# case study INNOVATION made in Germany





### A prestigious look for escalators too

**Hamburg, July 2005** - approx. 12 million people pass through the main railway station in Hamburg every month. That is why the subject of cleanliness plays an especially major role here. The station management is therefore responsible for the facilities being kept in good condition, and regularly cleaned and checked At Hamburg Main Station, not only the floor must be clean, the escalators must also be in perfect condition.

#### Cleanliness at the railway station is not just a matter of appearances

The public image of the railway is affected by many factors. The first impression counts. The station is there at the beginning of every journey, and the traveller should also feel at home at his destination. The railway station is a visiting card for the whole railway concern. The cleanliness of a railway station is not just a visual aspect, however - a clean railway also conveys a feeling of safety.

Hamburg Main Railway Station is one of the most important in Germany - it connects, among other traffic, the long-distance traffic from and to Scandinavia and is the turntable in northern Germany. Every day, approx. 400,000 people frequent the historic building built from 1903 to 1906. The building services department of DB Services Nord GmbH has the responsibility for keeping this property in clean and perfect condition. In this connection, the employees are not only responsible for the cleaning of the floor. Platform cleaning, sanitary facilities, outside cleaning, and the escalators are also contained in the service specifications.



Mr. Rahmi Aksoy, employee of DB Services Nord, cleaning the fronts with the RF 40

## Cleaning the step surfaces and fronts with only one system

At the Hamurg Main Railway Station, there are 22 escalators, which are regularly cleaned four times a year. These escalators are located at different places in the property. In addition, escalators in the nearby suburban fast train stations are also cleaned and maintained.

For this task, DB Services Nord GmbH uses the innovative escalator cleaning system RF 40 from HEFTER Cleantech.

A decisive factor in the selection of this system for purchasing was its simple operation. The system can be operated by just one person and it functions automatically when cleaning the step surfaces. While this is happening, the operator has the opportunity to carry out other work on the escalator, such as cleaning the handrails.

The RF 40 from HEFTER Cleantech can also be installed by one person and easily transported in a small car due to its compact size.

Once the step surfaces are ready, the fronts of the escalators can then also be cleaned using the same system. This work is also carried out by only one person. This is a further impressive demonstration of the simple operation and handling of the system.

During the whole cleaning process, there is no danger of fluid getting into the escalator - at the development stage, HEFTER Cleantech made sure that very strong suction picks the cleaning fluid up again straight away. In addition to this, a specially developed, adhesive chemical formulation ensures that fluid cannot get into the interior of the escalator.

"Since we have been using the HEFTER system, there has been a positive change in the overall appearance of the Hamburg Main Railway Station, which can certainly be attributed to the regular cleaning of the escalators" confirms Mr. Nern, the Property Manager for Hamburg Main Railway Station of DB Services Nord.



#### **Further Information:**

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**HEFTER** RF40