BIDDLE CASE STUDY

FROM PRINT WORKS TO LEARNING HUBS: BIDDLE UNIFLOW AIR HEATERS POWER THE JAMES COND REVIVAL

BACKGROUND

University College Birmingham has embarked on a transformative journey, revitalising the historic James Cond print works in Birmingham's Jewellery Quarter into a cutting-edge Sustainable Construction Skills Centre.

This project is not just a refurbishment but a renaissance of a landmark art deco building, turning a once-neglected structure into a hub for over 1,200 learners by 2025.

The Centre is poised to become a beacon of sustainable construction, manufacturing, and renewable energy education, featuring versatile teaching, and learning spaces across its three floors.

THE CHALLENGE

The architectural grandeur of the James Cond building posed a unique challenge. Its extensive open-plan teaching areas, adorned with high ceilings, required a heating solution that could efficiently cover large spaces while maintaining aesthetic integrity. Additionally, the building houses several smaller offices and meeting rooms, each with distinct heating needs and a preference for a more refined appearance.

THE BIDDLE SOLUTION

Biddle's Uniflow Air Heaters proved to be the ideal solution for this challenge. In the large teaching spaces, downward discharge grilles were installed, allowing uniform heat distribution across the area, and optimising the Coanda effect for enhanced comfort. The open-plan workshop and storage areas benefited from horizontal discharge which effectively directed the airflow throughout the space. Each Uniflow unit was equipped with a 24V fan enabled relay, seamlessly integrating with the Building Management System (BMS).

To address the diverse heating requirements across the building, a mix of Forceflow Fan Convectors and Comfort Circle Cassette Heaters were installed. These units were carefully selected by the Biddle team and programmed to operate efficiently with the lower water temperatures (50/35°C) provided by the heat pump system. Uniformity in design and functionality was maintained across different spaces, with all fan convectors, including the ceiling cassette, fitted with valves and basic controls for ease of use.

CONCLUSION:

The integration of Biddle's heating solutions into the James Cond building stands as a testament to the synergy between heritage conservation and modern technology. The Uniflow Air Heaters, along with the Forceflow fan convectors and Comfort Circle Cassette Heaters, not only catered to the building's varied heating needs, but were all manufactured in the Midlands, further cementing the sustainability aspect of the project.

This case study exemplifies how innovative heating solutions can play a crucial role in transforming historic spaces into sustainable, functional, and comfortable learning environments.

CONTACT US

If you're ready to find the perfect HVAC solution for you, our in-house technical and engineering experts, are on hand for advice and guidance every step of the way.

BIDDLE AIR SYSTEMS

St. Mary's Road
Nuneaton
Warwickshire
CV11 5AU

T +44 24 7638 4233
E sales@biddle-air.co.uk
www.biddle-air.co.uk

Biddle