



Dumpster Access™

Safety Access Case Study Great Floors Retail Locations Washington





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Situation

Great Floors is a 27-location, regionally based premier specialty floor covering retailer with locations in twelve metropolitan areas across Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and Montana.

Floor scraps ranging from padding and carpet to wood and ceramics and other

non-recyclable materials are deposited in large garbage bins at each retail location.

Most of these dumpsters are located in the retail parking lot and are tall enough to require stair or ramp access to safely deposit refuse.



Project Specs

Work Safe Access provided OSHA-compliant modular Dumpster Access access systems for Great Floors at multiple retail locations.

- Stairs
- Platforms
- Guardrails



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Unique Challenges

Dan Scott, Great Floors Operations Manager, needed an access solution for contractors and employees to easily and safely dump everything from the daily retail in-store garbage to the unwieldy scraps and remnants from installation projects.

The ideal safety access solution would need to hold up under extreme weather conditions typically experienced in the Pacific Northwest and they needed to be modular to fit the wide variety of dumpster area footprints across different locations.

Dan Scott contacted Work Safe Access, manufacturers and installers of the Dumpster Access product line to address the needs of Great Floors at a few locations.

Access Needs

Great Floors needed enable safe, OSHA access to the retail dumpster units located in the retail parking lots.

Different sized dumpsters were used across locations, ranging from 44" to 54" high. By the very nature of individual retail locations and installation cycles, there have to be different size dumpsters that are appropriate for each location.

Modular Requirement

Dan Scott knew that each location's unique dumpster area footprint would mean

that Work Safe Access Dumpster Access products would need to be modular to enable fast, plug-and-play access systems that could be reconfigurable to fit within constrained footprint areas.

All Work Safe Access products, including the Dumpster Access product line, are modular and reconfigurable by design. From the unique needs of rooftops, basements, and everything in between, Work Safe Access products are manufactured to be reconfigurable.

Refuse Containment

The existing access to Great Floors' dumpsters required contractors and staff to cut down remnants to manageable weights and sizes before those resulting smaller pieces could be disposed of using the on-site dumpsters.

This required additional hourly costs and disrupted other work schedules including installation and demolition processes. Additionally, due to the height of the dumpsters, this still meant that the refuse needed to be hoisted and tossed to be able to enter the dumpster. One missed or broken bag of refuse would result in a scattering of materials across the parking lot area; if there was wind, the materials could scatter further into neighboring parking lots.



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The new system would have to enable staff to easily and safely drop the refuse into the top of the dumpster.



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Dumpster Access products are manufactured by Work Safe Access. Work Safe Access is a division of Welcome Ramp Systems.

Results

Safe, Slip Resistant Fall Protection And OSHA-Compliant Customized Access Solutions

In any weather condition, staff must be able to quickly and safely access the dumpster with ease. Perforated, self-draining aluminum treads and platforms eliminate pooling and provide a non-slip surface.

Special considerations for the various dumpster sizes, the dumpster footprint access area, parking lot ingress and egress, and staff applications were addressed. Delivery and installation was completed the same business day.

Great Floors staff can easily access the dumpsters and no longer need to pare down the refuse before disposal, keeping workers safe and the parking lots clean.

Dumpster Access products are reconfigurable and designed to provide the safest access environment possible.



“The Dumpster Access modular units are exactly what we needed. The bids were solid, the work was fast, and I didn’t have to do anything. The parking lots are clean and the staff loves the solution. I recommend Dumpster Access!”

– Dan Scott
Operations Manager,
Great Floors