

RICHMOND PRIMOID, INC.



RICHMOND PRIMOID: SOMETHING TO CHEER ABOUT AT LANE STADIUM

Background: The 50,000-seat Lane Stadium on the campus of Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, Virginia plays host to a number of events throughout the school year. Whether the stands are packed with screaming football fans rooting for the home team or proud parents watching their sons and daughters graduate, the stadium provides a showplace for students and visitors alike.

That's why it's important for the stadium to always look its best. But after decades of use, Lane Stadium was in need of repair. Virginia Tech needed a company to repair existing damage as well as prevent further deterioration. Richmond Primoid was called in. It was their job to both restore Lane Stadium and protect it for years to come.

The Problem: Over the years, weather and water penetration lead to the deterioration of several stadium sections, most noticeably on the seats and steps. It was important to put a stop to this problem immediately. Left unattended, such damage could have caused a loss in structural integrity in future years. Before any work could get underway, Richmond Primoid first had to remove the 50,000 seats just to get to the damaged area. This was quite a job in itself.

"The whole process was very labor-intensive" explains Al Rose, President of Richmond Primoid. "For one thing, the seats were secured by anchor bolts that were in pretty bad condition. The bolts were so rusted they tended to break when we tried to remove them."

TIME WAS OF THE ESSENCE

Richmond Primoid began work on February 15th with one important stipulation in mind. Part of the stadium (30,000 seats) had to be ready by May 9th for the spring graduation ceremony. This challenge required completing the concrete repair to the north section's west stands as well as having every seat in those areas back in place in a short period of time. They accomplished this goal with thirty five people, sometimes working seven days per week, 10 to 12 hours per day.

What's more, instead of being able to streamline the work by finishing each step of the project and moving on, they had to finish one area entirely then start from the beginning on the other sections of the stadium. Given the various tasks involved, the project could have quickly turned into a scheduling nightmare.

"It was just a challenge we had to meet," says Rose. "We work on such a wide range of projects-roofing, floors, decks, walls-we're used to catering our services to each client's particular needs. No two jobs are the same and we understand that."





The Solution: Work began with the removal of the seats and caulking. Next, the deteriorated concrete was cut away and hauled out of the stadium. The joints were then ground clean to remove any existing film. This left a fresh surface for better adhesion. After that, the rusted seat bolts were cut out and new holes drilled for each bolt. This process was repeated for some 4,000 bolts.

The fourth step involved repairing the deteriorated concrete around the steps and seating areas. For that, Richmond Primoid used concrete and a polymer modified patching material. This type of patching material was chosen because its density adheres well to the shape into which it is molded. Once the concrete and patching material hardened, the entire stadium was power washed.

Next came recaulking both the vertical expansion joints and the horizontal joints running behind and along the seating areas. After the expansion joints were caulked, a rubber membrane was applied over each vertical joint for greater flexibility. In all, Richmond Primoid removed and replaced 87,000 feet (16.48 miles) using Pecora Dynatrol II caulking to seal the joints around 50,000 seats.

8,500 GALLONS SPREAD OVER 263,000 SQUARE FEET

The next to last step, and perhaps the most important, was

to apply over 8,500 gallons of Neogard Peda-Gard II Waterproof Traffic Bearing coating to 263,000 square feet of surface. Neogard is a urethane coating applied in four layers. The first two of those layers were used to seal out moisture. The third coat was mixed with an aggregate creating a non-slip surface. The final coat then locked in the aggregate. Colored gray with orange and maroon highlights, the Neogard dried, forming a protective coating perfect for use in heavy traffic areas. Adds Rose, "We've been using this type of coating for 30 years without a problem. When we find something that works, we stick with it."

All that was left now was to replace the seats they had removed in February. Richmond Primoid installed 20,000 board feet of brand new seat planks and the project was complete.

A NEW SEASON, A LIKE-NEW STADIUM

On September 5th, Virginia Tech kicked off another football season at newly-restored Lane Stadium.

"It was a great day," remarked Jerry Fogleman, Job Superintendent. "We finished well ahead of our deadline and the stadium couldn't have looked better. Our entire team should be proud of what we accomplished, especially in the time we were given."

To learn more about Richmond Primoid and the wide range of work they do, call (804)644-4561 or toll free (800)235-4561

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PO. BOX 6785 • RICHMOND, VA 23230 • 804-644-4561
TOLL FREE 800-235-4561 • FAX 804-225-7271
www.primoid.com

