



Project Portfolio

INTRODUCTION



World Class Leaders in Fire Detection Since 1918

Hochiki has a distinguished heritage of specialist technological expertise which has gained the group its international status as one of the world's leading manufacturers of commercial and industrial fire detection and emergency lighting solutions. Throughout its history, the Hochiki brand has become synonymous with high quality and high reliability, and as such, Hochiki devices have been installed in many prestigious projects throughout the world.

This portfolio contains a selection of installations that have been carried out using Hochiki products in Europe, Middle East, Africa and India.



 Hochiki Offices

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SCHOOL TOP OF THE FIRE SAFETY CLASS THANKS TO HOCHIKI EUROPE

English Martyrs School and Sixth Form College in Hartlepool, County Durham, is benefiting from a streamlined low maintenance and an innovative high-performance fire alarm system, provided by Hochiki Europe. The school is one of the largest in Hartlepool, with a population of 1,637 students aged 11 to 18. Founded in 1973, it comprises a number of outbuildings of varying sizes, designs and ages, all clustered around the original structure.

With such a complex site layout, the ageing closed protocol fire safety system was becoming increasingly expensive for the school to maintain, as it needed replacement components that could only be sourced from a single supplier. The school demanded an innovative solution to safeguard the well-being of students while streamlining maintenance. All this had

to be achieved within a tight time-frame of five weeks during the school holidays to minimise disruption to classes – a target that even its maintenance team didn't think was feasible.

“ With so many people using the buildings every day, we were finding it more and more of a challenge to keep the fire safety technology in top condition without disrupting classes, explained Mick Dempsey, Building Manager at English Martyrs School. So it became crucial to find a solution with minimal aftercare requirements. ”

Having a well-established working relationship with Hochiki Europe, David Hynes, project manager at the contractors leading the installation, Tees Fire Systems Ltd. (TFS), felt that the manufacturer had the right life safety solutions for the project. The school was particularly keen to investigate solutions to reduce false alarms, caused by the frequent use of ovens, Bunsen burners and kilns in the home economics, science and craft classrooms.

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To help meet these objectives, it was decided that the school would benefit from the use of ACC-EN multi-sensors from Hochiki Europe. Installed in the rooms most at risk from alerts caused by class work, these detectors could be programmed to detect just heat by day and heat and smoke by night, ensuring optimum safety for students, while eliminating the issue of false alarms.



ACC-EN

Reflective Beam Smoke Detectors (FB-1) were installed in the ornate main halls and sports hall, due to the breadth of coverage they offered. With their advanced motorised technology, they are able to self-align to their opposing reflectors when necessary, reducing the need for intervention from maintenance teams. The beam detectors were installed directly onto the loop using Hochiki Europe's Powered Output Module (CHQ-POM) with just one point of cable termination. As a result, significantly less cabling was required compared with standard solutions which require further cabling to connect the fire and fault contacts to the rest of the safety system. Not only did this reduce the impact cable work on the aesthetics of the building interior, it also streamlined the installation for TFS.

All of the technologies installed in the school feature the manufacturer's innovative open Enhanced Systems Protocol (ESP), making them compatible with standard components from other suppliers, and cutting the cost of aftercare. The system has also been designed to automatically transmit fault or fire alerts to mobile phones, enabling the maintenance team to locate the source of any problem and rectify it before the alarm sounds, reducing aftercare time and further cutting the impact of false alarms.

David at TFS explained:

“With so little wiring required, the cables were barely visible from the ground. This meant we were able to install the detectors on the ceilings of the hall and sports hall without having to hide it with casings, which significantly reduced the duration of the project.

Moreover, choosing a multi-looped system meant that we could fit the new equipment in different areas of the school in phases, which further cut installation time and allowed portions of the site to be used throughout the project, such as classrooms for summer school and the hall for exam results days.

As a result, we were able to complete the entire installation throughout the school in just five weeks, not just meeting the customer's ambitious deadline, but exceeding its expectations.

”

Richard Wharram, then a Regional Sales Manager at Hochiki Europe, added:

“English Martyrs School is a vast and busy site, with hundreds of students and visitors passing through the building every day. As such, it was crucial that its fire safety systems were not only reliable, but also as easy to maintain as possible, to keep disruption to the school day to a minimum.

”

“The solutions we recommended offered the performance required with lower aftercare needs and a reduction in false alarms, saving the maintenance team time and money, while allowing students and staff to go about their day as safely as possible.

”

Commenting on the project, Tony Cooney, then Technical Sales Director of TFS, said:

“The team's organisation skills and hard work on this project were outstanding. We're proud to have been selected by Hochiki Europe as the only Hochiki Systems Partner in the North East of England.

”



ECO-FRIENDLY OPEN ACADEMY GETS FLEXIBLE FIRE DETECTION LESSON

In September 2010, The Open Academy in Norwich moved into a new landmark building designed to be a vibrant, attractive and stimulating learning environment. Hochiki Europe's innovative fire detection products have been specified throughout the building, making the most of their unique features and advanced technology.

Out with the old

Formerly known as Heartsease High School, the current school structure was built in the 1960s and is a far cry from the modern, eye catching design of the new building. Sheppard Robson won a competition to design the new £20m, 9,000m² Open Academy building, which is the first of its kind in Norfolk. Norfolk County Council is responsible for overseeing the design and build of the Academy, and chose Kier Education as the preferred building developer and Kier Eastern as

the building contractor. The design draws upon the aeronautical history of the site as well as the engineering and environmental specialist status of the Academy, by conceiving the building as a series of mechanical components. The building's timber frame will save 3,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide, compared to traditional concrete or steel structures, and for every three trees used in the building, four will be planted. The curved plan of the main building was considered as a series of concentric bands. The outer perimeter houses the main teaching and learning accommodation to maximise the potential for natural daylight, views and ventilation; while the inner band provides the main circulation route, stacked as a series of open balconies that wrap around the central Open Forum.

Tender

Norfolk based fire detection installation specialist, T&P Fire, was invited to tender for, and was subsequently awarded, the contract to install the Open Academy's fire detection system by the project's M&E contractor, Dodd Group. The tender required the installation of a BS5389 compliant category L1 addressable fire detection system. An L1 system is designed for the protection of life and deploys automatic detectors throughout all areas of the building – including roof spaces and voids – with the aim of providing the earliest possible warning.

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Eddie Bean, at the time T&P Fire's Technical Manager commented:

“ Once we had planned and designed the installation we had no hesitation in suggesting the use of Hochiki's products in the Open Academy, due to their extensive range, proven reliability and excellent support service. We knew that Hochiki would act as a one-stop-shop for all of our fire detection product requirements. ”

Using open protocol products was a key consideration for T&P Fire. Eddie said:

“ We prefer to install open protocol systems and for the Academy it offers the advantage of being able to choose who it wants to work with in the future based on the service offered, rather than what it already has installed. As a company, T&P Fire has always felt that open protocol is the best option for our customers. ”

Many and varied

In total, the Open Academy is now home to 483 separate Hochiki devices and the addressable system uses an eight loop control panel at its centre.

