



SIKA AT WORK

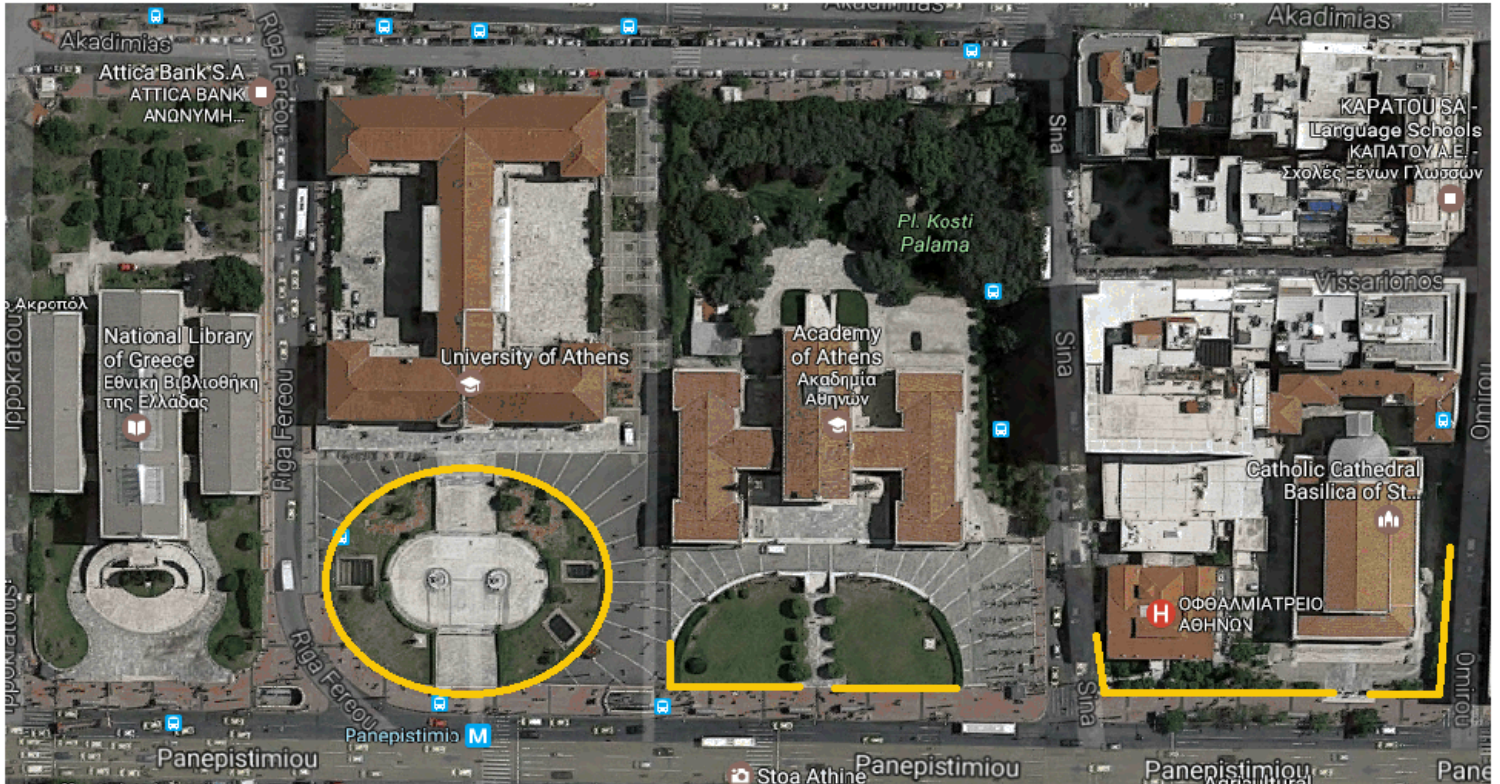
Protection against graffiti of the Athenian Trilogy forecourt & the precincts of Athens' Eye clinic and the Cathedral Basilica of St. Dionysius the Areopagite

PROTECTION: Sikagard®-850 AG

BUILDING TRUST



PROTECTION AGAINST GRAFFITI



PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The so-called "neo-classical trilogy" of Athens, located at Panepistimiou Street, is the heart of city's spiritual life. On the left, the National Library, in the center the historical building of the University of Athens and at the right is the Academy of Athens. All three are imposing neo-classical mansions built in the 19th century.

