



**COGRI GROUP**



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# COGRI NEWS

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## First-rate Floor Improves Trucks Efficiency

"...the operation of our VNA trucks within the 107 aisles totalling more than 4,500 linear metres of our 50,000 sq.m facility is flawless."

The floor at a new Very Narrow Aisle (VNA) warehouse facility in Greece was recently completed by Eurolit Industrial Flooring who represents Concrete Grinding Ltd in Greece.

The floor of the distribution centre, belonging to a well known supermarket chain Masoutis S.A in Greece, was built by Eurolit using Laser Screed construction to meet at least with Line 4 of the DIN 18202 – the strictest DIN free movement specification.



Completed VNA Wheel Track Grinding

CG's involvement in the project was to use their patented Laser Grinder® technology to grind the narrow aisles to a tolerance suitable for the VNA trucks to operate safely and efficiently.

Before grinding, a Profileograph survey was carried out in every aisle and the results analysed to determine where the floor was out of the required specification of DIN 15185 >6m (for lift heights of 6m or higher).

Of the 4,510m of aisles, CG found that only 46% (2053m) of the floor within the truck's outer wheel tracks and 8.5% (384m) of the centre wheel track required Laser Grinding to meet with this specification. CG's unique and cost effective approach minimised the amount of grinding, as only the areas out of specification needed grinding rather than the full length of every aisle. This process also ensured a quick work programme on-site, which was critical for this project as grinding was completed before the installation of racking. After grinding, a second Profileograph survey was carried out in every aisle and Face Consultants issued a report to the client to confirm compliance with the DIN 15185 >6m specification. It is worth noting that the design of the warehouse included a large number of columns and around 40% of the aisles were located very close to these columns. This made it difficult to achieve the DIN 15185 specification during the floor construction. If these columns were not so close

to the aisles, only around 30% of the aisles could have been found to be out of this specification, lowering the grinding cost even more.

Ioannis Masoutis, Chairman of the Board added, "The high standards required by D. MASOUTIS S.A throughout our operations demanded the construction of an industrial floor of the highest quality. The technical solution offered by the main contractor VERMION S.A and executed by EUROLIT INDUSTRIAL FLOORING in co-operation with CONCRETE GRINDING LTD fully justified our choice.

The Laser Grinding process did not interfere at any time with other ongoing works. We had a very strict programme and the whole floor construction and grinding process was completed according to schedule and without any deviation. It also proved cost effective; as the floor was laid to a high standard, Concrete Grinding Ltd identified areas within the aisles that already complied with the specification, meaning the amount of grinding was minimised.

As a result, the operation of our VNA trucks within the 107 aisles totalling more than 4,500 linear metres of our 50,000 sq. m facility is flawless. The trucks operate effortlessly and efficiently at the maximum speed specified by Linde Materials Handling of 9 km/h, even with the operator cabin located at the maximum height.

We are extremely pleased with the overall results and highly recommend Eurolit Industrial Flooring and Concrete Grinding Ltd."

The new DC will be fully operational from September.



Operational VNA warehouse

## New Firm CoGri China



After completing its first flooring project in China in 1998 and following completion of a 55,000 m<sup>2</sup> Steel Fibre only Reinforced Slab On Piles floor to the distribution centre for one of the worlds leading retailers in 2010, CoGri China Co., Ltd has finally been incorporated. CoGri China Co., Ltd has been incorporated as a wholly foreign owned enterprise (WFOE) with its parent company being CoGri Asia Pacific Pte Ltd in Singapore.

Soon after CoGri China's business license had been received in June 2011, its first contract was signed in July. CoGri China was awarded the construction of a Superflat freezer warehouse wearing slab over insulation boards for a facility being built for one of the largest public refrigerated warehouse companies in North America. The Cold Store Operator, based in USA is a leading specialist in the design, construction and operation of state of the art temperature controlled facilities with more than 20 years experience.

CoGri China was selected for construction of the 16,000 m<sup>2</sup> floor based on the Operators requirements for a floor of the highest possible quality and CoGri's expertise in the construction of Superflat floors. The 12,000 m<sup>2</sup> very narrow aisle floor area in the facility was specified to be constructed to TR-34 'Superflat' and the Operator nominated Face Consultants for compliance testing. This will be the second Superflat freezer floor constructed by CoGri in China following completion of a similar but smaller project in 2008.

Project Manager Rob Walker and a team of CoGri Technicians from the Singapore office have been mobilised to site for the start of the floor construction which is expected to be completed within two months.



## CG Flooring Systems News

The summer term has kept CG Flooring Systems busy on a number of floor repair and refurbishment projects in the UK and the Middle East. Since the last edition of CoGri News a total of 31 projects have been successfully completed. The variety of jobs has enabled us to demonstrate our full range of skills and disciplines, from premium quality joint repairs to the refurbishment of a worn out factory floor with Fastfloor IT. Each project presented its own challenge.

