

COMFORT CONTROLS CASE STUDY

DE MONTFORT UNIVERSITY — JOHN SANDFORD BUILDING

Comfort Controls chosen by De Montfort University and Hichcross Building Services, as part of the construction team to develop a former Sports Centre into a new Conference and Events venue. Comfort Controls will be providing and installing a **TREND Building Management System** to monitor and control all mechanical services and integrate with the University site wide BMS systems.

The £3.7 million refurbishment scheme, in Western Boulevard, is part of De Montfort University's £136 million campus redevelopment project which will provide cutting-edge new buildings and teaching facilities for students and staff over the next few years.

The existing building, off Western Boulevard in Leicester's West End, was originally home to the 'Leicester Riders' basketball team and has what is believed to be one of the largest and oldest examples of a Belfast truss roof.

The 140ft-wide roof is an example of a Belfast truss wooden lattice girder roof, which involves a curved upper part and a lattice of crossing diagonal rods, a method of roof construction introduced in Dublin in 1903.

The installation design and environmental operation of the building management system will incorporate methods to protect the roof structure, which will form a key feature of the new venue.



Steve Barham, Comfort Controls Business Development Manager, commented that 'the pre tender design development support provided by Comfort Controls with Consulting Engineers, Couch Perry and Wilkes, provided the University with the assurance that the control system would meet their expectations.'



The new Conference and Events venue will be provided with a **TREND Building Energy management system**, incorporating novel methods of providing a wealth of **building performance management data**, to operate the facility in an energy efficient manner and help **reduce De Montfort University's carbon footprint** for the local Leicester community.

Project Manager, Gavin Street, commented 'One of the innovative solutions of the project includes the clever control of the latest air source heat pump air handling systems. As the venue can be configured as either one large open space or three individual smaller areas via moveable partitions, the **TREND** system will automatically reconfigure the temperature and CO2 zones based on usage.' As the University realise a key requirement of the success of the project will be the ability to continually modify the overall control strategy of the environmentally friendly air conditioning systems to meet changing usage, they have opted for full **TREND** control of all elements of the AHU component systems rather than utilising a 'restrictive' AHU package control solution.



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Commenting on the contract award, Gary Cleaver, Director of Highcross Building Services highlighted 'Following the experience from previous projects, we are looking forward to delivering the project for De Montfort University, with the added benefit that we have the technical and customer focused support of Comfort Controls on the team'.

Comfort Controls has been providing quality, cost-effective building control and energy management /monitoring solutions since 1984, serving a multitude of market sectors including healthcare, universities, schools, retail, industrial manufacturing and leisure. Comfort Controls' primary objective is to *'create energy efficient buildings that are safe, sustainable and beneficial to the occupants.'*

Unlike many other Building Management Systems (BMS) companies, Comfort Controls provides a complete inhouse service from start to finish; from specification, through to the engineering and design of the system, manufacture of control panels in our own purpose built workshops, electrical installation, programming and commissioning, as well as offering post installation service and maintenance.

Comfort Controls is an approved *Trend* Technology Centre partner, an Elite partner for *Schneider Electric* and business partner for *Siemens*. We have a proven track record, with 30 years of experience with installing and maintaining building management systems and products. Comfort Controls aims to strengthen and develop the relationship with existing and new customers through this new venture by offering a competitive and best in class engineering and customer experience.

For more information on Comfort Controls please visit www.comfortcontrols.co.uk, email stevebarham@comfortcontrols.co.uk or call 01332 856960.

Project Title

De Montfort University
John Sandford Building

Project Address

Western Boulevard
Leicester
Leicestershire
LE2 7BU

Consulting Engineer

Couch Perry Wilkes—Leicester

Main Contractor

Stepnell Limited

M&E Contractor (Direct Customer)

Highcross Building Services—Leicester

Project Type

Trend Building Management System c/w
University site wide interface Integration.

Applications.

Gas fired heating and hot water systems.
3 No. Major Flaktwood AHU c/w air source
heat pumps.
Kitchen and dining ventilation systems.
Heat recovery systems
VRF systems.
Specific University BMS interfaces

