

## **Floors of Old Trading Ltd**

Managing Director, Kerim Kuyucu

I started my working career in sales and ended up as the Group Purchasing Manager, for an international corporation based in London.

I was working for a Singaporean group of companies that owned global brands such as Giorgio Armani, DKNY, Guess, Bulgari, Prada, Nobu Restaurant, the Halkin& Metropolitan hotels and many, many other brands and properties. I had a spend of £11m annually and my remit was to establish not only best cost practices but also introduce an infrastructure and purchasing policy throughout the organisation.

Having risen to what I thought was the best role my profession could offer, I decided it wasn't enough and a change of direction was needed.

In 1999, I went into the contract flooring industry and attacked it using the same knowledge I had gained in my previous positions. It proved to be successful and in 2010 I started my own company, based in London and Hertfordshire. My aim was to offer world class quality products and service to an industry that wasn't used to it!

Over the years, we have worked for many global and internationally recognised institutes and celebrities alike, such as Victoria & Albert Museum, National Portrait Gallery, Tate Modern, Saatchi Gallery, Sir John Soanes Museum, Kensington Palace, Harrods, Sadler's Wells Theatre, Royal Festival Hall, Royal Opera House, Mercedes Benz and Rolex, to name but a few.

Having established our UK market, we decided to bring our brand and products to North Cyprus in 2014. We originally opened our first showroom in Catalkoy but decided to move to Lefkosa instead about 18 months ago because it was more commercial.

We are now based in the centre of the Old Town Lefkosa, near to the Buyuk Han and Kumarceli Han, in an up-and-coming vibrant area of our capital city. Our showroom is based in an old Evkaf building that we have restored sympathetically and in keeping with the surrounding area.

Although I was born and raised in the UK, my family were originally from Cyprus and I decided that our company would do well to bring our quality of products and service to North Cyprus. Having witnessed first-hand what was available here, we thought it would be a great idea to introduce real, world class quality timber flooring, to the up and coming market in North Cyprus. I still run the administration of our UK office from Cyprus, with help from one of our managers in the UK for site meetings & sales etc.

We have also brought not only our top quality products and expertise to North Cyprus but also our world class machines which are completely dust free, so can we supply and lay new flooring and also renovate existing floors to the best standard in the world, without dust, which is very important when working in an environment where the public can access or are nearby.

We work alongside many worldwide manufacturers and I tend to visit each and every one of our suppliers to ensure quality and continuity of service. Our flooring comes from all over the world but mainly continental Europe, places such as Italy, France, Romania, Poland, Czech Republic, Turkey, Germany, Holland, Denmark etc.

We also offer international standard Sprung Sports Flooring, complete with Court Line Markings and these floors come with a manufacturer's 25 year warranty.

We have many exclusivity contacts with our international manufacturers here in Cyprus and Turkey and only recently, have introduced an innovative and unique decking product that can be laid by any person, with or without DIY skills.

This product is considered a premium product in the decking market for many reasons;

It can be laid by layman and professional alike.

It is made from solid hardwood ash that has been smoked and cured (as opposed to the particle board quality normally found here).

It can withstand extreme heat, cold and water.

It can be laid almost anywhere, over tiles, plywood, marble, concrete etc.

The design allows the pattern to be changed when the owner gets bored with the design, without damage to either the subfloor or decking itself.

This product can also be moved and re-sited when it is no longer required in that area.

We envisage this product being used primarily on roof terraces, apartment balconies, restaurants, spas and any other location where normal decking is required.

Other products:

Solid and engineered hardwood and softwood flooring.

Bespoke wooden marquetry design flooring.

Herringbone, Chevron and many other designs.

Curved edge flooring (unique and green 4% waste from tree to floor).

Extra wide and extra-long hardwood engineered flooring up to 600mm wide x 15m long, (the largest sizes of timber flooring in the world).

A choice of any colour wood flooring from our oil-stains where colours can be chosen from over 80 stock colours but there are no limitations because we can mix to suit the client's design.