A wide range of other Hochiki equipment was required, including photoelectric smoke sensors which reduce the likelihood of false alarms, multi-sensors in the science and food technology laboratories, analogue base sounders, multi-heat sensors, loop powered sounders and call points.

The tender also specified that the fire alarm sounders should incorporate a class change sound. Hochiki Europe's system is unique in that it has a programmable option which facilitates this and allows the use of a different audible tone from that of the fire alarm.

Eddie continues:

“ The class change tone facility is a great example of how Hochiki has put a useful and relevant feature into its product. It is this type of flexible thinking that makes Hochiki such a popular choice amongst fire detection system installers and their customers. ”

Installation

The design for the Academy includes the implementation of a cross laminated timber system as its structural core, reducing the building's carbon footprint. The timber comes from managed forests, creates minimal waste and is fabricated to high tolerances.

This unique structure meant that T&P Fire had to approach the installation of the fire detection system in accordance with specific guidelines.

Eddie finally commented:

“ The Open Academy is oval shaped with a central area. Sheppard Robson made it clear that cables should not run across this area but should emanate from the centre and spread outwards. The cable has to follow the route of the sprinkler pipes in order to keep it neat and unobtrusive. While this did mean the use of more cable it makes the installation aesthetically pleasing. ”

The building contains many voids and false ceilings, which allow much of the wiring infrastructure to be hidden, but also requires a greater number of detectors to be installed above them in order to comply with BS5389.

Start of Term

As a former pupil of Heartsease High School, Eddie was particularly pleased to have played a role in the construction. He summarised

“ It has been a fantastic project to work on and I'm very pleased to have been able to install a state-of-the-art fire detection system in such a building. I'm sure that Hochiki's products will serve the Academy well for many years to come. ”



HOCHIKI EUROPE'S EMERGENCY LIGHTING SYSTEM TAKES THE UNIVERSITY CHALLENGE

Located in Middlesbrough on the south bank of the River Tees, Teesside University has become one of the UK's foremost seats of learning. It achieves consistently high rankings in surveys that assess the quality of education on offer, and in 2009 it was named as the Times Higher Education (THE) Awards University of the Year.

History Lesson

The formation of a technical college to support Middlesbrough's engineering, bridge and shipbuilding industries was first discussed in 1914 but World War One and the need to raise enough money for the work delayed developments until local shipping magnate, Joseph Constantine, offered a contribution of £80,000. Work on the campus finally started in 1927 and Constantine College, as it was named, was officially opened by the future King Edward VIII on 2nd July 1930.

The College then became Teesside Polytechnic in 1969, and in 1992 the Privy Council gave approval to 14 higher education institutions, including Teesside, to become new universities. Currently home to over 28,000 students, Teesside University has become renowned for the quality of its facilities and it has made a £120m investment to provide a top-class learning environment. Recent developments include The Athena – a 4,000m² of studio space for computing, design and media students – and The Phoenix, which is home to the Institute of Digital Innovation.

Sky High

Middlesbrough Tower is the University campus's most imposing structure. 11 stories high, it houses the main reception area and administrative facilities, as well as teaching areas including newly equipped labs to support forensic and analytical sciences, environmental sciences and food technology.

One of the oldest buildings on the site is currently undergoing a phased refurbishment, the first phase of which has now been completed. The building's previous emergency lighting system had been in place since the late 1960s and the university's then Electrical Services Manager, David Newton, it was time to upgrade this important part of Middlesbrough Tower's life safety infrastructure.

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David said:

“The central battery system which had been installed in the basement area had become expensive to run and maintain, and it took up quite a lot of space because it was backed up with a series of uninterruptible power supplies (UPSs). Also, the 80W luminaires that the old system used needed to be changed frequently and this took a lot of time as well as being costly. Therefore, in line with the University’s energy reduction targets, I wanted to install a system that would reduce overheads, whilst utilising the latest technology.”

A Perfect Fit

David was introduced to Hochiki Europe’s new emergency lighting solution by its installation partner, TCS Fire Safety Services Ltd, based in Middlesbrough, and he quickly realised that it would meet all of his selection criteria.

Manufactured in the UK, it is an EN50172 compliant intelligent low voltage system which utilises light emitting diode (LED) technology. It comprises an addressable emergency lighting control panel with battery back-up, and features addressable, self-contained LED luminaires and signage connected via low voltage (40V) cabling. The luminaires are also equipped with battery back-up, making sure they will function in every situation, while the units fit directly onto a standard Hochiki sensor base (YBN-R/3), making installation simple.

Mark Smith, Hochiki Europe’s UK Sales Manager, takes up the story and comments:

“When I visited David, as well as talking to him about the features and benefits of the system, I was also able to give him an accurate idea of the cost savings he could expect to make by installing this unique emergency lighting solution.”

Hochiki recently carried out a comparison of its emergency lighting system with a traditional manual test system and identified all the costs associated with each offering on a 1,000 luminaire system used over a 10 year period.

Mark added:

“It factored in maintenance labour, battery replacement, testing labour, recycling costs, energy use and initial capital outlay. We found that over this period of time using our emergency lighting system the end user could, extremely importantly in the current climate, save a massive amount of money and, just as essentially, make a significant CO₂ reduction.”

Lighting the Way

120 LED luminaires were installed during phase one and these were linked to an addressable controller using existing cabling. With maintenance being a major problem with the old system, Teesside University’s on-site team is now able to comply with EN50172 legislation and maintain the new system without having to call in specialist installers.

David explained:

“In contrast to other systems, this system is programmable and its control panel continuously monitors and tests the functionality of the system. If there is ever a problem I can be notified straight away. It can also be pre-programmed to carry out specific monthly, six monthly and annual tests and we can then download the results from the control panel and print out the servicing and test schedules. This makes the system fully compliant with the requirements of BS5266-1:2005, while reducing our overheads considerably.”

The system’s long life LED technology also means that it requires less than five per cent of the lamp changes compared with traditional fluorescent lighting. If a luminaire does need replacing, in house personnel can carry out the operation as it operates via low voltage (40V) cabling and is a simple “plug-in” device, reducing costs even further.

Looking Ahead

This is one of the first installations of Hochiki’s new emergency lighting offering and David is extremely impressed with it. He concludes:

“Because Hochiki has so much experience in fire detection system design and manufacture, their emergency lighting solution has been designed along similar lines, which makes it incredibly functional. I didn’t feel like I was taking any risk being one of the first to install it as it is really well thought out and I’m looking forward to installing the system in the remaining phases of the project.”



PORTSMOUTH ALL-THROUGH SCHOOL GETS LIFE SAFETY SYSTEM UPGRADE FROM HOCHIKI AND MAKES USE OF MULTI-FUNCTION' FACILITY VIA ENHANCED ESP CONTROLS

Portsmouth Mayfield School is one of the UK's only single sites 'all through' schools, meaning the school has a mix of primary and secondary school age children, all on one site, offering a unique educational experience with a single vision.

Originally opening in 1932, the school celebrates 90 years in 2022 and in the summer of 2021, a year before the celebrations, the school underwent a huge face lift with a brand-new state of the art school built replacing the old and tired building in its entirety. As part of this project the school required a new life safety system.

