



altro

Designed for possibilities.  
Made for people.



# Transforming spaces in wet environments

A floors and walls guide to selecting finishes in wet environments

Most buildings have wet environments that will be used by a wide variety of people: that's a lot of individuals to keep safe. That's why selecting the right interior finishes is crucial in these spaces.





## Providing solutions for wellbeing

Looking after the wellbeing and safety of customers, staff, visitors, or patients is paramount and wet environments can present a challenge. We partner with you to create aesthetically pleasing, durable and design-led solutions in wet environments where the risk of slipping is very high.

**We take your safety seriously.** Shampoos, shower gels and hair products found in wet environments all pose a risk to people walking around. Our specialist flooring keeps your risk of slipping to one-in-a-million, even in these tough conditions, and is designed to not only give you peace of mind but to also create a lasting impression – from the way it looks to the way it works.

Our range of solutions is designed for a variety of environments including healthcare, hospitality and education; protecting staff who look after residents, guests in hotel wet rooms and students showering after sports activities.

Slips and falls aren't the only consideration in wet environments. Indoor humidity and poor cleaning can lead to a build-up of bacteria and mold, which can impact health as well as the appearance of the rooms. You can use our safety floors and hygienic wall solutions for wet environments to create easy-to-maintain and safe surroundings.

Aesthetically pleasing and with a wide range of shades, we work with you to design welcoming and attractive spaces in your most demanding environments.

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A welcoming environment is important, whatever the setting. From a contemporary scheme in a hotel wet room to functional student accommodation, our wall and floor solutions provide you with safe and stylish choices helping to avoid a clinical atmosphere.

With clever use of colors and combining our floor and wall systems, you can create a spa-like oasis in residential accommodations, help to make a sports changing room a dynamic and inspiring space or design a comforting bathing experience in a care home or hospital.

### Design-led, practical and safe

Good looks also need to be practical to keep employees and visitors safe, maintain hygiene standards and reduce the risk of infection.



Altro Aquarius can be paired with Altro Walkway 20, allowing for seamless coordination from wet rooms to general areas. Altro's low profile transition strips work with wheeled traffic and shuffling feet while keeping water from seeping too far from the drain.

Altro Promenade provides essential slip resistance in areas exposed year-round to changing weather conditions, making it ideal for indoor applications as well as patios, decks and pool surrounds that prioritize both safety and aesthetic appeal.

Altro Whiterock and Altro Whiterock Chameleon are hygienic solutions with matte and gloss surfaces for any design theme. Altro Whiterock wall designs gives the options of wood, metal, stone and linen for an unbeatable wow factor. Altro Tegulis brings the sleek style of tile, without any of the drawbacks of standard grout!

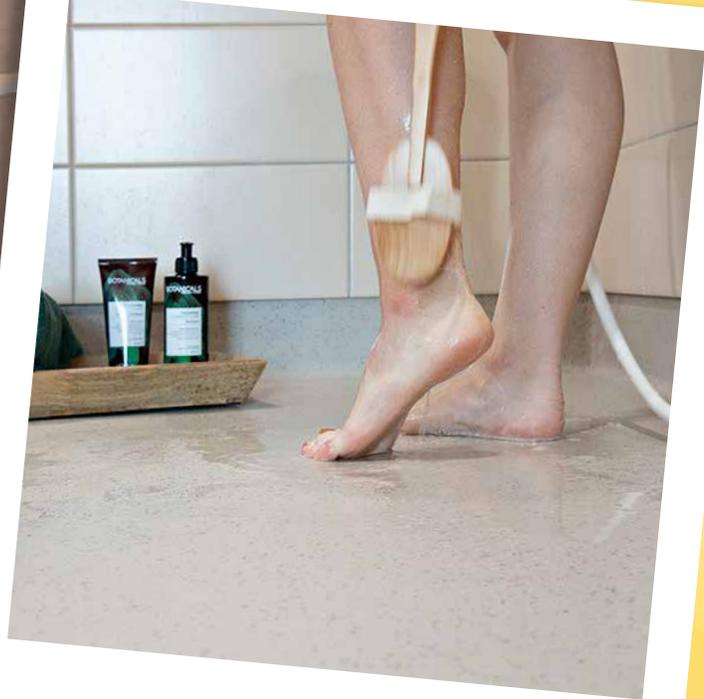
Product shown in background: Altro Tegulis in Cool Mineral with stacked tile design



*Patios and pool surrounds*



Senior living



Leisure/Locker rooms



Hospitals



Commercial Kitchens



To learn more about commercial kitchens, visit [altro.com](http://altro.com)



The aggregate is how Altro safety flooring can reduce the risk of slip and fall accidents to as few as...

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As the original creators of safety flooring, we understand what it takes to keep your environments safe, reducing the risk of injury. Discover just how our safety flooring works in the video above.



Did you know that according to the National Safety Council (NSC), an estimated 25,000 people are hospitalized every day due to slip and fall incidents and related injuries?



## Preventing slips where it matters

At Altro we combine available industry slip resistance tests to get the most accurate proof of just how safe our flooring is.

We believe standard industry test values don't always provide clarity of slip potential and categories of values are too broad, which is why we combine them.

Our safety floors for wet environments are tested with real life contaminants: shower gel, shampoo and conditioner. Altro Aquarius boasts a PTV of  $\geq 36$  (slider 96) against all these contaminants and the risk of slipping is just one-in-a-million; however, with water alone it maintains a PTV of  $\geq 50$  (slider 96).

