inclusion. For an accessible future.
What is “inclusion”?

Everyone is different and that’s normal

Inclusion is a hot topic at the moment. There aren’t many of us who haven’t heard this term before. But if you ask someone “What exactly does inclusion mean?” you’re often greeted with a shrug. To summarise it in one sentence: It means designing society in such a way that everyone can participate in everything – equally – irrespective of any individual prerequisites such as age, gender, place of birth or skills.

That initially that sounds great, but reading it a second time one is inclined to think “But shouldn’t that go without saying?” Indeed it should, but unfortunately it doesn’t. Despite the agreement made at the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in 2006 and its applicability in Germany since 2009, the process of creating an inclusive society is progressing rather slowly.

According to the study “Accessible Tourism for Everyone in Germany” (German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs 2008) about 10 percent of the population believe that an accessible, unobstructed environment is absolutely vital, approximately 30 to 40 percent say it is necessary (this equates to around 25 million people) and for 100 percent convenient.

“Accessibility is not a costly luxury for a minority, but improved quality of life for everyone.”

Why Inclusion?
Everyone profits from an inclusive society

What common sense suggests, scientific studies have confirmed: People who are valued and belong are more balanced, resilient and healthier people and therefore even live longer lives. The active participation of everyone is of great benefit to society; forgoing this is foolish. Consider the knowledge, talent and skills we would have to go without if someone was excluded from this participation, due to a disability.

What guides us?
Our contribution: tactile floor indicators

Our countless conversations with those affected, organisations and associations as well as representatives of commercial enterprises have taught us that there is a huge need for floor indicators. We are however also familiar with the concerns often raised. Above all questions about durability – i.e. the quality of the materials – and the costs. These two factors also played the key role for us throughout the entire development process. It has been our goal, right from the start, to offer the best product for the best price, therefore making it possible for more and more people to orientate themselves without issues.

Our new tactile floor indicators “Odile®” fulfil the high quality standards applicable in Germany. Our manufacturing process makes the products affordable and at the same time new laying and adhesive techniques ensure that Odile® can be applied for both long and short term use.
We are making accessibility and inclusion affordable

The advantage of our new system is that it can be installed in buildings simply, cost-effectively and at any point in time.

Individually tailored solutions are also straightforward to implement. In the process, the benefit to those with visual impairments is always the prime consideration.
Individually Tailored Solutions to Meet Your Needs

Our tactile guidance system is available in almost any colour. As a result it can be adapted to perfectly fit in with your corporate design and structural surroundings, whilst also fulfilling all the necessary requirements of DIN 32975 in relation to visibility.

Material with the Best Qualities

We manufacture our guidance system using the material Desmopan®. This is a thermoplastic polyurethane (TPU) which is light, extremely robust, hard-wearing and colourfast. The material is UV-protected so that it can withstand extreme demands.

Of Good Use to Us All

Many people have difficulties orientating themselves in an unfamiliar environment. A tactile guidance system is not only of assistance to the blind and those with partial or impaired vision – it helps everyone – especially in situations whereby it is easy to lose your way. For this reason numerous international banks, universities and airports along with shopping centre and public transport operators are already using Desmopan® guidance systems. The advantages are clear: workflows are simplified and made more economic whilst simultaneously increasing customer satisfaction.

For Long-Term and Short-Term Use

The visual and tactile guidance system is predominantly designed for permanent use in buildings. Temporary use is also possible, e.g. for large events, congresses, trade fairs or other similar events.

Thanks to our new adhesive and application methods, you can decide whether the guidance system should be installed permanently with durability in mind or whether it should be easily removable without leaving any residue, for example after an event.
Odile® – A System for Any Weather

The demands on an outdoor guidance system are higher. Environmental factors such as heat, frost, and fluctuations in temperature should pose no challenge to the material used. Odile® meets all these requirements.

- For both indoor and outdoor use
- Easy to install
- Hard-wearing, weatherproof, frost-resistant
- Special adhesive process leads to optimal adhesion
- Very light – therefore also suitable for use on bridges
High-Visibility Markings and Edgings

High-visibility markings help all users to quickly recognise sources of danger, such as steps and glazed areas, and to avoid accidents.

If our vision is not good enough to absorb information visually, then the signage must be adapted. For example: indicators can be put on handrails in stairwells in order to let the user know which floor they are on.
High-Visibility Stair Edging

The L-profile – simple to install on stairs at any point in time

People fall up and down stairs primarily because the lead up to stairs is not visible enough. To address this danger we have developed high-visibility, non-slip stair nosing (L-profile). The benefit: stair treads and risers are simultaneously highlighted and can therefore be seen more easily and more quickly – regardless of whether you are at the top or bottom of the stairs. Available in grey, yellow and black.