The brief was to protect the 2000+ students, staff and educational assets as well as designing a Class Change System with Lockdown Alert broadcasts.

The installation team was Southern Fire Alarms who have been in operation since 1999 and are one of the south coasts leading installers providing high

quality fire and life safety solutions across multiple sectors including industrial, residential, commercial, public sector, leisure, retail and education.

Hochiki Europe were selected as the life safety system and device manufacturer based on the quality and reliability of the devices, as well as the capability of the tech support team. David Fell, the then Sales Director at Southern Fire Alarms said:

“

We have worked with Hochiki products for well over a decade and have a trusted relationship with the team there, we often recommend Hochiki as a well-established and reliable OPEN protocol solution.

In the case of the Mayfield School project, we needed to design, install, and commission a comprehensive yet costeffective fire alarm system. With over 600 devices including a large number of Visual Alarm Devices (VADs), Hochiki products offered us the greatest flexibility, and allow us to deliver a high-quality bespoke life safety system for the school.

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HOCHIKI IMPROVE LIFE SAFETY AT SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL SETTING WITH THEIR FLEXIBLE AND EASY TO INSTALL RANGE OF FIRE DETECTION DEVICES

Based in Norfolk, the Fred Nicholson school meets the educational needs of 162 pupils who have Educational Health and Care Plans identifying learning difficulties and a range of associated complex needs, including some children who receive specialist Autistic Spectrum Condition (ASC) provision.

Offering a personalised curriculum with high staff to pupil ratios, the school offers national curriculum and learning experiences that are relevant to their pupils needs which enables them to achieve. The school also offers residential provision to help further the life skills of certain pupils.

Following scheduled servicing, the need to update the existing conventional and 2-wire systems was identified, and the school underwent an upgrade to an addressable life safety system.

TP Fire & Security was enlisted to help with the design and installation of the new system, and Hochiki, the leading manufacturer of life safety products, was chosen for its reliability and ease of installation of its various product ranges.

Across the school L2 safety coverage was required, where a 'live-in' areas such as dormitories required complete L1 coverage (much the same as a hospital or hotel) which included automatic fire detection. Hochiki's ESP addressable range was installed, due to its quality, reliability and diverse range of intelligent products including; high performance sensors, flexible input and output modules and an assortment of ancillaries, perfect for a school environment where the fire detection system needs to have a bespoke and flexible design.

Hochiki's Ekho hybrid-wireless fire detection range was also installed and would interface with the main panel via a loop-powered translator module, for the schools mobile and outdoor classes.

As an educational setting with children with learning difficulties and ASC, it was extremely important to the school to keep disruption to an absolute minimum to avoid distressing the pupils.

The flexibility and ease of installation of the Hochiki products was key to the success of the project as explained by Kevin Harris, the then Technical Design Manager

“ A big plus with Hochiki products is how simple they are to install – it's why they've become our go-to supplier for the past 20 years. Many other manufacturers only offer hardwire solutions, and for locations such as schools and care homes, keeping the installation simple and reducing on-site time is a huge win as this helps ultimately to reduce the disruption to both staff, and the day-to-day occupants

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COMPLEX SIX FORM COLLEGE SITE GETS HOCHIKI FIRE SYSTEM UPGRADE

Founded over 400 years ago by Sir William Paston, Paston College in Norfolk, has transformed over the years from a grammar school for boys into a co-ed sixth form college dedicated to working with young people ages 16-18.

The college has a notable alumni list including Admiral Nelson who studied for a short period before joining the Royal Navy in 1771, and in more recent years - British Actor, Writer, Comedian and Broadcaster Stephen Fry. In late 2017, Paston Sixth Form College merged with City College Norwich to become Paston College. This marked a significant milestone in the history of both colleges and saw the expansion of education and training opportunities for learners and employers in North Norfolk.

Following a recommendation from Norwich Education Services, a completely new fire system was required which would need to meet BS5839 Part 1 2017 for an L2 category.

The life safety system installation project required networking across multiple sites and buildings as well as ensuring the protection of the historic Nelson Museum. And with a main road acting as a physical divide through the middle of the campus this was a complex project to undertake.

TP Fire & Security were commissioned to install the new system who selected Hochiki's ESP intelligent range of addressable fire detection and alarm equipment. Kevin Harris then from TP Fire & Security commented

“ This was an incredibly complex project. We were working with modern and historic buildings, we had to ensure the protection of the Nelson Museum, and of course the campus is split right down the middle by a main road. We chose Hochiki because it afforded us the flexibility with the systems and devices that were needed, with a project such as this. Despite the innovation that goes into the Hochiki products, they are possibly the simplest on the market when it comes to installation. This simplicity allowed us to implement a phased approach which enabled us to keep the existing conventional 2-wire systems running whilst the new Hochiki addressable system was installed. This meant the college remained safe and operational all the while

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As an educational facility, it was important to keep to strict budgets, especially when it came to the ongoing operational costs for the system, and with hundreds of pupils and staff in attendance each day a system which would be reliable and reduce false alarms was vital. Hochiki products are famed for their reliability resulting in the reduction of false alarms, and due to the simplicity of the products they are easy to operate and maintain.

“ *As a result of City College Norwich’s merger with Paston college 2017/2018 the fire detection and life safety system needed to be updated, and we knew it would be a complex task given the fact that the Paston campus is split down the middle by a main road.*

Not only that, given our historical building status this project needed to be handled carefully and the products chosen needed to be the best on the market. Working with TP Fire was easy and efficient, and we were confident in the products from Hochiki that they recommended.

”

- Lionel Levinson, the then Estates and Facilities Surveyor



HOCHIKI ESP'S RANGE BOOSTING LIFE SAFETY AT BRAND NEW STATE-OF-THE-ART EDUCATIONAL FACILITY LIVINGSTONE ACADEMY, BOURNEMOUTH. 400 DEVICES FROM HOCHIKI'S ESP RANGE WERE INSTALLED AT THE LIVINGSTONE ACADEMY, LED BY THE TEAM AT SOUTHERN FIRE ALARMS IN THIS NEXT GEN FIRE SAFETY INSTALLATION PROJECT.

Livingstone Academy Bournemouth is a brand-new allthrough school that combines excellent education with an innovative skills development programme, ensuring students from the ages of four to 18 have the skills and qualifications they need to succeed in modern life.

The school has over 1800 occupants including students and staff and covers four stories of brand-new purpose-built facilities alongside historical buildings. This unique setting also includes a magistrates and coroners court, which will be preserved as part of the school site and used by the students for lectures and staging parliament style debates.

Preserving this incredible educational facility as well as ensuring the safety of the next generation was of the upmost importance to the facilities management team. With a proven track record of over 40 years in design and build contracting, J&B Hopkins Ltd were the M&E contractor who engaged with Southern Fire Alarms as the fire installation team.

With the opening of the school imminent, there were strict deadlines to be met so the team at Southern Fire Alarms wanted to install a system that was quick and easy to fit, as well as simple to maintain. They opted for Hochiki Europe's ESP range of products, and in fact over 400 devices were installed at this state-of-the-art educational facility.

