

HOSPITALITY | PUBLIC SPACE
Kyoto Aquarium



TOLI Corporation / SOKOITARI CLASSIC GX7906

**Floor Space
with the Feel of
Water and Kyoto**

→ Kyoto Aquarium is located inside Umekoji Park, about 15 minutes' walk from Kyoto Station. It's Edutainment Facility* packed with nature in Kyoto. Within 10 months after its inauguration in March 2012, the aquarium has gathered more than 2.3 million people. Now, the place is receiving much attention as a new tourist spot in Kyoto.

Based on the theme of "Life Connected by Water," Kyoto Aquarium carries the motifs of "countryside," "mountain," "sea" and "river" in Kyoto where the nature is blessed with scenic beauty, including Kamo River, Kitayama, Higashiyama and Arashiyama. In the aquarium, visitors can witness the working of nature as it cycles through various organisms fostered in "water." The aquarium is frequented by people of all ages.

*Edutainment Facility: Composite word of Education and Entertainment.

Case Study : Kyoto Aquarium

To Design an Aquarium Only Kyoto Can Embrace

Exhibiting Kyoto's diverse natural offerings, Kyoto Aquarium has adopted the facility design concept of "Life Connected by Water". The aquarium is designed with focuses on affinity for the streetscape of Kyoto that represents the essence of "Wa" or things Japanese, including history, culture and tradition, and for the surrounding environment alongside a sense of togetherness with Umekoji Park. In addition, meticulous attention is paid to the form and color of the building facade and interior details. Flooring materials are also required to express "water" and "Kyoto-ness". The flooring material must be soft and comfortable with safety benefits and ease of maintenance because many aquarium visitors are small children that sit, play, fall and roll around on the floor between aquarium exhibits and the flooring must be kept clean. Flooring must also have excellent warmth, insulation and soundproofing properties to make the aquarium comfortable and inviting for all visitors. Moreover, the flooring material must have durability. The aquarium welcomes millions of visitors creating heavy traffic levels and some visitors use wheelchairs and baby buggies that can increase wear and tear. Meeting these requirements, TOLI's SOKOITARI CLASSIC, the carpet made with Antron® carpet fiber, has been chosen. "This vivid blue-based carpet is appropriate for the design concepts of 'Kyoto' and 'water,' and the pattern on the carpet makes me feel as though I can stroll through the aquarium by moving with the flow of water," Tadahiro Masumoto, General Manager of Kyoto Aquarium says.

Maintenance Methods for Soils and Stains

Because Kyoto Aquarium is a facility inside Umekoji Park, lawn, grass and soil from the park are brought into the aquarium deposited from the soles of shoes. This is why the aquarium staff is constantly cleaning the floor with hand vacuum during operating hours. And deep cleaning of carpet is performed a few times a year. The huge aquarium pool, representing the entire Japanese sea, is designed with an acrylic wall rising from the floor to make us feel as if we are at the bottom of ocean. Children getting carried away with chasing fish can have their skin directly contacting the carpet by sitting or standing on their knees. Thus, the carpet needs to be kept clean. In the aquarium, visitors can eat and drink in the designated areas, which may result in juice and soft-serve ice cream spills. Masumoto explains about the various maintenance works



being carried out on a daily basis: "Sometimes, we perform maintenance works that can be hard on a carpet. Fortunately, our current carpet does not show degradation. We constantly maintain a clean and comfortable space by performing routine maintenance." Based on type 6,6 nylon, Antron® carpet fiber has a distinct hollow shape that makes soiling less obvious. And cleaning is made easier by the reduced fiber surface area that minimizes soil accumulation. Furthermore, Antron® Lumena™ solution dyed nylon, which is used in the carpet at the aquarium (TOLI's SOKOITARI CLASSIC), is INVISTA's premium branded type 6,6 solution dyed nylon. INVISTA uses advanced manufacturing technology to give Antron® Lumena™ solution dyed nylon inherent acid-based (like many common food and beverages) stain resistance that will hold up to standard commercial cleaning and high levels of foot traffic.

Welcoming a large number of visitors, Kyoto Aquarium is based on the theme of "Life Connected by Water" and is committed to creating the environment in which the cycles of nature can be observed by visitors in a cozy atmosphere, and also provide comfort underfoot.

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Kyoto Aquarium is Edutainment Facility where visitors can learn and enjoy nature and ecosystem of Kyoto. The aquarium is aimed to become the friendly facility for visitors from Kyoto and far-away places.

Project : Kyoto Aquarium
Carpet Styles : TOLI Corporation
SOKOITARI CLASSIC GX7906
(Antron® Lumena™ Solution dyed nylon)



→ Antron® Lumena™ type 6,6 solution dyed nylon can withstand heavy wear, frequent spills and stains and exposure to intense sunlight and typical cleaning for commercial flooring.

To learn more, please find your local contact below or visit antron.net.

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