The listed building of the University of Athens was designed by the Danish architect Christian Hansen, while the other two buildings by his brother, Theophilus and were completed by Ernst Ziller. All three have a rich interior decoration, while in their forecourt exist landscaped gardens with marble fencing and sculptures of great Greek artists, forming a separate ensemble in the center of the city.

Athens Eye Clinic (Ophthalmiatrio in greek) is one of the oldest Nursing Institutions in Europe and is a Christian Hansen's work, Gerasimos Metaxas and Aristides Balanos. The project was established in 1847 and was officially opened in 1854 as the 'Ophthalmion Hospital'.

The Cathedral Basilica of St. Dionysius the Areopagite, built in the rhythm of a three-aisled neo-Renaissance basilica, is the work of Leo Pho Klance and Lysandros Koutantzoglou. The Cathedral was founded in 1853, was inaugurated in 1865 and is the chair of the Catholic Archbishop of Athens.

APPLICATION DEMANDS

In order to support actions aimed at improving the quality of city's life, it was decided to clean out graffiti and pollutants from the forecourt of two out of three contiguous buildings of the "neo-classical Trilogy" (University & Academy of Athens) and from the precincts of Athens' Eye Clinic and the Cathedral Basilica of St. Dionysius the Areopagite (as shown in the above figure).

The project is part of the overall effort to mobilize entities to preserve emblematic spots in the city and keep them clean from graffiti.

The surfaces to be cleaned were mostly white and grey marble, except for the precinct of Athens' Eye Clinic, which is made of natural grey stone & brick.

SIKA SOLUTION

For protection through the years of all surfaces from graffiti and fly posters, **Sikagard®-850 AG** system was applied. **Sikagard®-850 AG** is a permanent, non-sacrificial, protective coating against graffiti and posters for surfaces such as concrete, masonry, marble, natural stone, etc. (Type II according to Greek Technical Specifications 05-02-03-00). Graffiti is removed repeatedly without damaging the protective coating. In addition, cleaning process requires no chemical agent but only water.

Sikagard®-850 AG provides a transparent, clear, wet-look surface that also illuminates and highlights the substrate, is based on polyorganic siloxane and has excellent resistance against weathering such as rain, UV radiation and extreme temperature fluctuations.

Sikagard®-850 AG system is part of "Clean & Protect" solution of Sika® for protection of facades, floors & roofs against water penetration, oil based staining, graffiti & fly-posters.

Surface preparation: Preparation took place during evening hours, aiming to minimize the nuisance of daily traffic in the city.



High-pressure water jet was applied to remove old-existing paints, graffiti and posters, remove loose and friable parts and clean surfaces from dust, dirt, etc. After cleaning, the surface was allowed to dry for at least 24 hours.



System application: Sikagard®-850 AG protection system was then applied. Initially, the first layer of Sikagard®-850 AG was applied as primer, diluted with 30% white spirit by weight, using roller & brush on the joints between the stones.



The primer layer was allowed to dry and become touch-dry (tack-free) prior to the application of second coat (~3 hours between the layers) The second and final coat of Sikagard®-850 AG, diluted with a small percentage of white spirit, was also applied using roller and brush.



Marble surface after rainfall, a few days after application of Sikagard®-850 AG protection system (low water absorption):



Final aspect of "Athenian Trilogy" forecourt and of Athens' Eye Clinic, Cathedral of St. Dionysius the Areopagite precincts:



PROJECT PARTICIPANTS

Project owner: **Municipality of Athens**

Contractor: **K2 MONOSI P.C.C.**

Project sponsor: **RAYCAP S.A.**

Our most recent General Sales Terms shall apply.

Please consult the most recent Product Data Sheets prior to any use and processing.



Sika Hellas SA
 15, Protomagias Str.
 145 68, Kryoneri-Athens
 Greece

Contact
 Phone: +30 210 8160600
 Fax: +30 210 8160606
www.sika.gr / sika@gr.sika.com