Hochiki Europe's ESP product range offers many benefits that ensure optimal protection and peace of mind, particular in school settings. Its cutting-edge technology guarantees swift and precise detection of potential threats, enhancing response times and minimising damage. The ESP range boasts unparalleled reliability, reducing false alarms and ensuring accurate alerts in critical situations. Moreover, these products are intelligently designed for easy integration with existing systems, making upgrades seamless and cost-effective – something which appealed to the project managers for this install.

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We caught up with Naomi Fell, the contract manager at Southern Fire Alarms to find out more

“ We’ve worked with Hochiki products for several years across multiple projects and industries. We chose Hochiki almost every time because they know how to design and manufacture reliable and easy to fit devices. At Livingstone, as well as standard smoke detectors we also fitted multi-sensors. We needed to ensure the risk of false alarms was completely reduced; with almost 2000 people here you can imagine at full capacity what chaos a false alarm might cause. We chose the ACD Multi-Sensors from the ESP range because they are fully EN54 accredited and work across three sensing elements, heat, smoke and CO – all vital in a school environment. These were fitted across areas that had a high risk of false alarm, areas such as food technology and science laboratories.

Our fit-out team also really liked the fact that there’s a common mounting base for all the ESP devices, when compared to the rest of the market, Hochiki devices really are some of the simplest to fit, but they aren’t comprised on quality.

Despite an industry-wide shortage in components, our contact, Cathy at Hochiki, was invaluable in helping us to solve any supply chain issues, she was on the ball and her communication was brilliant.”

”

Opening in September 2023, everyone at Hochiki would like to wish the students and staff at Livingstone good luck in their first academic year and beyond.

To read other customer stories from Hochiki and understand further how the world leading ESP range might be able to help your next project, head to our customer stories page on our website.



HOCHIKI EUROPE TACKLES COMPLEX SCHOOL SAFETY CHALLENGES WITH TAILORED ESP AND FIREBEAM SOLUTION

In a bustling environment like a school, comprehensive fire protection is non-negotiable for safeguarding students across multiple buildings with complex infrastructure. When their existing fire system needed an upgrade, the Admiral Lord Nelson School chose specialists SFA Fire & Security for the installation, using Hochiki's FIREbeam Xtra and ESP for a fully open protocol system.

The Admiral Lord Nelson School, in Portsmouth, safeguards students and staff across three floors daily. With specialist classrooms spanning an extensive area, the Admiral Lord Nelson School needed more than just a system to detect fire; they needed a modern and resilient life safety solution that upgrades alongside the school.

SFA Fire & Security were chosen to provide end-to-end delivery from design to installation, for single partner accountability, guaranteeing full compliance and a streamlined process. Backed by 26 years of experience and their substantial knowledge of Hochiki products, they delivered a robust, highquality life safety system tailored to the school's needs.

SFA encountered some challenges with the variation of specialised rooms in the school, such as the laboratory kiln room, atrium and the sports hall. Each space required a tailored solution that prioritised staff and student safety, without compromising functionality.

The project's daily routine created numerous tests for SFA. In a live educational setting, installation work was going to be unavoidably invasive, and with strict deadlines, the project had to be completed in staggered stages, potentially delaying completion. To counteract this, SFA scheduled work during the summer holidays and the following half-term break so neither students nor the installation team were interrupted. This approach delivered rapid on-site progress utilising pre-stage device addressing.

Another challenge was the school's spacious glass-fronted atrium, with its large coverage making traditional point detection impractical. Hochiki's FIREbeam Xtra was installed as the

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perfect solution for its reliable coverage at height across the space; its enhanced sensitivity and false alarm reduction efficiently detects large volumes of smoke in open areas .

Hochiki's ESP open protocol is a flexible solution, providing flawless integration and broad compatibility. The school needed an easy-to-maintain system that could span over several teaching blocks for full fire coverage. The combination of Hochiki products with an addressable Advanced fire control panel created a comprehensive fire management and maintenance system that allowed the school and engineers to easily monitor devices, complete maintenance and, in the event of an incident, pinpoint the exact location of a fire.

SFA strategically used a range of heat and multi-sensors to combat the specialised requirements of each room. Multisensors were deliberately positioned in the science rooms due to the variety of gases and smoke generated from chemical reactions during lessons; multi-sensors can better discriminate between genuine fire risks and transient signals from false alarms. Heat sensors were intentionally used in the food technology rooms and kitchens to recognise significant changes in temperature, which can indicate a real fire, rather than general cooking activities .

Working closely with the school management, bespoke EN54 approved tones and patterns were determined and then programmed into the system's sounders, so that all alarm types were unique and distinctive from each other. The different tones were used for situation identification, such as class change, lockdown and fire incidents, enhancing building safety. This allows building occupants to respond quickly and appropriately to each alarm, minimising confusion and evacuation time.

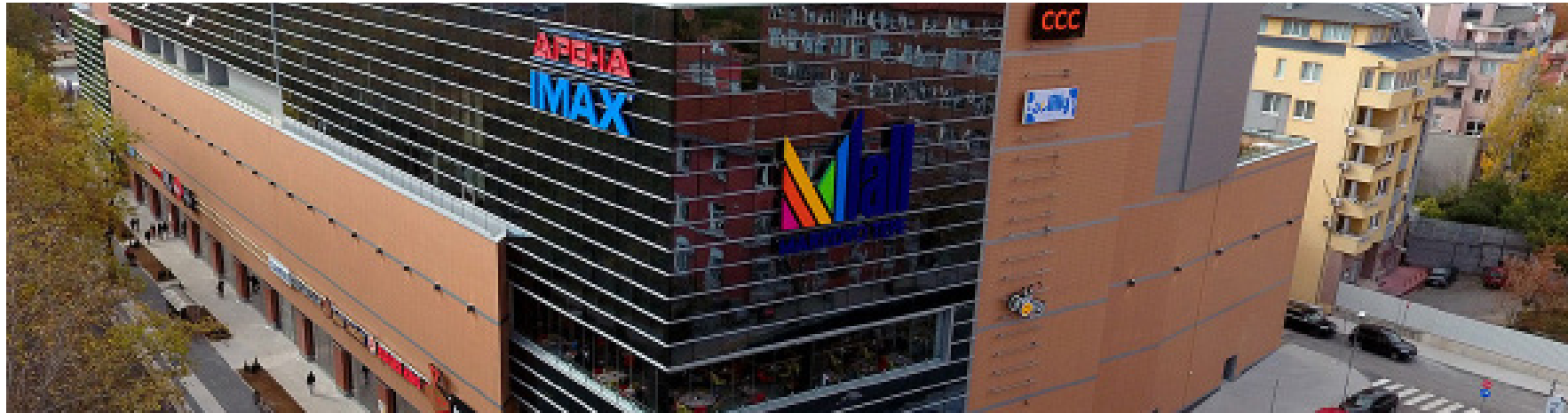
“

We have worked with Hochiki products over many years in various projects and environments and their reliability is top-class”, said Naomi Fell, Project Director at SFA.

