

Information bulletin of Bolidt Synthetic Products & Systems / Hendrik-Ido-Ambacht / The Netherlands

## A clean floor



Different organizations in industry and the public sector use cleanrooms. Cleanrooms are special areas where equipment is produced or where work, sensitive to viruses and bacteria, is done. The rooms are as hygienic as possible and free of

moisture and dust. The aero space and military industries also use cleanrooms for production processes that are sensitive to dust and moisture. It is very important for the floors and walls of these rooms to have a seamless, moisture-proof, and easy-to-

maintain finish. And as employees use changing locks to change into clothing specially designated for cleanrooms, nothing will be able to penetrate such areas.

Advanced Semiconductor Materials BV, known as ASM Europe BV, is a Dutch company operating on the international market for semiconductor production equipment. Its market is constantly changing as a result of strong growth, rapid progress in technology, and higher customer demands in regard to equipment. A conversation with Frank Verdam, Facilities and Safety Manager at ASM Europe BV in Bilthoven, the Netherlands, clearly shows that he is working at a very modern and technically advanced company. ASM Europe BV is a part of ASM International and its 4500 employees throughout the world. The company uses important types of wafer processing equipment such as the A400, A400 XT, and A400 XL. Its show piece however, is the A412 with its 300 mm wafer (disk of semiconductor material produced from poly-silicon). After a series of high-tech steps, chips are manufactured from the wafer.



to ASM Europe  
just clean is not  
clean enough

### A remarkable performance

The higher demands made on the chip-production industry are resulting in increasingly cleaner manufacturing and in cleaner areas. The development of cleanrooms is making it possible for outgoing and incoming cleaning to be done as flexibly as possible. Outgoing cleaning entails taking apart equipment that has been delivered and thoroughly cleaning it. Incoming cleaning involves preparatory activities and putting components together. The final phase of semiconductor machine production is done entirely in cleanrooms. The customer is present in these rooms when delivery is made later on.

A strong point of ASM is its short lines. An engineer is involved with the entire development: starting with the R&D

department, which develops new machines, up to and including the production of prototypes. Solutions are creatively presented using these short lines. Creativity also is the basis of ASM. As for the company itself, it was started in 1964 in Bilthoven by Mr A.H. del Prado, who has since been able to develop his one-man business into a worldwide organization.





## Microtechnology requires precision work

### In the picture

ASM came into the picture at Bolidt Synthetic Products & Systems after it requested information. The people at ASM were looking for the best possible finish for the company's recently developed cleanrooms. From the request, they learned that synthetic floors, with their seamlessness, durability, high mechanical strength, and capacity for moisture- and dust-proof working environments, are very much suited for cleanrooms. Mr Verdam

quickly and clearly summarizes the additional advantages of using the Bolidtop CR:

- **elasticity and crackbridging properties**
- **easy cleaning**
- **rough surface (even when wet)**
- **seamless installation**
- **durability**
- **price / quality ratio**

After a trial run and the usual initial

hiccups, ASM placed an order for 1500 m<sup>2</sup> of floor finishing (the special Bolidtop CR) and a leveling layer for hallways and other areas. An additional expansion involving a new cleanroom will also be finished with Bolidtop CR. Mr Verdam has indicated that he is very happy with the flexibility of Bolidt in terms of its willingness to deal with last minute structural changes to design and its willingness to work at night and during the weekend so that ASM employees do not experience any

unnecessary hindrances.

For almost 40 years now, Bolidt Synthetic Products & Systems has known that a synthetic floor finish is very suited for dust, virus, and bacteria sensitive rooms – areas that require maintenance, such as hospital rooms, cleanrooms, and production areas found in the chemical and food processing industries. This is because a synthetic floor finish is installed seamless and is therefore fluid-proof and resistant to the most common chemicals and solvents. The result is an area in which the customer can function optimally. The synthetic floor meets the requirements drawn up by the sector *and* satisfies customer needs by coming in special colors or with a certain finishing on the upper layer.



EDC  
oncology



Not only ASM knows which finish to choose for its cleanroom, many other national and international businesses are guaranteed of the best possible conditioned production without a single problem for years to come. In short, a clean floor in a cleanroom. And that says it all. Bolidt knows better than the rest that the aesthetic and mechanical properties of a floor can go hand in hand. Because the company is aware of each branch of industry – from bakeries to cruise ships – it knows the standards required for floor finishing and the newest technical or societal developments.

Finally, Bolidt has been able to expand *and* especially retain its prominent position as a supplier of synthetic floor systems because of its constant research and its focussed, practical experience.

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