

MATTING FLIES HIGH

The Terminal One extension at Heathrow airport is yet another phase at one of the world's busiest airports. The airport is also one of London's most exposed sites and highly susceptible to changing weathers and high winds. Because of the exposure, the flat roof of the new extension necessitated precautions to be taken in order to protect maintenance personnel working at such extreme height.

Crossgrip safety matting was specified by architects Pascall & Watson as the ideal material to use for the rooftop walkways. Michael McCafferty of MMC Building Contractors says 'We laid this matting because it was specifically asked for by the architects.

That is interesting because it is very often left to contactors, like us, to interpret a designer's wishes and decide on the most suitable product.'



At Heathrow, the matting is used to access and maintain mechanical plant housed on the roof. It is also used to protect the roof covering from pedestrian traffic and damage from tools and heavy equipment. For extra safety it is edged with a highly visible yellow ramping.

Crossgrip's deeply etched surface is providing airport staff with excellent slip-resistance even in the worst weather conditions. The open-grid means that the matting is self-draining and provides continuous underfoot grip. The PVC composition and weight also mean that the walkway requires no maintenance and is permanently stable even in high winds.