“Despite the tight deadlines, Hochiki’s ESP open protocol and versatile product range made it easy to integrate into the existing fire system, and easy for the school to operate. It’s a system that they can trust and use for years to come. We’re very proud to have been able to future-proof the safety of the school in this way.

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Combining Hochiki's products with SFA's expertise ensures the Admiral Lord Nelson school now has a high-quality life safety system that can evolve over time, keeping its students and staff protected into the foreseeable future .



FIRE SAFETY IN THE BAG FOR SHOPPERS AT NEW PLOVDIV MALL

A new shopping complex in the city of Plovdiv, Bulgaria, is benefitting from a range of innovative life safety solutions produced by leading manufacturer, Hochiki Europe.

A much-anticipated addition to Plovdiv, the 60,000m² Markovo Tepe Mall has taken more than eight years to complete. As well as creating a convenient destination for shopping, leisure and dining in Bulgaria's second largest city, the development has generated over 500 jobs for residents, boosting the local economy.

Shopping centres like Markovo Tepe Mall attract high volumes of people on a daily basis, not all of whom are familiar with the layout of the stores, pedestrian walkways, entrances and exits or public spaces. This presents building owners and facilities managers with challenges in terms of life safety.

To ensure the wellbeing of staff and shoppers alike, Markove Tepe Mall required an addressable life safety system that would allow duty holders to locate and draw attention to emergency incidents as quickly as possible. An increased number of detectors were also needed across the eight-storey site to ensure any potential risks could be effectively monitored.

Reliable and easy to install

Security system specifier, Sectron Ltd, chose to install a selection of Hochiki Europe solutions which would address the challenges posed by such a large shopping centre. Having worked with the life safety system manufacturer for a number of years, Sectron Ltd was assured of the performance of Hochiki Europe's systems, which are easy to install and offer full compliance to European building standards.

The project saw the installation of products from Hochiki Europe's ESP range of intelligent devices, which all utilise the world-proven Enhanced Systems Protocol (ESP). The ESP product range offers high compliance to globally recognised safety standards whilst the open protocol gives installers the flexibility to incorporate devices from multiple manufacturers.

Optical smoke and thermal detectors, beam detectors and sounders compatible with ESP were installed as part of the project. Combined strobe and sounder beacons were also added to make sure building users are instantly notified to any safety issues within the complex.

The common areas of the Markovo Tepe Mall and the majority of individual stores have been fitted with Hochiki Europe products. In total, more than 1,300 detectors were installed throughout the shopping mall.

Safeguarding shoppers with intelligent systems

Speaking about the project, Vladimir Vasilev, the then Project Manager for First Facility Bulgaria EOOD commented:

“ Ensuring high standards of safety for shoppers and staff is of paramount importance. To achieve this, we needed a dependable and flexible fire detection system that would identify hazards at the earliest opportunity. By using Hochiki Europe’s intelligent and addressable products, we can immediately identify any threats and notify building users. ”

Georgi Kolev, Product Manager for fire protection and suppression systems at Sectron Ltd. added:

“ We’ve been using Hochiki Europe’s systems for more than 20 years. Not only are the company’s solutions highly reliable, they also offer superior networking capability. Because of this, we were able to easily network these products with the Kentec control panels used on this project. ”

Petia Simeonova, Hochiki Europe’s Central/Eastern European Sales Manager said:

“ Hochiki Europe has a wide range of addressable products and systems designed specifically to suit complex shopping environments like the Markovo Tepe Mall. Our ESP range offers unparalleled reliability for users in terms of performance and durability. We’re happy to have played a role in protecting this new venue for the local community in Plovdiv. ”



HOCHIKI ITALIA PRESERVES AND PROTECTS ITALIAN HISTORY

Teatro Italia in the Cannaregio district was first built in 1914 and designed in a neo-gothic architectural style with a nod to Art Nouveau. Since construction, the building has been home to a theatre, a cinema and a conference hall, before going into disuse in the late 1990s. In 2016, a project began to restore the space and its artistic features and transform it into a supermarket.

Take a walk through the streets and across the piazzas of Italy and you are sure to find stunning architecture that dates back centuries. Even on a trip to the supermarket, you can find yourself immersed in Italian history, and for leading life safety systems manufacturer, Hochiki Italia, protecting this heritage was a priority on a recent project in Venice.

Teatro Italia in the Cannaregio district was first built in 1914 and designed in a neo-gothic architectural style with a nod to Art Nouveau. Since construction, the building has been home to a theatre, a cinema and a conference hall, before going into disuse in the late 1990s. In 2016, a project began to restore the space and its artistic features and transform it into a supermarket.

Security solutions installer, SEI Sistemi di Sicurezza srl, approached Hochiki Italia with a brief to provide a comprehensive life safety system for the site. As well as compliance with the latest European standards in life safety, it was essential that the system was energy efficient, helping to minimise the site's environmental impact. Due to the historic nature of the building, the aesthetics of the devices was also a key consideration.

Hochiki Italia specified a range of innovative sensors from its Enhanced Systems Protocol (ESP) range. As well as demonstrating the highest standards of life safety technology, this protocol also gives installers greater choice when selecting a control panel. For SEI Sistemi di Sicurezza, this meant being able to install a system that is both high performing and energy efficient.

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The ALN-EN photoelectric smoke sensor was selected for Teatro Italia as it offers superior fire detection technology, and a high level of false alarm immunity thanks to its high performance chamber technology. The installation of Hochiki's ATJ-EN heat sensor complements these benefits. With its variable temperature heat element and a rate of rise heat element, both of which are controlled from the Control Panel, users can choose to make either one or both elements simultaneously to be active in making the fire decision. Hochiki Italia also supplied wireless sensors and beam detectors for the Teatro Italia installation.

Speaking about the project, Eddo Quaggia, Chairman at SEI Sistemi di Sicurezza, commented:

“*Italian architecture is some of the most beautiful yet complex in the world, and in some instances, this can make specifying a life safety system challenging.*

With Hochiki Italia's extensive range of solutions, we were able to find products that offer exceptional standards of life safety and can be installed without disrupting the beautiful architecture of Teatro Italia.

”

Ivano Tregnago, Sales Director at Hochiki Italia, added:

“*While aesthetics is a key factor, all life safety equipment must not compromise system performance or safety. It is for this reason that our sensors have been designed to fit seamlessly into any environment.*

We've been working with SEI Sistemi di Sicurezza for a number of years and I'm thrilled that we were able to support them with another fantastic project.

”



HOCHIKI EUROPE SYSTEM PARTNER INSTALLS ESP RANGE IN SERBIA'S BIG SHOPPING MALL

Located in Srem District, Serbia, Nova Pazova is home to an impressive selection of attractions and experiences both historical and modern.

Three kilometres from highway E75, between the cities of Stara Pazova and Nova Pazova is the brand-new Shopping Centre 'BIG Pazova' operated by BIG CEE. The retail estate developer holds and operates 11 active shopping centres – 10 in Serbia and 1 in Montenegro. Established in 1994, BIG is an international owner, operator, and developer of shopping centres in Israel, the United States, India, and Serbia.

