

# Domestic Heating

## Case Study

42 Flats, Skelmersdale

August 2011

Making a  
World of  
Difference



**RENEWABLE SOLUTION PROVIDED**  
Affordable heating that also lowered the energy rating of the building and reduced its carbon emissions

## Energy efficient future for tenants

The tenants of 42 warden-assisted flats owned by West Lancashire Borough Council, are looking forward to enjoying reliable, energy-efficient heating thanks to the installation of a number of Ecodan® air source heat pumps which provide them with low carbon, renewable energy.

In a move to increase the energy rating for the flats in Beechwood Court, Birkrig, Skelmersdale, the Council has replaced its old heating system which was run on a number of direct electric heaters connected to an 'Economy 7' circuit, with Mitsubishi Electric's energy efficient, Ecodan system.



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**ecodan**<sup>®</sup>  
Renewable Heating Technology

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## Installation Summary

42 warden-assisted flats

Ecodan chosen to lower the building's energy rating, improve efficiency and reduce tenants energy bills

Originally heated by electric heaters connected to an Economy 7 circuit

One 5kW installed for every 2 flats

14.5kW unit installed to service communal areas

Installed over a period of weeks with tenants in situ

Following a review of the old system the Council called in accredited Ecodan installers, Dalliam Ltd, to advise on an energy-efficient, cost-effective, low carbon replacement. Taking into account energy calculations from a survey of the building, Dalliam's Managing Director, Bill Tyrer, and his team set about designing a new system.

**"We know that people are often afraid to use their heating because of the cost, but these residents are vulnerable and need to keep warm when the weather conditions are poor. Our priority was to provide them with a reliable, effective heating and hot water system that was also affordable,"** said Bill Tyrer, Managing Director of Dalliam Ltd. "The new system not only provides that, but has also lowered both the energy rating and the carbon emissions for the building, thereby fulfilling the Council's brief.

One 5kW Ecodan unit was installed for every two flats, providing heat via a radiator circuit fitted with independent lockable heating stats and thermostatic radiator valves, further helping to save energy costs.

A 14kW Ecodan unit has also been installed to provide heating and domestic hot water to the warden's accommodation and the communal dining area, and hot water for use in the kitchen, hair salon and guest rooms.

The replacement project has been carried out over several months and some of the units that were installed towards the end of last winter have already been given a thorough testing with the onset of bitterly cold weather, which saw temperatures dipping down as far as -17°C degrees. During this time, however, the tenants remained warm and cosy as the new system maintained a constant temperature of 24°C degrees.

Councillor Val Hopley, portfolio holder for Landlord Services at West Lancashire Borough Council, said: **"We are incredibly impressed by the Ecodan system. In fact, during the very severe weather last year, when we compared Beechwood Court with other Council buildings using gas boilers, it was the only one that did not fail in some way in its heating and hot water."**



Changes for the Better

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