

Floor Covering Media

Your Gateway to the Floor Covering Industry

Metcut Research Rosslyn Drive in Oakley, Ohio



Oakley, Ohio, Press Release, Floor Covering Media, February 17, 2016: [Tom Demeropolis](#), a senior staff reporter for the [Cincinnati Business Courier](#) working the commercial real estate and development beat, recently wrote an informative article published in the CBC about [Metcut Research Inc.](#), an independent materials engineering and testing company in [Oakley, Ohio](#), which has one of the largest "strong floor" testing facilities in the USA.



A "strong floor", is a steel, reinforced-concrete slab, which is 82 feet long by 22 feet wide with concrete 3.5 feet deep. Additionally, it has metal anchor plates laid out on a square grid containing 3-foot-long, 50,000-pound-capacity bolts spaced every 3 feet on center along the surface so that test structures could be bolted to the floor.

The floor is large enough and strong enough for testing full-size streetcars, rail cars and large engines. For an idea of the strength of the "strong floor", consider Metcut has a 20-ton crane above the floor to place structure test samples. While the crane is incapable of lifting over 20 tons or 40,000 pounds (if a structure is bolted to four of the bolts), it would be able to handle 200,000 pounds, or 100 tons of weight. The average African elephant weighs about 12,000 pounds, or 6 tons.

Floor Covering Media

Your Gateway to the Floor Covering Industry



Phil Bretz, president and CEO of Metcut, said this new strong floor puts the company in a league of its own. "As far as we know, there isn't anything else around close to this size," Bretz said. Typically, strong floors are found at universities or government organizations, but even including those, Metcut's is now among the largest.

Unit Building Services, a design-build company based in Linwood, built the strong floor for Metcut Research. The floor was part of a \$9.5 million expansion project for Metcut and Cincinnati Testing Laboratories that includes new construction and testing equipment. Mr. Demeropolis wrote about Metcut and CTL's expansion in May 2015.

Steve Schmidlin, owner and president of Unit Building Services, said installing the strong floor was one of the most challenging projects in the company's 44-year history. The expansion and addition of the strong floor was particularly complex because it required Metcut to acquire more land from a neighboring property. Schmidlin said using creative design, Unit was able to fit the strong floor into an expansion of the existing building, which was less disruptive to the rest of Metcut's operation and allowed for the addition of storage.

Bretz said the collaborative project came in on time and at budget. "A strong floor is not a normal thing to build, and the footprint of our building is a little unusual," Bretz said. "We were connecting old structures to new structures, so there were a lot of challenges to it." While Metcut's expansion is finishing up, Bretz expects to have the first test on the strong floor in the next couple of weeks.



Metcut and CTL provide independent testing for the aerospace field, power generation, ground transportation and orthopedic devices. The companies employ a total of 170, including Metcut Recherches S.A.S. in France.

In 2014, Metcut had total revenue of \$23 million. In the next 10 years, Bretz expects that could double. By 2017, the companies are expected to add 15 new jobs. They received a 35 percent, five-year job creation tax credit from the Ohio Tax Credit Authority. In the next 10 years, the firms are expected to create a total of 40 new jobs, which will be mostly skilled laboratory, skilled machinist and salaried engineering jobs. Having the strong floor will help the company expand its business. "It puts us in a niche that doesn't exist," Bretz said.

Floor Covering Media

Your Gateway to the Floor Covering Industry



[Metcut Research Inc.](http://www.metcut.com/)

3980 Rosslyn Drive
Cincinnati, OH 45209-1196

513-271-5100

513-271-9511

<http://www.metcut.com/>

Floor Covering Media publishes Press Releases called Flooring Updates.

Flooring Updates



FlooringMedia 1

Flooring Network

For those in the market and those that serve it

Floor Covering Media, a business network serving the floor covering industry, provides readers timely, objective news and information about flooring topics.

Floor Search

Answers to Questions About Flooring

Readers may conveniently retrieve this timely, objective news and information at [Floor Search.info](http://FloorSearch.info), which is Floor Covering Media's public search engine.