The new mall in Nova Pazova is situated on a plot of 57,000 square meters and provides a mix of leisure and dining for the local community and those who are travelling from further afield. With free parking for 645 cars as well as two outdoor playgrounds this is a destination location for families and friends looking for a fun day out. The fire safety therefore needs to be

of the highest standard ensuring that the tens of thousands of members of the public who visit every year, the hundreds of staff members and the household brands who sell their products and services are all protected.

Hochiki Europe System Partner, Unipelektra, is a trusted fire detection system and device installation company based in Serbia. The team were commissioned by Koto Ltd, a design and construction company also based in Serbia, as the fire detection specialists for the BIG project. Choosing a whole solution for fire detection, Hochiki's market leading ESP range was installed across the mall. Srdjan Vujasevic, the then project lead said

“ I have worked with Hochiki products for almost 13 years now. I am confident in the whole solution from Hochiki Europe because of the high-quality design standards, all meeting the requirements of the investors and the construction company. The Hochiki devices are always so easy to install and maintain. They are also highly reliable, especially at reducing false alarms.

”

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Over 600 devices including multi-sensors, call points and sounders were installed at BIG Pazova from Hochiki Europe's globally proven ESP range. This intelligent range of addressable fire detection and alarm equipment has been designed and manufactured to the highest international standards, including LPCB, VdS and EN 54, offering a highly reliable solution. All products use Hochiki's high integrity digital communications link 'Enhanced Systems Protocol' (ESP), giving the range its name.

The ESP range is proven to help reduce false alarms due to a host of design features including a high-performance smoke sensor chamber, adjustable sensor sensitivity settings, sensor drift compensation and extended addressing. It is also compliant to world recognised standards such as LPCB and VdS.

Regional Sales Manager for Hochiki Europe, Petia Simeonova continued

“ The customer is happy with the level of protection Hochiki products have been able to provide. Hochiki always provide the best solutions for our customers, they work across multiple scenarios, and we trust them to work. We would highly recommend the Hochiki ESP range for future fire installation projects ”

“ As a leading international company in the manufacture of fire detection systems and products, I am proud that our customers can always trust in Hochiki to cover all their project requirements. The project at BIG was complex, but our fire detection products have helped ensure that both the businesses and the public who use this shopping mall are always kept safe. ”



COMBINING SAFETY AND STYLE: HOCHIKI EUROPE PROTECTS EDINBURGH'S NEWEST LUXURY RETAILER

MULTREES WALK, IN THE HEART OF ST JAMES' QUARTER, A PRESTIGIOUS SHOPPING DESTINATION IN EDINBURGH, OFFERS A CURATED SELECTION OF HIGH-END BRANDS AND PREMIUM SHOPPING EXPERIENCES. EARLIER THIS YEAR THE RETAIL CENTRE WITNESSED AN EXTENSION TO A PRESTIGIOUS STORE THAT REDEFINES LUXURY SHOPPING IN EDINBURGH. AS THE REVAMPED STORE PREPARED TO OPEN ITS DOORS, A CRITICAL ELEMENT OF ITS INFRASTRUCTURE WAS INSTALLED: A STATE-OF-THE-ART FIRE DETECTION SYSTEM FROM HOCHIKI EUROPE.

High-end luxury retailers prioritise discreet fire detection systems to maintain their brand's aesthetic appeal. These stores often feature meticulously designed interiors with clean lines and minimal distractions, meaning any visible fire detection devices can disrupt the desired ambiance and detract from the overall shopping experience. By opting for discreet systems, these retailers ensure that fire safety remains a top priority without compromising the store's luxurious atmosphere.

With its stunning interior design and exquisite collection of accessories and ready-to-wear items, this new store in Edinburgh, demanded a fire safety

solution that was both discreet and highly effective. GB Integrated Systems (GBIS), specialise in providing fire detection and security system solutions for commercial properties. Having worked with Hochiki products for several years, trusting their reliability in retail environments, they knew the global fire manufacturer's ESP range would provide the perfect answer.

Mike Gray, Technical Director from GBIS told us:

“We chose Hochiki as it offered a comprehensive solution for this project with a broad selection of devices, including smoke detectors, heat detectors, manual call points, base sounders and air sampling system.”

The project comprised over 40 analogue addressable devices and a sophisticated air sampling system, ensuring the highest standards in fire safety design. The air sampling system, seamlessly integrated into the fire detection loop, was a crucial component of the installation.

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Air sampling enables precise detection in hard-to-reach areas like ceiling voids, ensuring comprehensive coverage throughout a retail environment. The Hochiki devices respond accurately to real fire conditions while minimising false alarms through multi-sensor technology, environmental adjustments, and filtering mechanisms. With these features, the team at GBIS could reassure the luxury retailer that the fire alarm system could effectively differentiate between non-threatening signals and actual fire hazards, thereby improving safety, reducing false alarms, and enhancing operational efficiency within the store.

A key challenge was interfacing the fire alarm system with the shopping centre's security control centre. This complex integration required careful planning and execution to ensure that the system would respond appropriately to different fire scenarios. In the event of a fire within the store, the system would trigger specific alarms and notifications, while a fire in the shopping centre would activate different alerts, minimising disruption to the store's operations.

“Installing the fire alarm system in this premium, high-end retail space is especially exciting because it brings innovative fire safety and sophisticated technology into a luxurious environment where safety and customer experience are paramount. The precision and reliability of our install aligns perfectly with the retail brand's high standards, protecting valuable merchandise, ensuring shopper safety, and minimising disruptions from false alarms. With hidden devices and seamless integration, the Hochiki ESP range not only safeguards the premises but also maintains the aesthetics, adding a layer of security that complements the brand's reputation for excellence and customer care. It's very satisfying to see the finished Hochiki install in premises of this nature and instils a great sense of pride in the work we do.”

This successful project showcases the power of Hochiki's fire detection solutions to protect high-end retail environments. By combining innovation, reliability, and aesthetic appeal, Hochiki has helped to create a safe and secure space for customers to indulge in the ultimate luxury shopping experience.

To learn more about the ESP Range from Hochiki Europe head to the website to learn more.



HOCHIKI'S FLEXIBLE ESP FIRE DETECTION INSTALLED AT A DYNAMIC MIXED-USE DEVELOPMENT AT SCOTT HARBOUR, CARDIFF

Scott Harbour, a distinguished 30-year-old office complex in Cardiff Bay, underwent a significant transformation led by Rightacres Developments on behalf of Cardiff Council who would be the final occupier/building owner. The ambitious project aimed to convert the 90,000 square foot, five-storey building into 70 contemporary residential apartments, alongside dynamic mixed-use retail and commercial spaces, anticipating 300 occupants. Ensuring a robust, adaptable, and compliant fire safety system was paramount. To achieve this, Hochiki Europe's ESP Addressable fire detection range was expertly installed by P.E.S. Fire and Security and specified by Huvo.

The Scott Harbour conversion presented intricate fire safety challenges, primarily due to its future mixed-use nature and the uncertain occupancy of commercial areas, demanding a highly flexible fire detection strategy. P.E.S. Fire and Security, with Huvo's specification, selected the Hochiki solution for its inherent advantages.

