

Vector™

Norcure® Re-alkalization

Project History

Re-alkalization of Grant MacEwen Community College Tower

- Structure:** GMCC - City Center Campus,
South East Tower at 107th St.
- Location:** Edmonton, Alberta, Canada
- Client:** Grant MacEwen Community College
- Area Treated:** 1200 ft² (110m²)
- Duration:** 2 weeks
- Contractor:** Vector Construction Ltd.



Project Description:

The downtown campus of Grant MacEwen Community College consists of 3 connected buildings which meet at a central point. Four architectural concrete towers rise up from this center piece creating an impressive focal point for the main college entrance. Three of these towers have no functional use other than aesthetics, however one tower does house the exhaust chimney for the heating furnace. In an attempt to disguise the presence of this chimney it was stopped short from the top of the tower, meaning that the internal walls of the top 9 meters of the tower were exposed to fumes from the furnace and overtime became carbonated to depths of 40 mm (1.5 inches), with the steel reinforcing at approximately 25 mm (1 inch).

The college did not want the expense of having to remove and replace the sound but contaminated concrete, neither did they want the disruption of ongoing repetitive maintenance that would be required if they

did not perform a long term fix. With this in mind it was decided that Norcure Re-alkalization process would be the best alternative for their problem, as it offered a fast, cost effective and non disruptive long term rehabilitation solution.

The Norcure project was carried out over a period of two weeks. The first week consisted of performing minimal concrete patch repairs and installation of the system, with three days to run the treatment, and two days to remove the system and clear from site in the second week. At the end of the treatment carbonation was eliminated, and the corrosion process had been halted. The furnace chimney was then extended to beyond the top of the tower to allow the fumes to escape freely and prevent carbonation from reoccurring.

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