In addition to providing and delivering the correct technical solution for the client, one of the biggest challenges we are continually faced with is meeting the clients' requirements regarding programming of their repair works. A particular challenge when you consider we are a company who operate across the globe. Indeed it would not be possible to undertake the projects we do without a dedicated and skilled workforce. Our Technicians are trained in all aspects of floor repair and refurbishment techniques, including the ability to operate and maintain our own specialist equipment. When on-site the Technicians are ably supported by management from our head office in Huddersfield or from the CoGri Regional Offices when outside the UK. This we believe affords us a great deal of flexibility which in turn ensures we can meet clients requirements without ever compromising on the quality of our deliverables.

We have seen interest in the CoGri Joint Stabiliser system grow in recent months, which is both exciting and encouraging for this new venture. Where the joint stabilisers have been installed the positive feedback from customers has been nothing short of staggering. The pleasing response from all customers is not only that the joint stabilisers remove the problems with their rocking floor slabs but also they cannot quite believe how quickly they can be installed and the floor returned to normal operations. Again we are very excited by this and look forward to the months ahead.

At the time of going to print we are preparing to commence work on two separate projects for a power company where we will install epoxy resin coating and screed



Recent Fastfloor IT project:  
Laundry Floor Gets Cleaned Up

## FACE Accrues 350,000sqm flooring projects

Face Consultants Ltd has accumulated over 350,000m<sup>2</sup> of supervision and surveying work on projects in the UK and overseas in the last quarter alone.

Some of these projects included surveying and testing work for a flooring contractor to check for compliance with FM2 special classification of a 75,000m<sup>2</sup> DC for a well known retailer in Scotland. FACE also carried out surveying and testing work to check for compliance with FM2 special classification at a 80,000m<sup>2</sup> facility in Somerset, working for Twintec Industrial Flooring. A DM1 survey including grinding supervision was completed at a DC in Chesterfield and at a new warehouse floor in Bromborough near Ellesmere Port which had 2448 linear metres of VNA. FACE has started surveying a new 90,000m<sup>2</sup> (1 million square feet) distribution facility in the Midlands to check for compliance with FM2 special working for Stanford Industrial Concrete Flooring.

Overseas, FACE carried out an intermittent survey in Belgium checking F numbers. In Malaysia, working for the end user of a distribution centre, FACE did an initial defined movement survey to 425 linear metres of proposed VNA. After grinding, FACE resurveyed the aisles to Concrete Society's TR34 "Superflat" for VNA installations working for CoGri Asia. In India, FACE were on-site to assist with a large project carrying out supervision and surveying to check for compliance with DM2 and FM2 and in the UAE, FACE carried out supervision to and survey work on A 90,000m<sup>2</sup> floor to Free Movement (FM2) standard.

More recently, FACE was one of the key speakers at the latest Association of Concrete Industrial Flooring Contractors (ACIFC) meeting on the 29th September. The Future for ACIFC event took place at the National Space Centre Exploration Drive in Leicester.

Tony Hulett, Technical Director of Face Consultants Ltd, addressed the audience about the design and quality assurance of warehouse floors, including testing and measuring, value for money and whole life costing. The event was attended by contractors and associate members in the concrete flooring industry.



## The Bustling Middle East

After steadily lining up the work at the start of the year, the Middle Eastern region has seen a massive increase in its workload with the work coming to fruition, involving both new floor construction and repairs to existing facilities.

FACE Middle East continues to develop new relationships in the region by carrying out their first ever design & supervision contract for a civil contractor. The new facility is just a little over 12,500m<sup>2</sup>. FACE were brought in once a preliminary floor design had been issued. By applying the value engineering principals (value engineered floor design implementing latest standards & methods) and looking at the practicalities of building the floor slab, FACE were able to offer substantial cost savings on the construction of the floor slab. The cost for the FACE services was just a fraction of what was saved.

Once the floor construction got underway, FACE supplied a Surveyor and a Finishing Supervisor to work with the contractor's team. The results were outstanding. The contractor honed their skills in the construction of floor slabs and their client, a 3PL, got a far better floor than what was originally proposed for a far better price.

In May, FACE offered a bespoke solution to a client who needed their floor upgrading so that it was capable of accepting the racking. Originally, the client had taken a building where the

floor was only 150mm thick, but the roof height was in excess of 10m. This meant that if the client utilised the high roofline by installing tall racking, when loaded, the floor would not be able to hold the loads imposed.