The complexities were multifaceted: mixed residential, office, and retail spaces meant varying requirements for sounder activation. Hochiki's flexible product range provided the diverse solutions needed, including specialised heat detectors for apartment entrances to safeguard main corridor escape routes, with direct operation of Automatic Opening Vents (AOVs) – a crucial part of the building's fire strategy.

With commercial area usage undecided during fit-out, the system needed effortless reconfiguration. Hochiki's open protocol proved invaluable, offering essential futureproofing and flexibility for straightforward integration with various third-party systems, avoiding vendor lock-in. Aesthetic considerations were vital for the high-profile development. The discreet design of Hochiki devices ensured aesthetic harmony, blending seamlessly with the modern interior.

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Extensive interfacing was also critical; the fire system needed to connect with numerous building systems including sprinklers, pumps, Building Management Systems (BMS), access control, and Solar PV. The ESP range's inherent flexibility and open protocol enabled this seamless integration, establishing a fully integrated safety infrastructure.

Perhaps the most significant hurdle was continuous layout adjustments, driven by the final building owner, Cardiff Council, aligning requirements with their broader portfolio. The Hochiki system's ease of installation and inherent adaptability were pivotal in overcoming this. Martin Truscott, Managing Director from P.E.S. Fire and Security commented;

“Hochiki's ESP range made installation remarkably easy, especially when faced with the continual changes to the layout. This flexibility allowed us to adapt to the final building owner's evolving requirements, aligning with their wider portfolio policy, without needing a complete redesign of the overall system wiring.”

This flexibility enabled by the Hochiki devices, empowered P.E.S. fire & Security Ltd to accommodate ongoing changes without needing a complete redesign or re-wiring, significantly mitigating potential delays and costs.

The Hochiki ESP system proved central to overcoming the Scott Harbour conversion's challenges. Its adaptability to any future change was paramount, ensuring efficient project progression despite ongoing design modifications. The system delivered comprehensive coverage and control, effectively managing the complex fire strategy with targeted detection and sounder activation. Hochiki's advanced detection technology also successfully reduced false alarms, a crucial benefit in a busy, mixed-use environment.

The Scott Harbour project demonstrates the adaptability and reliability of Hochiki Europe's ESP Addressable range. Through close collaboration, Hochiki provided a robust, flexible, and truly future-proof fire detection solution.

To learn more about HUVO's services, visit their website www.huvo.co.uk.

FJARÐARGATA

ICELAND | ESP INTELLIGENT RANGE



SCALABLE FIRE SAFETY SYSTEM DEPLOYED AT FJARÐARGATA BY HOCHIKI EUROPE AND VOLT EHF

A landmark development is taking shape in the coastal town of Hafnarfjörður, Iceland. Located at Fjarðargata, the site blends modern architecture with preserved older structures to create a dynamic, mixed-use complex. The project brings together residential apartments, a self-check-in hotel, a shopping mall, restaurants, offices, a library, and underground parking, all in one interconnected space.

To ensure comprehensive life safety across such a diverse and expanding environment, the developers partnered with local fire safety specialists VOLT EHF, who selected Hochiki Europe as their manufacturer of choice for fire detection and alarm systems.

VOLT EHF, a specialist in electrical installations and fire alarm systems, has built a strong reputation in Iceland for delivering high-quality safety solutions across complex and demanding environments. As a new customer to Hochiki Europe, VOLT EHF approached the project with a clear priority: finding a manufacturer with a proven track record for quality, reliability, and intelligent design.

To build confidence and competence ahead of the project rollout, Sigmar Örn Arnarson, owner of VOLT EHF and lead engineer on the project, visited Hochiki Europe's headquarters. There, he attended specialist sessions at the Hochiki Training Academy, an environment designed to give installers real-world experience with Hochiki's panels and devices.

The hands-on training provided valuable insights into the configuration, operation, and maintenance of the full product range. Coupled with a guided tour of Hochiki's manufacturing floor, the visit gave Sigmar and his team a deep appreciation for the engineering precision and quality control behind every Hochiki product. This experience helped confirm their decision to appoint Hochiki as the fire safety manufacturer for this prestigious Icelandic development.

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Hochiki's Latitude fire control panel was selected as the backbone of the fire detection system. Its scalability and flexible configuration make it the ideal choice for large, multi-use complexes like Fjarðargata, with capacity built in to support future expansion of the site.

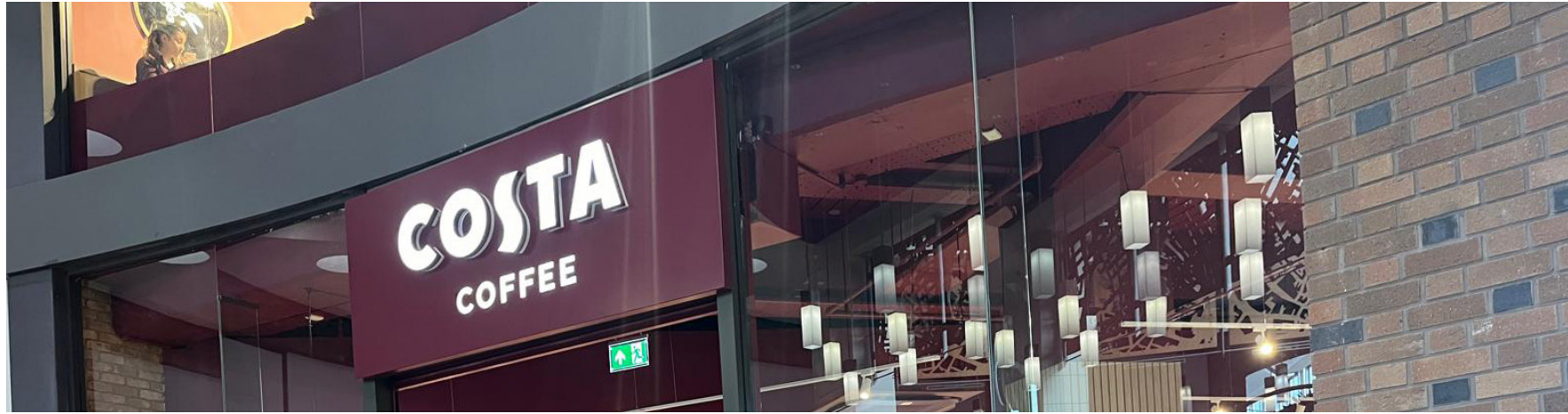
The system is also designed to integrate seamlessly with the site's overall Building Management System (BMS), ensuring a centralised view of life safety alongside other critical building services. In addition to reliability, the system was chosen for its strong false alarm reduction performance and discreet, aesthetically designed devices that complement the modern look of the development.

Currently, the Hochiki solution is installed in the hotel and residential areas, with further planning and design underway to roll out protection to the rest of the complex. The system includes a full suite of ESP intelligent devices, smoke detectors, manual call points, sounders, beacons, and repeater panels, all designed to provide clear alerts and ensure quick response in the event of an emergency.

