Case Study

West Bromwich Bus Station

Making a World of Difference



Trios helps West Bromwich bus station improve efficiency

The installation of new air conditioning into an iconic bus station is helping keep office staff comfortable – whatever the weather.

Managed by Centro, West Bromwich station was built in 2002 and provides the town with a major interchange between local bus services and also with the nearby Midland Metro tram line.

The old R22 air conditioning has now been replaced with modern units to increase efficiency, comfort and control.



Air Conditioning | Heating Ventilation | Controls



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ABOVE: Most of the rooms in the building have a lot of glazing so can suffer from overheating in summer and need heating in winter. The City Multi VRF system offers a wide range of ceiling cassettes and wall mounted units to help ensure consistent temperatures and comfort for staff, all year round.

The existing air conditioning system had worked well since 2002 but was getting old and was using R22 refrigerant which is now banned, so the company was aware that it needed to find a suitable replacement.

"The station has been praised as being open and accessible with covered corridors connecting the 24 departure stands but it its offices and retail outlets can easily become hot in the summer and cold in the winter", explained Yvonne Whelan, Facilities Manager for property consultancy Bruton Knowles, which manages the station's services on behalf of Centro.

"We were also aware of the R22 issue and therefore worked out a schedule of replacement with Trios Compliance that could demonstrate an increase in energy efficiency for the client".

Most rooms in the building complex have lots of glazing and therefore air conditioning is a must.

The new system uses two City Multi Replace VRF (Variable Refrigerant Flow) air conditioning units for the bulk of the complex, which includes the Centro office and travel shop.

Two Mr Slim split systems were also installed to provide air conditioning to the mobility shop at street level.

The added benefit of using the City Multi system is that can simultaneously heat and cool different areas so that the energy loads can be more balanced across the building, thereby increasing efficiency.

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ABOVE: Mitsubishi Electric's Replace technology means that old R22 units can often be replaced without needing to remove all of the internal copper piping and electrical wiring. The indoor units can be removed and replaced with modern equipment.

BELOW: City Multi Replace has been designed to allow companies to tackle the R22 issue and also benefit from greater levels of control and efficiency.



"We worked closely with Centro and Bruton Knowles so that we could schedule the replacement to suit the business", added Costas Ioannou, Operations Manager for Trios Compliance which was commissioned to update the station's services.

As a national provider of facility and property related services, with extensive experience in the public and private property sectors, Trios Compliance is able to offer both the depth of experience and the breadth of skills required to satisfy clients' demands in a rapidly evolving property marketplace

The company is an Accredited Installer of Mitsubishi Electric equipment and was aware of the benefits of using City Multi Replace systems to upgrade R22 air conditioning.

"The Replace system from Mitsubishi Electric can really help because it can often simplify the renewal of air conditioning by allowing us to keep all the existing pipes and wiring", added Costas.

"This means we can swop over the indoor and outdoor units without having to dismantle and then reinstall all the internal piping".

Yvonne Whelan was full of praise for Costas and his engineers and is also delighted with the clean look of the new equipment and the enhancement in performance. Trios engineers were able to complete the entire replacement in two weeks despite having to work around both the busy bus station and the working offices.

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ABOVE: Smaller split air conditioning systems provide comfort to the mobility shop at street level.

"We contained the work to small areas at a time so that we could keep disruption to a minimum", explained Costas.

Centro now has a modern, energy efficient system that offers more control and flexibility and will keep both commuters and office staff comfortable for years to come.

For further details on the services provided by Trios Compliance, visit: www.triosgroup.co.uk.



For more information on the issues surrounding R22 and the options for replacement, visit the dedicated website: www.replace.mitsubishielectric.co.uk.



Installation Summary

Installation date: March 2015

Location: West Bromwich Bus Station. West Midlands

Equipment:

2 x City Multi Replace Systems

2 x Mr Slim split air conditioning units

Various ceiling and wall-mounted indoor units were used to suit the individual offices and meeting rooms



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