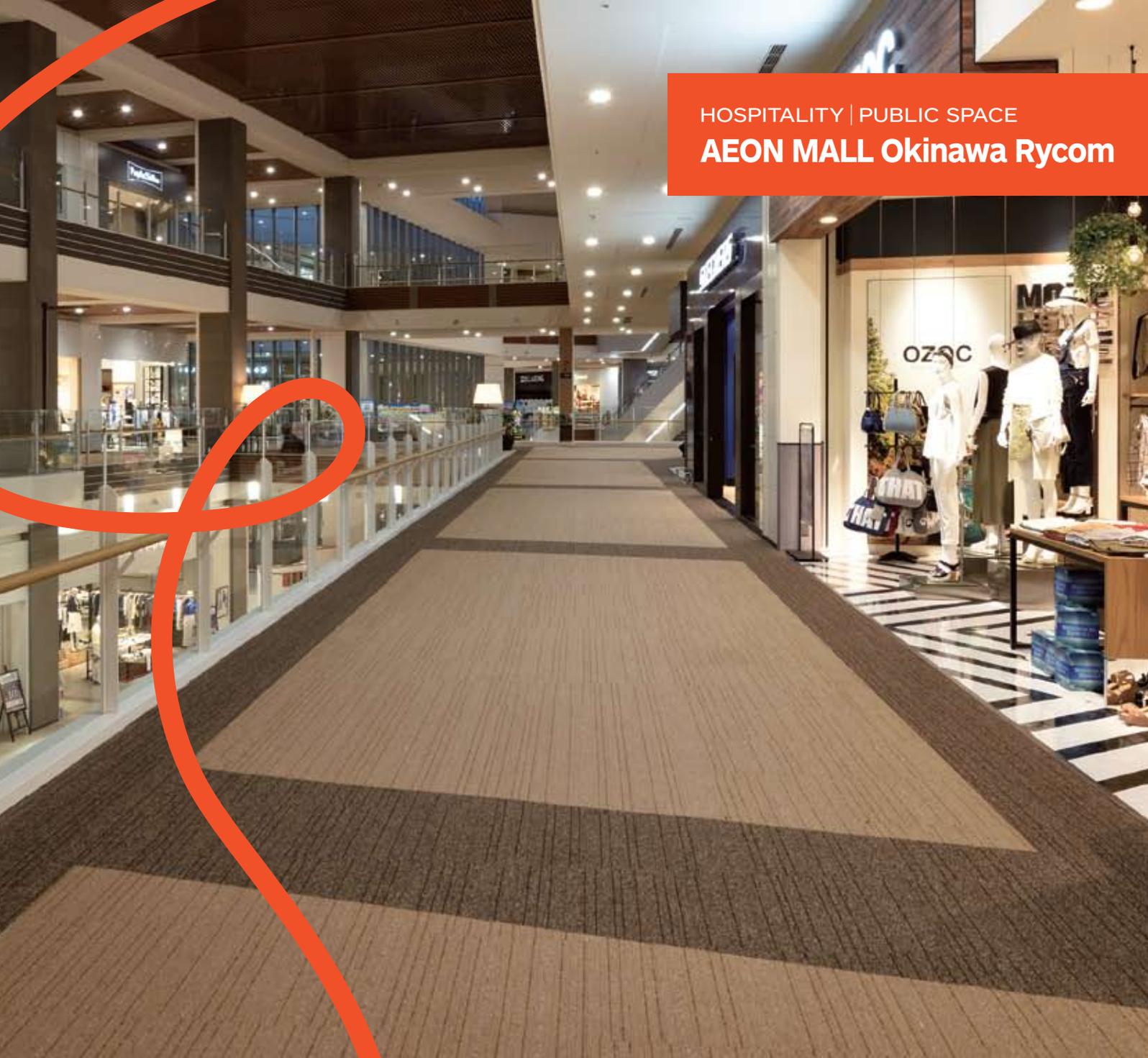


HOSPITALITY | PUBLIC SPACE

AEON MALL Okinawa Rycom



Sangetsu Co., Ltd. Original carpet tile

Resort shopping
with a distinctive
Okinawan touch

- AEON MALL have seen remarkable growth not only in Japan, but also overseas. AEON MALL Okinawa Rycom, on the island of Okinawa, is their first resort mall. It features an aquarium, rattan furniture, Shiisa dog-lion roof ornaments and a variety of trees and flowers that are native to the tropical south. Okinawa's graceful, traditional culture and abundant greenery lend an air of resort relaxation.