### Pendulum test (BS 7976)



The 'pendulum' is a swinging, dummy heel that sweeps over a set area of flooring in a controlled manner to simulate slipping on a wet floor. The slipperiness of the flooring has a direct and measurable effect on the pendulum value. Flooring that achieves a wet result of Pendulum Test Value  $\geq 36$  (slider 96) has a low slip potential.

### Ramp test (DIN 51130)



The ramp test is widely used. R9-R13 values are based on angle measurements of a motor oil-covered ramp an operator walks on. The angle at which the operator slips forms the R value, but because the most common contaminant on floors is water, using motor oil doesn't give a true representation of real life situations. In the barefoot version of the test (DIN 51097), the ramp is covered in a soap solution as a contaminant, simulating shower conditions, and rates flooring A, B or C. Altro Aquarius is rated class B and achieves an R11 on the ramp test.

### Static and dynamic coefficient of friction



The static coefficient of friction test is the accepted standard in North America. While it's only required to test over dry conditions, at Altro we test our floors in both dry and wet conditions.



The dynamic test measures the force required to keep an object in motion as it slides. It's believed this represents more life-like scenarios, as slips or falls generally start from a state of motion.

Wet environments can hide a multitude of bacteria, thanks to the damp environment. The World Health Organization (WHO) states that persistent dampness and microbial growth on interior surfaces and in building structures should be avoided or minimized as they may lead to adverse health effects.

To ensure a clean and healthy environment for all users, install floor and wall systems that are easy-to-clean. Having a system that does not give bacteria anywhere to hide is a priority; Altro Whiterock is a fully bonded wall system: with sealed edges, abutments and joining systems you can be sure bacteria is kept at bay.

## Maintain clean conditions

If safety flooring isn't cleaned properly, a hazardous level of dirt and contaminant build-up can accumulate on the surface, potentially increasing the risk of a slip. Altro Aquarius has been extensively tested with a variety of shoes and contaminants to ensure top performance in high-risk environments. Thanks to our Altro Easyclean technology, Altro Aquarius also requires a less stringent cleaning regiment. Altro Promenade's low-depth stepped embossing makes for smooth underfoot comfort and enhanced cleanability while still providing ample slip resistance.

## Working in harmony

Our systems not only fit together well, but our extensive testing has proved they are the perfect partnership. Altro Whiterock has been designed to fit together perfectly with Altro Aquarius and Altro Promenade, forming a sealed, watertight system for enhanced safety and hygiene. This integrated system includes welded jointing, coveability and compatibility with drainage.

### Our integrated system is:

- sealed and hygienic
- impervious, non-absorbent, washable
- able to withstand extremes in temperature
- designed to maintain performance and retain appearance

For more information on wet environments in healthcare facilities and how to promote safety and security for both patients and staff alike, register for our [Designing for healthcare: wet environments presentation](#).



Altro Whiterock and Altro Whiterock Chameleon offer designers a wide range of colors and finishes, from sparkling white to vibrant and vividly colorful wall panels. Altro Whiterock wall designs provide a range of high-design finishes giving elegance and durability.

Altro Whiterock

Altro Whiterock recessed shelf

Altro Aquarius



Durability



Did you know that Altro Whiterock is the only globally Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points (HACCP) certified PVCu wall sheet?





## Engineered for success

Compared with standard grouting Altro Whiterock doesn't absorb a drop of water or compromise hygiene.

Ceramic tiles can give you maintenance problems that Altro Whiterock doesn't. Staining, grout cracking and individual tile failure are common issues but with our walls system there is less need to spend time and money inspecting and repairing surfaces.

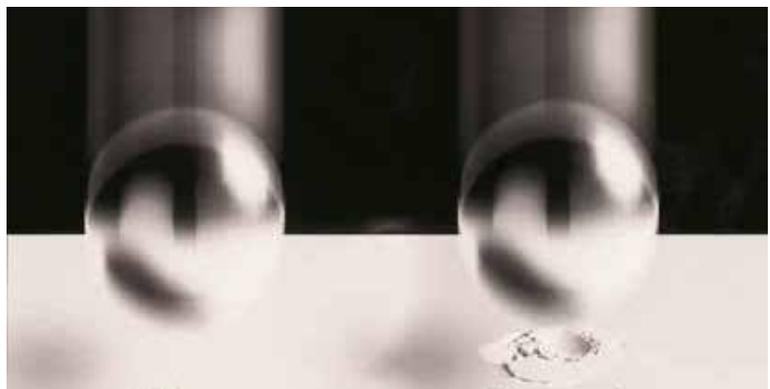
The durability offered by Altro Whiterock also means that impact damage that would leave ceramic tiles broken and vulnerable is non-existent.



Altro Whiterock wall panels can be heat-welded together. This bond is extremely difficult to remove via gradual picking and is incapable of re-purposing for acts of aggression or self-harm once damaged.

## Additional testing

Wet room test ETAG 022 Part 3 Annex A & F carried out by SP Technical Research Institute of Sweden shows Altro Whiterock is impervious to water ingress.



Above: Example of Drop Ball Test (BS EN438-2-199) damage results of Altro Whiterock vs. Ceramic Tile.

## Cleaning

Proper cleaning is essential to keeping a facility hygienic no matter which interior finishes are selected. We highly recommend that a cleaning and sanitizing program is created specific to your facility that utilizes the resources and products as recommend by individual manufacturers.

Our cleaning guidelines are available at [altro.com](http://altro.com)

## Samples

Altro recommends that color selection is never made through printed or digital materials. Please order a physical sample for color and pattern approval before placing your order with us.

Order samples 24 hours a day at [altro.com](http://altro.com) or find us on Material Bank.



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