

Moving floor pool

AN underground leisure area is part the mews house constructed by AP Arcon Construction in Kensington, London. The pool and spa are located on the third level below ground in the seven storey property where the engineering works included a 25m deep excavation to accommodate the multi-million pound development.

London Swimming Pool Company was selected as the specialist pool contractor for the project. The swimming pool measures 12 x 4m and features a moving floor which is elevated through the water to be set at different depths as required.

The floor was manufactured in 4m lengths by KBE in Germany and one of the biggest challenges of the project was to transfer them into the basement area through a narrow opening. Added to this was the time consuming and difficult requirement of cutting each individual tile so that the pattern of the moving floor surface would match up with that of the surrounding floor since both are covered with the same tile.

When the floor is fully raised, the area



can be used for parties, dancing and other activities requiring a large floor space. The exacting design and specification of the pool and spa took approximately a year and a half and the subsequent construction lasted approximately two years.

The understated cream coloured internal pool finishes are made to come alive with contrasting white underwater LED lights

along one wall and the row of colour changing underwater LED lights on the other, both manufactured by Wibre. Since there is only a two millimetre gap between the moving floor and the edge of the pool, the lights had to be recessed into the pool wall to be completely flush with its surface. The lightwell in the centre of the ceiling allows natural daylight to enter and in combination with cleverly positioned dimmable fibre optics throughout the pool area, varying degrees of ambience can be achieved.

A dry bonded black slate wall adds interest and texture along one side of the pool and is replicated on the opposite wall as a back drop to the spa. The feature is complemented by the choice of an elegant predominantly black and silver mosaic by Bisazza in Agamennone for the interior finish of the spa.

The spa shell manufactured by Armadale UK measures 2.3 x 2.6m and was supplied in four sections for ease of access into the basement where it was joined in situ. The spa was also fitted with colour changing LED lights for some dramatic visual effects with six back massage jets and six calf massage jets for hydrotherapy benefits.

www.londonswimmingpools.com



Maximising daylight

THE brief for Atkins Architects at the William Penn Leisure Centre in Rickmansworth was to maximise interior daylight and thermal insulation. The solution was to introduce Lumira aerogel (formerly Nanogel) inside the full height Kalwall at the end of the 25m pool.

The light and insulating solid can

achieve a U value of 0.28W/m²K within the Kalwall panel, which is equivalent to a solid wall. A particular benefit for pools is that the diffused daylight eliminates glare and veiling on the water allowing lifeguards to better see underwater swimmers. ■

www.stokes.co.uk