Case Study : AEON MALL Okinawa Rycom

Style and quality meet long-lasting functionality

AEON MALL Okinawa Rycom, the first AEON MALL in Okinawa prefecture, opened on April 25, 2015 in the Kita Nakagusuku area. Its vast 175,000 square meters of floor space accommodate 230 shops including AEON Rycom branch stores, 46 stores never seen before in the Kyushu and Okinawa region, and a number of specialty shops. The environmental design was produced by D-Brain Institute, which also designed other AEON MALL including popular AEON MALL Makuhari New City. According to Hiroyuki Kobayashi, leader of the design and planning department, all materials and items were selected with an eye to functionality.

“The textures of all materials were vital to producing a resort-type atmosphere. We focused not only on design, but also on durability and maintenance that enhance functionality. On the third and fourth floors, original carpet tiles co-produced by Sangetsu were our main tool for creating the desired atmosphere. Three shades of brown, ranging from light to dark, stretch horizontally across the tile to create a natural rhythm that complements the flow of visitors. We needed the carpet to be durable and stain-resistant so it would hold up well under heavy traffic and increase comfort for visitors during lengthy visits.”

Hospitality begins with the feet

Kazuhiko Izawa from Sangetsu commented on the company's development of this original carpet tile. “Dirt and stains from shoes, shopping carts, strollers and carriages can cause crushing and matting, especially in large commercial facilities that attract many guests. We've been working with AEON MALL for 13 years and feel that only Antron® fiber from INVISTA provides the durability, cushioning and stain-resistance we need. We've been using it constantly and



receiving very positive feedback. Naturally, Antron® Lumena™ type 6,6 solution dyed nylon was our choice for this original carpet tile. We made a few samples in 6 months before actual production.” There are various reasons why Antron® Lumena™ type 6,6 solution dyed nylon is so functional. The tighter molecule structure of type 6,6 nylon offers excellent recovery after compression, as well as high durability against crushing, matting and wear. The innovative rounded square shape has one of the lowest MRs in the industry and a smooth outer surface with no grooves minimizes soil accumulation, which can enhance soil release with vacuuming. The four holes, which run the entire length of the fiber, diffuse light and enhance soil hiding capabilities between cleanings so the carpet looks better year after year. In addition, highly stable pigments incorporated into the polyamide matrix during the spinning process give each color

of Antron® Lumena™ solution dyed nylon outstanding color fade resistance to sunlight and harsh industry standard commercial cleaning. According to Mr.Otori from AEON MALL, “Our concept for the facility was to create the No.1 resort mall in East Asia. We welcome not only local residents, but also guests from around Japan and tourists from abroad. We encourage them to experience Okinawa's unique culture and enjoy the lush greenery.” Sangetsu's original carpet tile, made from Antron® Lumena™ type 6,6 solution dyed nylon, creates a floor space that warmly invites visitors from around the world.



→ Antron® Lumena™ type 6,6 solution dyed nylon provides resistance to crushing and matting, recovery after compression and resistance to heat. The small surface area of the four-hole hollow filament fiber shape minimizes soil accumulation, making cleaning easier. Internal voids refract and diffuse light, enhancing soil hiding capability.

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Hiroyuki Kobayash
D-Brain Institute

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D-Brain Institute

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Facility name : AEON MALL Okinawa Rycom
Carpet material : Sangetsu Co., Ltd.
Original carpet tile
(Antron® Lumena™ Solution dyed nylon)

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