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RIU Palace Hotel Project Profile

CUSTOMER: RIU Palace Hotel

APPLICATION: Hotel

LOCATION: Bahamas

CONTRACTOR: Caribbean Intl Air Conditioning Services Ltd.

Viega ProPress® and Viega PureFlow® keep RIU Palace Hotel installation on the fast track

“Using such a versatile system was great help and allowed for substantial time savings in what was a fast track job.”

RIU Hotels and Resorts features more than 100 luxurious destinations on some of the most beautiful beaches in the world. Caribbean International Air Conditioning Services Ltd. and Viega were able to help transform Hotel RIU Paradise Island into the extravagant RIU Palace of the Bahamas. Located on a three-mile stretch of a white-sand beach, the RIU Palace boasts 13 floors, plus basement and penthouse, and nearly 380 suites.

Plumbing and mechanical contractor Caribbean International Air Conditioning Services Ltd. accepted the job of remodeling the old Hotel RIU on Paradise Island and installing a variety of Viega PureFlow products, including 27,000 feet of 1/2" PEX, 2,500 feet of 1" PEX and 450 MINIBLOC units with a total of 2,328 ports. They also installed 9,500 feet of copper tubing, both vertical risers and horizontal distribution, of which 2,500 feet was connected using Viega ProPress fittings.

Omar Ramirez, project manager for the RIU Hotel remodel, found Viega's products to be easy and efficient to install.

“Using such a versatile system was a great help for us,” Ramirez said. “It allowed for substantial time savings in what was a fast track job.”

Construction began on September 5, 2009 and finished November 26 of the same year when the RIU Palace reopened for business, offering a host of new amenities and accommodations. To complete the work, Ramirez hired

10 plumbers with 10 helpers for four and a half weeks for installing runs; one plumber with one helper for four weeks to install the MINIBLOCKS; and four plumbers with four helpers for one and a half weeks to install the copper tubing using Viega ProPress.

“The existing plumbing system in the hotel would not permit access to control valves for each hotel room,” Ramirez said, “since the vertical lines for cold and hot water were located halfway inside the rooms. So the use of the PureFlow system allowed us to supply hot water and cold water to the

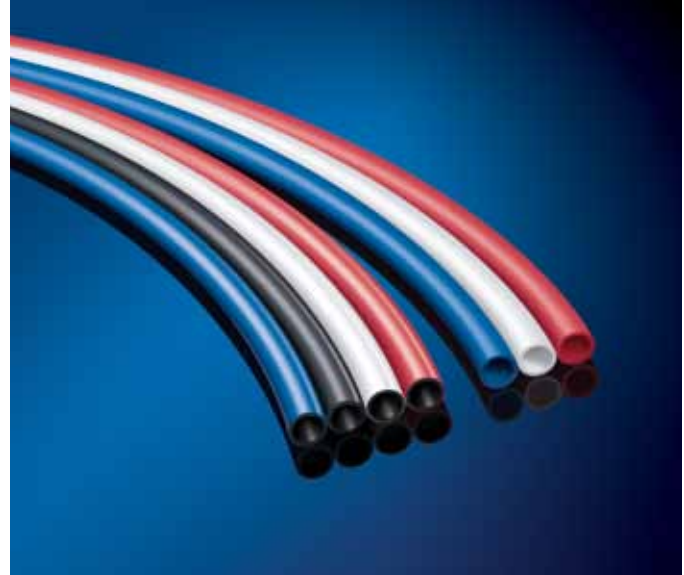


hallways where we installed MINIBLOCS, allowing us to not only independently control water supply to each room but to do so to each plumbing fixture and fitting in the room.”

Viega ProPress offers more features and benefits than any other pressing system. With fittings from the water meter to the faucet, the Viega ProPress copper system is perfect for many different

applications such as potable water, hot water circulation, heating systems, gas and even fire protection systems. What makes Viega ProPress unique is the patented Smart Connect® feature. Only Viega fittings have it. Viega’s Smart Connect feature helps installers ensure that they have pressed all connections. For industrial, marine, commercial and residential applications, Viega ProPress is the fast, flameless solution.

Viega PureFlow PEX plumbing systems are the most complete potable water systems available in the North American market. Each of our three PEX options is backed by extensive research, testing and the most comprehensive warranty in the industry. ViegaPEX™ tubing offers superior chlorine resistance for continuously recirculating applications and can withstand direct UV exposure for up to 60 days. ViegaPEX Ultra tubing is also available with all the same benefits of regular



ViegaPEX but can withstand direct UV exposure for up to six months without losing any of its performance properties. The third PEX tubing option Viega offers is our FostaPEX® tubing. Our FostaPEX is wrapped with aluminum so that it not only bends and flexes but will also keep its shape.

When it comes to quality, no other manufacturer can duplicate Viega’s PEX tubing systems or Viega’s copper ProPress system. And not only can Viega provide the highest level of quality possible, but our service, logistics and technical support are unmatched.

Ramirez and RIU Hotels were both immensely pleased with the quality of Viega’s superior and innovative products.

“The easy installation of the Viega PureFlow tubing and MINIBLOCS and Viega ProPress systems adapted perfectly to the remodeling and re-piping work,” Ramirez said, “minimizing damages that might have been caused by soldering if using a conventional system. We are sure to utilize Viega systems in the future, not only for plumbing systems, as was the case on this project, but also in chilled water systems.”