“Durability and maintenance were important since it was being installed in the highest traffic areas of the space. Having a floor that could withstand the daily grind was essential.”
As a rapidly expanding international packaging design and branding firm, Chicago-based Equator sought a larger workspace to accommodate its 100+ employees. Once a new space was selected, designers at Eastlake Studios were tasked with creating an environment that would inspire employees, welcome guests for tours, and meet Equator’s functional needs, which included integrating a photo studio and prep kitchen into the layout. Already familiar with both Karndean and Equator, Eastlake Studio was confident that Karndean was the best fit for Equator’s offices.

“Durability and maintenance were important since it was being installed in the highest traffic areas of the space,” said lead designer Kevin Kamien. “Having a floor that could withstand the daily grind was essential.”

Durability was of particular importance to the office’s photography studio, which houses four separate sets. The constant activity on-set called for flooring that could not only withstand heavy foot traffic, but also the added weight and movement of the equipment, props, and furniture. Ease of maintenance was equally important, to allow for minimal disruption and maximum productivity.
Client: Equator
Location: Chicago, IL
Designer: Eastlake Studio
Sector: Corporate office
Products: Ignea WP313, Weathered Elm WP511
Area: 15,000 ft.²
Kamien’s team ultimately decided that WP313 Ignea and WP511 Weathered Elm, both from Karndean’s Opus collection, would work well in the space, both aesthetically and functionally. The Opus range has a 20mil wear layer suitable for commercial applications and comes with a 15-year commercial warranty. All Karndean floors are easy to clean and maintain with a pH neutral cleaner.

Aside from Opus’ functional benefits, the products’ contemporary look and size complemented the office’s creative style, which includes locations to display in-progress work, and whimsical sea creature line art and wall decals. The rustic look of Ignea was installed in Equator’s entry, circulation path, and main work rooms, and Weathered Elm’s softly grained wood look brought a natural feel to the photo studio, lounge and break room. “We decided a wood grain vinyl tile would help warm up the space while providing the required functional characteristics,” said Kamien.

The Eastlake Studio design team and Equator were extremely pleased with Karndean’s impact in the new space, and especially liked the two-tone look created by color variation within the planks. What’s more, Equator’s offices were featured in the May 2016 issue of Interior Design magazine!
## Products Specified

**Products:** Opus

### Opus Technical Information

- **Thickness:** 3/32" (2.5mm)
- **Wear Layer:** 20mil (0.55mm)
- **Bevel:** No
- **Size:** 24" x 18" (610 x 457mm)
- **Warranty:** 15 Years
- **Slip Resistance/Result:**
  - DIN 51130 - R10
  - BS 7976 (Dry) - Various
  - BS 7976 (Wet) - Various

[View the full technical data sheet](#)
Ignea (WP313)

Weathered Elm (WP511)
Get the look

Create the same look as Equator for your space.
We have a variety of products to match, within our ranges.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Product</th>
<th>Thickness</th>
<th>Wear Layer</th>
<th>Bevel</th>
<th>Size</th>
<th>Guarantee</th>
<th>Slip Resistance/Result:</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dusk Oak (HC03)</td>
<td>1/8&quot; (3mm)</td>
<td>30mil (0.7 mm)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>36&quot; x 6&quot; (915 x 152mm)</td>
<td>20 Years</td>
<td>DIN 51130 - R10, BS 7976 (Dry) - 62, BS 7976 (Wet) - 27, DIN 51097 - B</td>
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<tr>
<td>Limed Jute Oak (RP97)</td>
<td>1/8&quot; (3mm)</td>
<td>30mil (0.7 mm)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>36&quot; x 3&quot; (915 x 76mm)</td>
<td>20 Years</td>
<td>DIN 51130 - R10, BS 7976 (Dry) - 65, BS 7976 (Wet) - 36, DIN 51097 - C</td>
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<tr>
<td>Country Oak (VGW81T)</td>
<td>1/8&quot; (3mm)</td>
<td>20mil (0.5mm)</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>48&quot; x 7&quot; (1219 x 178mm)</td>
<td>15 Years</td>
<td>DIN 51130 - R10, BS 7976 (Dry) - 61, BS 7976 (Wet) - 33, DIN 51097 - B</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lime Washed Oak (KP99)</td>
<td>0.08&quot; (2mm)</td>
<td>12mil (0.3mm)</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>36&quot; x 6&quot; (915 x 152mm)</td>
<td>10 Years</td>
<td>DIN 51130 - R10, BS 7976 (Dry) - 63, BS 7976 (Wet) - 38, DIN 51097 - B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taupe Oak (LLP309)</td>
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<td>20mil (0.5mm)</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>59&quot; x 9.85&quot; (1500 x 250mm)</td>
<td>15 Years</td>
<td>DIN 51130 - R10, BS 7976 (Dry) - 61, BS 7976 (Wet) - 33, DIN 51097 - B</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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