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NFIC *focus*



AN EDUCATIONAL RESOURCE FOR THE
NATURAL FIBER INDUSTRY.
SERVING THE USA AND CANADA
LEARN MORE AT WWW.NFICNET.COM

Growing Demand For Certified Natural Fiber Installers

NFIC is happy to announce the certification of over 50 new NFIC Certified Installers within the United States and Canada since January 2015.



To find a certified installer in the United States, visit: <http://nficnet.com/cerified-installers-in-the-us/> and to find a certified installer in Canada, visit: <http://nficnet.com/certified-installers-in-canada/>.



There is a Campaign for Wool that started in 2014 by the Prince of Wales. It is a 5 year project to educate consumers about the fibers unique natural benefits.

This campaign is receiving support from Retailers, Fashion Designers, Manufacturers, Woolgrowers, etc.

Their aim is to reconnect consumers with the versatility of wool from the luxury of the appearance to the safety and comfort of natural carpet. The campaign is having great success world wide.

This information is received from “The Woolmark Company”



Project Profile



There's something new underfoot at the Perot

Historic theater gets an update with new carpet, aisle lighting

By: Aaron Brand - Texarkana Gazette

If you stepped into the Perot Theatre in the past week-and-a-half, you may have spied something unusual: a carpet-less floor where Perot patrons and staff alike walk to and fro. The Perot is receiving an underfoot makeover, which means the old carpet, installed in 1980, was pulled up and discarded to make way for the new. Until it could be installed, rolls and rolls of Axminster carpet, waiting to be unrolled, sat on the Perot stage where dancers, actors and singers unleash their talents on an audience.

While the work is underway, the process exposes the yellow pine hardwood flooring in such areas as the mezzanine, giving a glimpse of both Perot history and the fine work that went into its construction decades ago in 1924.

Workers affiliated with Natural Fiber Installers Certification have been in town for the installation because they specialize in big, prestigious jobs like this one. They were here about a year ago to size up the job. The carpet itself was manufactured in England.

The work comes at a lull in the Perot schedule, with John Tartaglia's "ImaginOcean" marked for March 31 and April 1 showings. It took a while to get the paperwork together and fit the Perot schedule with the NFIC workers' schedule.

"The carpet itself had to be milled over in London and shipped, and shipping took nearly a month to get it over," Conry said. Bloomsburg is the manufacturer.

The carpet must match throughout the auditorium, he explained. It's also been manufactured to look exactly like the carpet we've seen before at the Perot.

"They were able to measure the spaces and keeping in mind what the pattern was going to do and how it would have to join, that all went into the calculations of how much carpet we had to have," Conry said.

Apart from the carpet beneath the seats in the orchestra level, the carpet is being replaced throughout the theater. It's also being placed where it was pulled when railings were installed in the balcony a few years ago.

Because the balcony steps are oddly configured with slight differences, the carpet installation plan will try to make them more navigable to the eye and feet. "We're going to take the blue from the pattern and do one step, and then do the next step in the pattern and alternate that process up and down the steps," Crissman said. This approach should make the steps easier to see. Over the years, a few tumbles have befallen people on the balcony steps.

The replacement was needed. The carpet was in bad shape with seams coming capart, a trip hazard. Parts were threadbare. But the job should be complete before the big shows ahead.

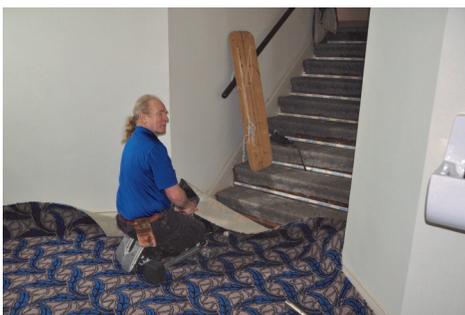
"It's going to get a lot of traffic right away," Crissman said. P.J. Arthur and Nate Hall, associates with NFIC, say this Perot job poses particular challenges. The job is about 2,100 to 2,200 square yards. That's not a big job typically, but the way the Perot is configured makes it more involved. "It's all cut up. It's all stairs. It's all hallways," Arthur said, adding, "You can't count on any one thing being the same anywhere else."

Hall says the stairs are different heights, different widths and different depths in the same flight. That wouldn't pass a building code now, but that wasn't the case when the Perot was built, he said. "That is a big challenge because the pattern of the carpet is the same. Every foot is a pattern, and the stairs are changing," Hall said. But they'll circumvent that issue with the way they manage the alternating between blue carpet and the patterned carpet.

Arthur is impressed with the Perot's condition, considering its age. "I think as old as it is, it's done very well. You can't expect it to be much different than it is," he said.

Read the entire article at <http://trahc.org/news-and-releases/2020-theres-something-new-underfoot-at-the-perohistoric-theater-gets-an-update-with-new-carpet-aisle-lighting>

On the Net: TRAHC.org.





One of the many challenges

we all face in the carpet installation world is regardless of how many emails, letters and phone calls we make, the documentation trail is often sadly lacking.

For example, on a recent project, the flooring installer complained he had been told by the General Contractor he had to install carpet in conditions he knew were wrong. The rolls of carpet had been stored in sub-zero conditions and while several rolls had been placed on site the day before, the carpet had not properly acclimate. Two months after the installation had been completed, I was contacted by the owner and architect that they were unhappy with seams in a very complex pattern. That was the first time I knew we had a challenge.

