

Performance

The Performance Flooring Magazine

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Systems

 **BASF**
The Chemical Company

Stack them up

Container architecture between
living boxes and art galleries

Systems sciences congress

Service systems, natural systems
Interview with systems scientist David Ing

New Silkroad Map

Architecture project for the systematic
revitalization of the Silk Road



A dab of colour before a high-rise backdrop: the yellow containers of the APAP Open School offer welcome relief in a rather depressing landscape.

Not only containers are recycled here: architects James & Mau also recycle other materials, with used pallets featuring in façade cladding, for example.



System solutions for container floors

Performance Flooring products can of course also be used in containers. Depending on the requirements faced by the floor, it is possible to combine system components individually. The wide variety of colours available and liquid application also allow extraordinary floor designs – for adventurous container architecture.



committed to sustainable building, they also consistently recycle other materials such as rails, pallets, bottles, etc.

What to do with containers?

Container architecture is less of a short-lived trend and more of a recurrent phenomenon. Brands such as Puma and Freytag have set up offices and flagship stores in containers and modern design offices are always taking up the theme again. Nowadays, in an era of financial crisis, container architecture has developed an entirely new direction. Shipping containers that are no longer needed for shipping become available. What is there to ship in a sluggish economy? At the same time, work on major construction sites in Dubai and China has been halted as the capital has evaporated in the crisis. This is the first step to new prospects for used containers.

Platoon has recently received an enquiry concerning the development of another type of container building: self-sufficient units featuring solar panels that could be used as internet cafes in Africa. In developing countries, containers are already recycled. After use on the „primary mar-

ket" for 13 to 15 years, containers reach the „secondary market" where they are used as warehouses for tyre dealers, for example. Or containers are loaded and shipped to areas from which they are unlikely to return, such as Africa or Mongolia. In such areas, containers are used by people as simple homes. They cut a hole for a window and either live in the container or set up their workshop or shop there. ■