

Air Conditioning

Case Study

Platinum Motor Group,
Trowbridge

Making a
World of
Difference



Platinum Motor Group drives forward with efficiency

Leading South West car dealership, Platinum Motor Group, has invested in the future with a brand new air conditioning system at four of their sites in Trowbridge.

Director Lee Hobbs explains: "The Platinum Motor Group has had a number of issues with their previous system.

The existing equipment was inefficient and problematic and we regularly had to replace compressors which was proving to be very costly.



Air Conditioning | Heating
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Customer comfort was very important for the Platinum Motor Group which needed to upgrade the air conditioning across four distinct sites.



The communication between the separate pieces of equipment was also proving to be a problem as all of the units were functioning on either heating or cooling only mode.”

Founded in 1975, the Platinum Motor Group has steadily expanded, establishing itself as one of the leading dealerships in the South West.

But this has in no way made them complacent and they continuously strive to ensure that the high quality and efficient services provided to customers are maintained and backed by teams of highly skilled and committed staff.

This philosophy of continuous improvement led to the renovation of four of their sites which encompass the Nissan, Renault, Toyota and Vauxhall dealerships.

These locations had been labouring under an old, inefficient air conditioning system that offered little flexibility and was the source of frequent call-outs to air conditioning specialists Ian Hobbs Technical Services.

Ian Hobbs Technical Services took the decision to remove and replace the entire system with a more cost effective and energy efficient solution which would suit the site better.

Lee says: “Due to the problems they had experienced, the manufacturer of the existing installed system offered a discounted price for a new system however we recommended a completely new Mitsubishi Electric solution.”



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Using a City Multi system offers each site simultaneous heating and cooling, meaning heat from areas requiring cooling can be used elsewhere to save on energy.

Individual room controllers allow systems to suit each area, whilst a centralised controller also provides monitoring of overall energy consumption.



The Hobbs team removed the existing equipment and replaced it with a City Multi Variable Refrigerant Flow (VRF) system.

Mitsubishi Electric's VRF offers simultaneous heating and cooling that Platinum's previous system did not, by distributing surplus heat from cooling operations (and vice versa) to rooms where it is needed. This efficiency can result in energy savings of up to 30 per cent over conventional systems.

Each individual dealership was equipped with an R410A Heat Recovery Standard 3ph City Multi Air Cooled Outdoor Unit, serving a combination of wall mounted, ceiling suspended and ceiling cassette units, controlled via PAR-31MAA remote controllers in each of the locations.

The controllers ensure that the system is running at optimum efficiency by engaging the heating function when the room temperature drops below the lower set point.

They also allow the cooling operation to begin when the room temperature rises above the preset upper temperature limit.

Each site was also fitted with an AE-200E central controller which utilises a large, back-lit display, to enable the control of temperature, fan speed and airflow options.

It also provides comprehensive energy consumption monitoring and comparisons with the previous year's power consumption.

One of the biggest challenges for the Hobbs team was that the installation had to be carried out whilst the sites continued to operate as normal.



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Installation Summary

Each dealership has now been equipped with a modern City Multi outdoor air conditioning unit.

The system's flexibility make it ideal for retrofit situations and it can result in energy savings of up to 30 per cent over conventional systems.

The outdoor units serve a combination of wall mounted, ceiling suspended and ceiling cassette units depending on the individual configuration of the building.

PAR-31MAA remote controllers ensure that the system is running at optimum efficiency whilst allowing for localised room control.

An AE-200E central controller installed on each site gives overall control of all of the individual units through its large, back-lit display.

The centralised control also provides comprehensive energy consumption monitoring and allows for comparisons with the previous year's power consumption.

Lee says: "Our main objective with this installation was to cause the minimum amount of disruption so that the Platinum Motor Group could carry on with business as normal. Sometimes the staff were required to move offices for a day but this was kept to a minimum as we were able to work around them.

"Our job was also made easier by the fact that the City Multi's two-pipe technology means minimal disruption, quicker installation and less connections than a 3-pipe equivalent."

The Platinum Motor Group now has a heating and cooling system which they can rely on and which will allow them to concentrate on their main job of providing a first class service to each of their customers.



Technical Services

Refrigeration | Air Conditioning | Electrical | Plumbing & Renewables

Ian Hobbs Technical Services are commercial experts in Electrical, Air Conditioning, Refrigeration, Plumbing and Heating.

For further details on the range of services offered visit:

<http://www.ianhobbs.com>



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