New slab constructed on top of existing floor with racking installed

Initially, the client was looking at cutting out sections of the existing floor and constructing thicker pads on which to fix the racking. Instead of going below the floor to increase its strength, FACE proposed to make the slab thicker by constructing another slab on top of the existing, but only where the racking would be located. This method was non-destructive and meant that when the client moves out of the building, they can remove the overlay slabs and return the floor back to the landlord in its original condition. Once awarded the contract, FACE did some load calculations and

drafted up the design drawings.

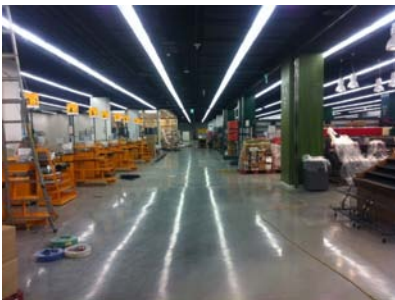
Flooring contractor, CoGri Middle East LLC began construction by fixing the steel angle to the floor. This acted as the shuttering. Plastic and mesh were then placed within the areas and finally, Bobcats were used to place the concrete. A power floated finish completed the job.

The client has now installed the racking and the warehouse went operational in August. This is a prime example of how the CoGri Group can offer cost effective, value engineered solutions that better suit the client's needs.

Staying on floor slab design and on-site supervision, the FACE team have been busy in New Delhi, India, working for a repeat client where they are building a new office and warehouse facility. The 3,000m<sup>2</sup> floor area consists of 11 very narrow aisle slabs and an open transfer area. The design was passed to all tendering contractors as a definitive concept for them to bid on. A couple of months after an on-site pre-contract meeting, FACE arrived in New Delhi and have finished supervising the local contractor in the construction of the floor slab.



FACE on-site supervision in New Delhi



## Thriving in Korea

CoGri Korea continues to grow to new heights with projects completed during the wettest summer on record in Korea including: - Two 5,000 m<sup>2</sup> Topping Slabs for a major Electronics Retailer, construction of a small Category 1 floor, construction of a 4,000 m<sup>2</sup> Steel Fibre only Reinforced Slab On Piles floor, construction of a 15,000 m<sup>2</sup> Slab On Grade floor and construction of a small Cold Store floor. However the major challenge proved to be the construction of a 13,000 m<sup>2</sup> Topping slab to a

multi-storey hypermarket for a leading Retailer in Korea (see photo left). Although the Owners quality requirements for an aesthetic direct concrete finish floor were very stringent, through hard work and attention to detail, the project was a success and CoGri Korea is expecting to sign a contract for a second similar project for the same Client any day now.

And finally, CoGri Korea has just signed its largest contract to date of what will surely be one of the largest freezer warehouses to be built in the Asia Pacific region. The massive Logistics Centre which includes a total internal warehouse space of more than 127,000 m<sup>2</sup> over 6 stories includes 105,000 m<sup>2</sup> of freezer flooring designed for operation at down to -25°C. CoGri Korea's range of work includes Screeding of the Precast Structural Topping Slab, installation of the Insulation Boards and construction of the Freezer Wearing Slab, plus Construction of a 20,000 m<sup>2</sup> ambient Bonded Topping, totalling more than 230,000 m<sup>2</sup> of floor screeding and finishing. Design of the Freezer Wearing Slab was carried out by Face Consultants, with the design supported by its global professional indemnity insurance policy to give the Client peace of mind. Compliance Testing to the entire floor will also be done by Face Consultants to test for floor flatness and abrasion resistance. This one year project will give CoGri Korea the confidence to invest in further resources and really take the company to the next level.

## CG Flooring's Corporate Video

As part of their online marketing strategy, CG Flooring Systems Ltd has completed an official corporate video which has been added to their website.

CG Flooring Systems was established in 2000 in response to significant demands from Concrete Grinding Ltd's (CG) existing clients requiring upgrading and repairing services, outside CG's narrow aisles area of expertise. This increase shaped a new range of additional services, involving a distinctive set of skills, products and insight, separate from Concrete Grinding Ltd, which resulted in the formation of CG Flooring Systems Ltd.

Part of the CoGri Group of companies, CG Flooring Systems adds to the breadth of services the Group offers for the repair and maintenance of warehouse and industrial floors.

To view CG Flooring System's corporate video, please visit [www.cg-flooring.com](http://www.cg-flooring.com)

## CoGri Asia's Innovative Cold Store Floor Solution

CoGri Asia Ltd has successfully installed a cold store floor system for a beverage manufacturer located in Singapore. Due to an increase in production demands, the client needed to boost their current storage capacity without expanding. The client chose to upgrade their block stack storage system to mobile racking for maximum density, with an approximate racking height of 8 metres.

A mobile racking system enables the racking to be parked side by side when not in use. When the forklift truck operator needs to pick stock from the selected rack, the racks can be moved along on tracks to open the aisle for access. This eliminates the need for individual access aisles. The structure is fixed onto electrically powered mobile bases, which move on rails embedded in the floor. This meant the existing floor needed to be removed so the rails could be cast into the slab.