The perfect double act: stair nosing and tactile warning surfaces

Tactile warning surfaces have proven themselves to be the perfect addition to stair nosing. A warning surface consists of either domed floor tiles or individual rounded domes (plastic or steel), placed in rows, with the help of a template. These are used leading up to potential dangers, in order to give users due warning. Individual domes are available in the following: Desmopan®, brass, stainless steel / stainless steel with a non-slip insert.
References
Photo left: DB Deutsche Bahn, Frankfurt / Small image top middle: Kinopolis, Gießen
Photo top middle large: BFW Düren, with BFW’s kind permission (Photo: Tom Reindel)
Both photos on the very right: University Hospital Cologne, with medfacilities GmbH’s kind permission
Both photos bottom middle: LVR Cologne, Stefanie Hess, Kempen Krause Ingenieure, 2014,
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Tactile Signage and Handrails

Our stainless steel, aluminium and plastic handrails combine raised lettering with braille. The plastic varieties are particularly suitable for the visually impaired: the wide range of colours means that very clear contrasts can be achieved.

Further products in our range: vinyl lettering, doorplates, and elevator signage.
Tactile Maps for Both Indoors and Outdoors

Tactile information doesn’t just help people find their way and orientate themselves, in emergencies it can save lives. Floorplans are models for touching – when entering a building they are an immediate way of becoming familiar with the surroundings.

The size of maps and information boards varies depending on customers’ requirements. Why not contact us for a quotation tailored to your needs.
Maximum Slip-Resistance Using GriP

Our business partner, the Swiss company GriP Safety Coatings AG, has dedicated itself to the topic of slip resistance. The company has developed a unique solution, which is being put to use in more and more hotels, swimming pools, hospitals and care homes, as well as in private households. Particularly when moisture is involved – e.g. in wet zones, entrance areas or outdoors – the strengths of their product shine through. GriP AnitSlip (German: GriP AnitRutsch®) is a transparent coating which is simply applied to the flooring. It is the only anti-slip coating, worldwide, which has internationally recognised certification. Leading bath manufacturers such as Villeroy & Boch, Duscholux and Ideal Standard have long placed their trust in GriP. If you have any questions, you can turn to the manufacturer or to Inclusion – your certified GriP partner.
Accessible Markings for Glass

Glazing is a popular design feature: it lets in light, it allows transitions to blend in harmoniously, and it represents transparency and openness.

For the visually impaired this presents a problem: doors and walls are virtually invisible and pose a danger. The solution, which is also stipulated in the German standard DIN 32975, is to use contrasting markings, with both light and dark features. We work with the printing company Druckwelle, in Bonn, from the design stage through to the installation stage. The complete application process can also be carried out by the customer themselves if so desired.
Open and Close Doors in an Instant: LockAid®

LockAid® is a good example of how accessibility can be improved with simple and cost-effective measures. Originally, this assistive device was developed to help the blind and visually impaired lock and unlock doors. But it quickly became clear that the elderly and people with motor and sensory impairments also benefit from LockAid®.

No assembly is required, LockAid® is ready for immediate use. The tool consists of a set of plastic rings with an adhesive backing and a rotating cylinder shaped like a funnel. The user selects the attachment which fits the door-lock and presses this onto the lock and clicks the rotating cylinder into place. As simple as that.

All the benefits at a glance:

• Haptic and visual assistance in finding the lock
• Funnel shape ensures that the key is accurately guided to the lock
• The easy to turn cylinder is rotated, not the key – which is especially helpful to those with motor and sensory impairments
• Requires less strength and coordination
• Lock/unlock with just one hand

The lock aid helps to ensure that people can move around independently and safely without the assistance of others. LockAid® is available in black, grey, red and white (fluorescent).
The Logical Addition:
The Acoustic Guidance System Step-Hear™

The Step-Hear™ system is a navigation, information and emergency call system, which enables the blind and visually impaired to move around more independently, safely and conveniently. It is also of assistance to those who have limited reading and writing skills or to those who have problems orientating themselves. What makes it special? The user can reach their target destination at just the touch of a button. Step-Hear™ consists of a base-unit and a transmitter. As soon as a user is within range of a base-unit, the transmitter reacts by vibrating and beeping. By pressing a button, the user retrieves an audio message which then guides them to their desired destination e.g. in a university or public building. Alternatively, the transmitter can inform someone about a user’s location, who can then be collected and accompanied. Another advantage of Step-Hear™: It also works where GPS-supported systems fail due to a lack of signal strength.

The advantages of the Step-Hear™ system:
• Optimal solution for independent and convenient navigation
• Easy to install
• Low acquisition costs
• For use both indoors and out
Visualise it Yourself

Using these glasses it is possible to simulate a visual impairment – do not operate any vehicles on public highways whilst wearing these glasses.

“Simply” pour some water into a glass or carry out some other everyday tasks. You will quickly experience how your sight can be compromised due to a visual impairment, neurological condition or due to an age-related loss of vision.

In the process, please try to pay attention to how helpful it is in these situations to orientate yourself by use of contrasts, markings and sufficient lighting.
Contact us for a pair of simulation-glasses.

www.inclusion.de
Better Accessibility

Practical solutions are our first priority. That’s why we work with experienced advisors and mobility coaches, who have experience in the field of visual impairments. We also organise seminars, courses and presentations to provide information on the complex topic of accessibility. Benefit from our know-how! You can obtain more information directly from our website.

inclusion –
Better Accessibility

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