BS 9266:2013 supplements BS 8300:2009+A1:2010 and provides advice on the design of accessible and adaptable general needs housing.

Guidance on stair edgings

3 Gradus offer a Heavy-Duty Stair & Floor system suitable for heavy traffic exterior and interior environments. The system features stair edgings and tread plates for use on stairs and sheet material for use as functional barrier solutions that ensure adequate removal of both tracked dirt and moisture. Gradus offers a range of primary mats (Esplanade 8000, Esplanade Plus, Esplanade 1500, Esplanade 1000, Topguard, Tyreguard and Access) that can be used in conjunction with secondary barrier carpet (Boulevard 1500, 5000HD and 6000) to fulfill the requirements of a dwelling’s occupants. The design of common steps and stairs should conform to 6.8.2 of BS 8300:2009+A1:2010.

NOTE 1 A proprietary nosing can provide a durable solution that satisfies the requirements of BS 8300:2009+A1:2010. To meet the needs of all users, including those with sensory loss, the system should be adaptable to meet residents’ changing needs both in the living environment and in the built environment. In order to meet these changing requirements, homes need to be accessible and adaptable; accessible for both visitors and residents and adaptable to meet residents’ changing needs both in the living environment and in the built environment.

For further information or to request literature / samples contact Gradus Technical Support on Tel: +44 (0)20 8996 9001, Email: cservices@bsigroup.com or visit our website www.gradusworld.com
Gradus Information Paper on BS 9266:2013

What is it?
BS 9266:2013 is a new British Standard and provides a Code of Practice for the ‘Design of accessible and adaptable general needs housing’. BS 8300:2010 and Approved Documents M & K of The Building Regulations 2010 already provide guidance on accessible design for all aspects of public buildings, including public areas in residential buildings e.g. entrance lobbies, stair cases and service rooms. However, this guidance has mainly been used in student accommodation, residential care and nursing home environments and has not been widely applied to the design of public areas within other types of residential developments e.g. blocks of flats, whether privately or publicly funded. BS 9266:2013 is designed to ensure that best practice is applied to all new general needs housing and is an essential guide for anyone involved in design and build of housing from architects and designers to residential property developers, house builders and all sub-contractors such as flooring contractors.

What does it cover?
BS 9266:2013 gives recommendations for the design of accessible and adaptable general needs housing, whether in the form of flats or individual houses. It covers car parking, external access routes to blocks of flats or individual houses, common circulation areas in blocks of flats, circulation areas within dwellings and the provision of key rooms and facilities.

The standard covers all areas in depth but the parts that are relevant to Gradus are as follows:

Entrances to individual houses or blocks of flats
• External approach area
• Entrance matting in blocks of flats
External access routes
• Steps on access routes
Communal areas within blocks of flats
• Identification of access routes to individual flats
• Design of common stairs and stairs

The key points within the standard that apply to Gradus products are:

Star Edgings
• Permanently contrasting material the full width of the tread on both tread and riser
• Material should be 50mm to 60mm wide on the tread and 30mm to 55mm on the riser
• Should contrast visually with the remainder of the tread and riser

Visual Contrast
• Differences in light reflectance value (LRV) should be used to assess the degree of visual contrast between key fixtures and surrounding surfaces

Entrance Matting
• An entrance lobby of a block of flats should have an entrance flooring system to help collect water and debris from the soles of shoes, etc. to minimise the risk of slips, trips and falls any matting should either have its surface level with the adjacent floor finish or, if surface level, be of a type that has slip-resistant backing and chamfered edges

Why Gradus?
The Gradus Guarantee
All Gradus products are designed to meet the latest UK building regulations. Accessibility to buildings, as well as the provision of an inclusive environment for all, is now a requirement of the building regulations (Approved Documents M & K of The Building Regulations 2010, BS 8300:2009+A1:2010 & BS 9266:2013). Gradus actively seeks the advice of RNIB Access Consultancy Services and The Centre For Accessible Environments, and has consulted directly with Communities & Local Government (formerly the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister). Gradus is confident that all stair edgings, pvc skirtings and transition strips are manufactured to meet the provisions and requirements of Approved Documents M & K of The Building Regulations 2010, BS 8300:2009+A1:2010, BS 9266:2013 and research from BRE, the XT range helps ensure buildings are safe and accessible to all users.

The Gradus XT Range of Stair Edgings
The Gradus XT range of stair edgings offers the ultimate solution in reducing slips, trips and falls on stairs.

• Developed in line with the latest legislation and guidelines such as Approved Documents M (ADM) & K (ADK) of The Building Regulations 2010, BS 8300:2009+A1:2010, BS 9266:2013 and research from BRE, the XT range helps ensure buildings are safe and accessible to all users.
• Research undertaken by BRE shows that if the depth of the tread is less than 300mm the risk of overstep is increased. A stair edging with a slip-resistant insert that snaps around the upper edge of the step reduces this risk by increasing the slip-resistance of the step edge.
• The XT range features an extended insert design to provide additional slip-resistance around the leading edge of the step; this ensures that foot contact is always made with the slip-resistant element of the stair edging.

Choice of aluminium or PVC-U Hardnose channel

Building points help to hold floorcovering in place

Extended insert design ensures maximum safety under foot

Choice of square, rake back or bullnose profiles

The Gradus XT Range of Stair Edgings
Gradus offers an extensive range of barrier matting systems, providing an effective barrier against dirt and moisture at entrances, access points and circulation areas.

An effective barrier matting system helps to:
• Increase public safety
• Reduce maintenance costs
• Create a safe, accessible entrance in line with the latest legislation and guidelines
• Increase the lifecycle of surrounding floorcoverings
• Remove dirt and moisture tracked in by foot and wheeled traffic by up to 95%

Light Reflectance Values (LRVs) Explained
An LRV is a value given to a surface to denote the amount of light reflected. Therefore, as many people with a visual impairment can perceive light and dark, LRVs are a suitable method to measure contrast.

BS 8300:2009+A1:2010, BS 9266:2013 & Approved Documents M (ADM) & K (ADK) of The Building Regulations 2010 highlight the need to ensure there is sufficient visual contrast at the step edge, providing a safe environment for all building users.

• Project Rainbow and ADM recommend that there is at least a 30 point difference between the LRVs of the stair edging and floorcovering to achieve a suitable contrast.

All Gradus stair edging colours are measured for Light Reflectance Values (LRVs), in accordance with BS 8493:2008+A1:2010 allowing you to make the right decision when selecting colour.

For more information on the XT range visit http://www.gradusworld.com/xt-range-aluminium-pvc-u-hardnose

For more information on LRVs download the LRV booklet from http://www.gradusworld.com/light-reflectance-values

| Two different colours! |
| This is what it could look like to someone with a visual impairment |

For more information on the range of barrier matting systems available visit http://www.gradusworld.com/barrier-matting-systems