In addition, the client had a relatively tight program and demolition of existing slabs would require minimum dust and vibration as the warehouse is located adjacent to other raw material storage and production areas. Another client's condition was to minimise the damage caused to the underlying insulation during the demolition process as they planned to only replace half of the insulation due to its high



Photos from top: casting of first 2 bays with steel reinforcements & slip membranes in position and Finished floor with mobile racking installed

replacement cost. Insulation is used to increase the thermal efficiency of the building and protect the underlying soil.

Removal of an existing floor slab by breaking it with conventional pneumatic tools would be extremely noisy, dusty and labour intensive with a risk of causing significant damage to the underlying insulation. To address the client's concerns, CoGri Asia developed an alternative solution where the existing 450m<sup>2</sup> of slab would be cut up into 1.5m<sup>2</sup> panels, lifted by a forklift truck and then transported outside the building for disposal. This demolition process was achieved by using a powerful self-propelled sawing machine which involved a 4 man site team completing the work in just 10 days whilst meeting the client's requirements. The client was impressed by this innovative solution as a significant cost saving was made on both materials and man hours compared to competitors' quotes for conventional demolition.

CoGri proceeded with the strip construction of the new floor system where only half of the insulation was replaced, followed by the installation of the slip membrane to reduce the stresses caused during concrete shrinkage and steel reinforcement to strengthen the concrete slabs. Thereafter the installation of the new cold store floor system and perimeter drains was completed on time.

Without any unexpected problems, CoGri Asia completed the project to client's satisfaction and are now considering adding cutting and demolition to their range of services.

## Show Success

FACE Middle East Fzc returned to exhibit at the Materials Handling Middle East 2011 in Dubai for a second time, along with newly formed company, CoGri Middle East LLC.

At the show, FACE Middle East showcased their new FACE All-in-One Profileograph which is capable of testing floor flatness to all international standards including DIN 15185, DIN 18202, VDMA, TR34, EN 15620, ASTM E 1155 and ACI Fmin. This innovative equipment designed and built

by FACE, will be stationed in Dubai to provide full floor flatness testing and surveying services to clients in the Middle East region.

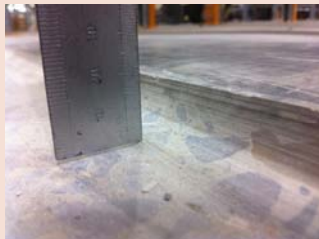
CoGri Middle East provides a complete range of top quality concrete floor construction and enhancement services for warehouse and industrial facilities. Thomas Hanks, General Manager of CoGri Middle East commented, "It was great to meet some key people in the industry and share our knowledge and expertise in warehouse and industrial floors. Overall,

the show went very well for us and we received good quality enquiries."



## CoGri Australia Continues to Bounce Along...

CoGri Australia has just completed 700 metres of type 3 joint repairs for a global company that produces high quality consumer and commercial brands across categories from wraps & bags, household cleaning and laundry, to water filters.



CoGri Australia is nearing completion of its 3rd Laser Grinding project for a major international cosmetics company based in Sydney. 7 Aisles at 48 metres long, whole aisle grinding to defined movement DM2 specification is almost completed. Additional type 3 joint repairs have also been carried out.

Face Consultants recently completed a defined movement survey for a document management company in Tasmania as well as a Floor Flatness/Floor Levelness Survey and Fmin survey for a national food company.

Interest in the Laser Grinder<sup>®</sup> has increased as awareness is raised in the region about floor flatness in warehouses, its importance, relevance to warehouse operation and not least the cost benefits it offers.

As CoGri Australia and Face Consultants brands develop so too has the opportunities as both companies continue to grow from strengths to strength.

## New Appointments

The CoGri Group welcomes John Noble, Jake Hodder, David Chew and Ravi Vesuvanathan to the team.

John joined as CG Flooring Systems Ltd (CGFS) Estimator. John has a First BSc Honours in Construction Project Management and A Levels in Construction. Jake joins CGFS as their Junior Technician. Jake's experience includes welding and he has worked for a precision engineering company in Huddersfield. David joined CGFS as their Technician. David was working as a Royal Engineer in the British Forces for 13 years. He has also worked for a building firm in Preston, which deals with civil engineering, property development and facilities management.

Ravi joined CoGri Asia Pacific Pte Ltd as their Project Manager. Ravi has recently completed his MBA and has a Chemical Engineering Degree, both taken at the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology, Australia. Prior to pursuing his MBA full-time, he was a Project Manager for a Swiss multi-national corporation in Victoria, Australia, dealing with the supply of construction materials.

Pictured from left: John, David, Jake and Ravi.

