flooring we chose also has chemical-resistant qualities that make the clean-up of hair and nail products possible and easy for students and staff."

"We had to provide testing that could demonstrate which Polyflor product could support the chemicals and dyes that would be used in this building," said Sapp. "We went through a lengthy period, where we provided material for testing."

"MTI wanted something really interesting, and Expona fits that bill," said Sapp. "It has a non-vinyl look. The end users are very happy with the results. One of the instructors actually took time to come up to us and express her satisfaction with the floor."

