

PROJECT: Re-Creation Health Club, Caroline Springs VIC

DESIGN: Red Frog Design, Jodie Russ **INSTALLATION:** G & L Pescud

PRODUCT: Polyflor Sport67 in Maple & Camaro Studioflor in Red Teak

flooring design

for a better environment™

Opened in December 2008, the Re-Creation Health Club, located in the rapidly-growing outer Melbourne suburb of Caroline Springs, already has 2600 members and growing.

With a strong emphasis on catering to members from teens to 40 year olds, the gym offers plenty of healthy activities from the high impact of cardio boxing to the gentle stretches and breathing techniques of yoga. Body Attack, Body Pump, Body Combat, Body Step, Body Balance, Cardio Boxing, Aerobics, and of course the circuit of weight machines, are all on offer meaning the gyms floors need to be able to take a battering and come up shining.

Because of the suburb's younger demographic, Robert and his partner, Darren Rapa, decided on a bright contemporary look to the gym, and commissioned Jodie Russ, of Red Frog Design for the interior décor.

Moving away from traditionally bland off-white spaces, Jodie chose bright

feature colours to focus on the types of activity and to enhance the energy levels of each area, or in the case of the yoga room, to provide calm and balance

She also specified the floor coverings, recommending Polyflor products for the areas getting the most punishing use each day.

The brand new building has 3100 square metres of floor space. More than a third –1180 square metres – is finished with Polyflor specialised products. Rather than add more colour, Jodie selected timber-look products, providing a softer, warmer look, without diminishing the strong focus of the feature walls in each room.

Suitable for all residential areas and moderate commercial interior use, Polyflor's 'Camaro Studioflor' was specified in the entrance area, reception, café and the walkways. A vinyl floor board in the style of Red Teak with the appearance of a wood plank, the real benefits are that it is quieter



to walk on, warmer underfoot, impact resistant and easier to maintain with a polyurethane protective coating.

While Camaro Studioflor is the perfect flooring for the entrance, relaxing areas and walkways, it's not designed to take the beating a kickboxing class would give it. For the group fitness rooms, the boxing studio and the dance studio, Jodie specified Polyflor Sport67, a heavy-duty, flexible vinyl sheet sports flooring.

In keeping with the rest of the décor, she chose the Maple wood plank look in this specialist sports flooring. Polyflor Sport67 is recommended for use in school and local authority sports

halls, gymnasiums and leisure centres where a degree of resilience underfoot and long life under heavy traffic are required.

Sport67 is 6.7mm thick with good shock absorption and ball rebound properties. The maple plank effect contrasted with the strong blue featured in the group exercise room and harmonised with the soft yellow in the boxing studio.

Robert was enthusiastic about the performance of the Polyflor Sport67. "Because it has a soft rubber underlay, it's very good for jumping around. There's no risk of anyone hurting themselves because it is cushion impact."

He was also impressed by the flooring's guarantee of 10 years. "That's a really good guarantee. These floors really cop a beating," he says. "They really get hammered. Yet they only need buffing once a week."



