

A New Home for Royal Papworth Hospital

Heating solutions to keep this major project on schedule

March 2018

About the new Royal Papworth Hospital

- Part of the Cambridge Biomedical Campus
- 240 single patient rooms, plus 46-bed Critical Care area
- 5 theatres, 5 cath labs and 2 hybrid theatres
- Cardiac Recovery Unit
- Research facility

The challenge

The huge scale of the building and the complex schedule resulted in some areas being open to the weather – allowing in wind and rain – while second-fix work was under way in others. Creating the right temperature was necessary to allow internal trades to continue working, so an efficient method of drying out the building was essential to the progress of the project.



The new Royal Papworth Hospital project – built for the Papworth NHS Foundation Trust – will replace the current facility with a state-of-the-art medical building on the Cambridge Biomedical Campus, providing patients, staff and members of the community with a leading-edge healthcare facility. The new hospital will provide 240 single patient rooms, plus 46-bed Critical Care area, five theatres, five cath labs and two hybrid theatres, and its location within the Biomedical Campus brings greater opportunities for medical research and collaboration.

Over the last century, Royal Papworth has become a world-renowned cardiothoracic specialist hospital, gaining a reputation for pioneering heart and lung medicine, including the UK's first successful heart transplant in 1979, and the world's first successful heart, lung and liver transplant in 1986.

During the construction of the enormous new hospital buildings, some areas of the site were open to the elements, and contractor Skanska faced a challenge to create an ambient temperature that would enable internal trades to continue as scheduled.

Key benefits

- Fast, efficient and mobile heaters
- Excellent fuel economy
- Variety of power options

“ The solution offered by RVT was exactly what we needed. The working environment within the building is now perfect and we can proceed with the wet trades, knowing that the work will dry and be of a high quality. We used RVT last winter – they supplied the HE65KID, which we wheeled through the building and sited in an internal courtyard. This time, our request for heating was made at short notice, so RVT had to perform to a high standard very quickly. They were more than happy to help and have been a pleasure to work with.”

Anthony Renshaw,
Project Logistics Manager,
Skanska Construction UK Ltd

Copyright © 2018 RVT Group Ltd

The RVT solution

RVT supplied a selection of large and small mobile indirect oil-fired heaters to create a flow of dry heat via flexible ducting throughout the building. Some heaters were needed for specific spaces, so the HE65KID – which can run from a single 110v supply and is small enough to go through internal doorways – was the obvious choice. The more powerful HE 200KW (using a single 415v supply) delivered heat to the larger areas, while several hundred 18KW electric fan heaters were supplied for general background heat during the winter months.

With help from RVT’s heating and drying equipment, Skanska’s construction work on the new hospital looks set to reach completion on schedule later in 2018.