The majority of flooring contractors are easily intimidated by General Contractor project managers. It isn't a question of "manhood" but rather a question of money. On the other side of that coin, when the installation is compromised, those project managers often have convenient memories leaving the flooring contractor financially responsible for fixing the problem. The lure of the next job or the promise of quickly passing through the next change order, all seem to disappear.

Job conditions are seldom perfect, but they need to at least be in the acceptable range. We live in a digital world and with smart phones and other mobile technology, you can record approvals while taking pictures and videos. If the GC wants the installer to install the carpet in adverse conditions, his voice approval or signature should be all you need to properly document the challenge and get on with the installation.

The old saying that a picture is worth a thousand words works in every carpet installation.

By Mark Thomann, A Friend of the Industry

Mark Thomann Bio: Director of Historic Preservation

Mark is a certified instructor for the American Institute of Architects teaching courses on performance backing systems, performance testing, carpet constructions, environmental issues as well as the history of the American carpet industry. Mark's unique experiences often stimulate a historical as well as technical approach towards environmental issues and the impact of flooring products within the interior furnishings industry. Mark's expertise has been singled out in numerous industry publications.

Mark has been an industry member of both the International Facility Management Association and the International Interior Design Association. Mark has lectured on woven carpet constructions and historical carpet textile patterns for graduate level architectural and historic preservation programs at Columbia University, Rhode Island School of Design, Harvard University, University of Cincinnati, University of Kentucky, Georgia State University, and Brigham Young University.





Industry News

Excitement in the flooring industry.

Today there are so many products with such beauty and variety. Most consumers wonder where to begin. With this variety, I am seeing the wool and natural fiber products leap forward with design.

Daniel Bennett has made a tool that assists with seaming all types of carpet. The name of this tool is called “**Seamer Down Now**”.

The consumer today is looking more and more at the longevity and durability of their investment and with the **Seamer Down Now** tool it is easier to make better seams. Now there is no issues with profiling.



With this great tool, a new approach can be adopted and not feared when selling high end carpet. This new reason and adopted approach is simple and easy to use. Now installation crews can install and seam the products correctly.

When using the **Seamer Down Now** there will be a confidence in knowing that there won't be issues with the carpet seams.

Daniel Paul Bennett invented this product and introduced it to the industry.

Find more information about **Seamer Down Now** by visiting www.seamerdown.com.

Article provided by Mimi Franzen Canada at **Seamer Down Now**. For more information Contact our team today.



NFIC *provides*

Installation Training courses on

Woven & Tufted Wools

The course consists of 3 days of training for skilled installers.

Our instructors have over 35 years of experience each.

Day 1 of the course is a review of the study guide followed by a written test.

Day 2 “hands on training” consisting of pattern matching, double stick installation, preparation for Wilton seams, and much, much more...

Day 3 testing for “hands on training” along with demonstrations of the Kool Glide Iron, and the Seamer Down Now.

These tools, we feel will enhance any carpet installation.



Inspector Courses

We do a yearly Inspectors course which includes a tour of a Woven mill to give the Inspector a first hand look at the product while being manufactured.

The Inspectors course consists of a 3 day course of all aspects of the industry, manufacturing, installation, and appearance retention, for Woven and Tufted Wools.

Sales Training

NFIC coming to your area.....

Increase your sales with a One Day Sales Seminar at your location.

NFIC has a comprehensive program that helps your sales personnel gain the confidence and understanding of selling woven and tufted wools.

The Sales seminar is a 4 – 5 hour seminar, with seaming demonstration, as well as question and answer time.

We encourage all questions.

Our goal is to instill confidence, the knowledge and understanding of these products.

Keep that Competitive Edge. Know your Products. Knowledge is POWER!

- Associate Memberships (which includes technical support)
- Installation Training & Certification • Consulting
 - Inspection Training & Certification
- Sales Seminars • Job Start Ups • Job Saves



Installation Clinics and Schools

Calgary, Canada September 2015

Atlanta, Georgia October 2015

Inspector Course

Bloomsburg, PA. August 2015

Bloomsburg carpet mill tour

Sales Course

The International Surfaces Event November 2015

Orlando, FL

**CALL TO FIND OUT ABOUT
SCHOLARSHIP FUNDING
770-720-4537**

Training and Testing for Woven & Tufted Wools—All Classes will include Kool Glide Certification as well.

Hands on Test

Hands on Training & Testing will include:

Kool Glide Iron – Training & Certification / Hand sewing on Wilton carpets / Seaming / Stretch in of pattern carpet / Stairs / Double- glue installation / Preparation

VISIT US AT Surfaces East (TISE) 2015 - NFIC will be conducting a "free" sales training for those who register through Surfaces. Check out Surfaces for further information about this.

One Day Seminar/Training for Sales People

Understanding Natural Fiber Carpets

- Product Knowledge – Sales – Installation Information
- Training on Woven/Tufted Wools (Axminster, Wilton & Velvet)

General Knowledge

- Knowing your product
- How these products are different from regular carpet
- Do's & don'ts on where to install the product
- Measuring & seam placement
- Kool Glide Iron & it's importance on the product
- Understanding the right pad, for the right job
- Q & A Time – be prepared with written questions of your own

One day seminar for sales people, designers, decorators and installers – up to 30 people per session 9:00 – 1:00 Q & A to follow. Study/reference guide for each attendee to keep.

Find out more and to set up a one day seminar, contact nfic2006@yahoo.com or call 770 720-4537.