The Fjarðargata development is a standout example of how tailored fire safety solutions, backed by expert support and world-class engineering, can meet the demands of even the most complex, multi-use environments. As the site continues to grow, Hochiki's scalable systems and responsive partnership will ensure long-term protection and peace of mind.

“ From the start, we were impressed by the engineering quality and user-friendly design of Hochiki's systems. The hands-on training at Hochiki's Academy really helped us understand the flexibility and strength of the products and gave us confidence going into the project. For a site of this scale and complexity, we expected challenges, but the installation went very smoothly, we've had little need for technical support. On the rare occasion we did require assistance, the support from Hochiki Europe was five-star. It's clear we chose the right partner. ”

Sigmar Örn Arnarson,
Lead Engineer and Owner, VOLT EHF



HOCHIKI POWERS FIRE SAFETY AT COSTA COFFEE: A CASE STUDY IN RETAIL FIRE PROTECTION

JCB FIRE LTD, A LEADING FIRE ALARM CONTRACTOR, RECENTLY PARTNERED WITH HOCHIKI TO SUPPLY AND COMMISSION A STATE-OF-THE-ART FIRE DETECTION SYSTEM AT COSTA COFFEE'S BRAND-NEW FLAGSHIP STORE AT SOLIHULL'S TOUCHWOOD SHOPPING CENTRE FOR THEIR LONG-STANDING CLIENT OTEC ELECTRICAL LIMITED.

Costa Coffee, a beloved British coffeehouse chain, has become synonymous with high-quality coffee and a warm, inviting atmosphere. With a wide range of handcrafted beverages, from classic espressos to innovative seasonal drinks, Costa offers something for everyone. Situated in the popular Touchwood Shopping Centre, which attracts over 13 million visitors annually, the new flagship Costa required a fire safety system that would meet the demands of this busy retail hub and ensure the safety of all coffee lovers who visited.

The Solihull store, a former Foot Locker, needed a complete overhaul to accommodate Costa Coffee's unique brief. This included the integration of a new fire detection system that would interface seamlessly with the existing building's infrastructure, including

security and sprinkler systems and meet the company's strict adherence policy to the Disability Discrimination Act (DDA).

JCB Fire Ltd selected Hochiki's fire detection devices for their innovative features and because their open protocol capability ensures compatibility with various fire alarm control panels, providing flexibility in system design. Additionally, the devices are easy to install, reducing project timelines, and offer ultra-reliability, minimising false alarms.

To meet the stringent safety requirements of the DDA, Hochiki's market leading Audio and Visual alarm devices were also installed. These devices are designed to enhance visibility for individuals with hearing impairments and improve audibility of fire alarms ensuring that all occupants can be evacuated quickly and efficiently.

Hochiki's ESP range of sensors further simplifies the installation process with electronics-free mounting bases and easy addressing. The versatile sensors offer a variety of detection options, including smoke, heat, and multicriteria detection. Customisable settings, such as adjustable

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sensitivity and drift compensation, allow for tailored fire protection – perfect for this restaurant spread over two floors. Grant Wheeler, General Manager of JCB Fire, highlighted the benefits of partnering with Hochiki. He emphasised the advanced technology, reduced false alarms, and efficient installation processes that contribute to the overall success of fire safety project at Costa.

“ The successful installation at the Solihull store was completed in less than a week, by our client Otec Electrical demonstrating the effectiveness of our partnership with Hochiki. We were able to combine our expertise with Hochiki’s innovative technology ensuring the safety and security of Costa Coffee’s customers and staff in this brand-new store. ”

Hochiki’s ESP range, as demonstrated in this exciting project at Costa Coffee’s new outlet, offers a robust and reliable fire detection solution for retail and restaurant environments. By providing advanced features like open protocol capability, easy installation, and customisable settings, Hochiki empowers retail businesses to prioritise safety without compromising aesthetics. To learn more about how Hochiki’s ESP range can elevate your fire safety measures, visit the Hochiki website or contact a local authorised distributor.



HOCHIKI EUROPE'S FIRE DETECTION SYSTEM KEEP VICENTINI AUTO ON THE RIGHT ROAD TO SAFETY

Vicentini Auto first began trading in 1974 as a family owned and operated car dealership and is based in the northern Italian city of Verona. Since then the company has steadily grown into one of the country's most prominent outlets for the purchase of new and used vehicles, and is widely respected for the expertise of its employees.

The company specialises in the prestigious Volkswagen, Audi and Porsche marques and in 2010 it began work on the construction of a new 56,000m² state-of-the-art showroom, comprising three buildings that are designed to house models from each of these brands. The buildings took just over two years to complete and now form the largest car centre in Europe. With stock worth millions of Euros and many employees, visitors and customers on-site at any one time, Vicentini Auto recognised the importance of having a life safety infrastructure that could provide the earliest possible warning of fire.

After being contacted by Vicentini Auto, local distributor, DES, was commissioned to specify a fire detection system to protect the entire site.

Zeno Nicolis, the company's then Technical Manager, explains:

“ We are also based in Verona and have supplied systems for many of the region's high profile projects. We have a number of highly qualified and experienced individuals on the team that possess in-depth knowledge of technical regulations and legislation in the sector. Since 1996 we have worked closely with Hochiki Europe and now distribute the company's industry leading solutions exclusively. ”

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Following a visit to the site Nicolis was given a brief to configure a life safety system that adhered to strict technical and aesthetic guidelines. He commented:

“ Like the cars that are displayed there, these buildings are designed, built and finished to the very highest standards. Not only did the fire system have to be almost invisible, so as not to spoil the aesthetics of the showrooms, it also had to offer the very best levels of detection and reliability while reducing the likelihood of unwanted alarms. After considering the various options I felt confident that Hochiki Europe's FIRElink aspirating fire detection solution would tick all the boxes. ”

The FIRElink range of detectors are the only high sensitivity detectors that are routinely applied to the protection of clean, dust free environments like modern car showrooms and the very dirty and dusty environments found in industrial applications. This is achieved by using Laser Dust Discrimination (LDD) with a patented dust management and separator system. These features have greatly extended separator life service intervals. At the other extreme, FIRElink is capable of providing the very highest levels of sensitivity in environments such as computer and clean rooms. In these applications it is able to sense the very smallest amounts of smoke.

Paul Adams, Hochiki's then Marketing Manager, comments:

“ Most types of buildings can benefit from having an aspirating fire detection system but it tends to be particularly useful where an early warning is desirable. This is because aspirating detectors are around 10 times more sensitive than general point detectors. ”

Most of the system at Vicentini Auto is hidden from view, as the majority of the 1,800m of pipework is located in places such as ceiling voids. This aesthetic advantage is achieved without compromising the effectiveness of the system and a total of 10 FIRElink-400 systems were installed across the three buildings. These were configured around Hochiki's Enhanced Systems Protocol (ESP) – a robust addressable communications solution for intelligent fire detection and fully integrated systems.

Nicolis explained:

“ The system is linked to three control panels – one in each building – that form part of an integrated building automation system. Each control panel utilises four loops, which are all connected to a central control room from where it is possible to manage all the panels and associated devices on-site. ”

The installation also includes a variety of other Hochiki Europe products including 325 optical smoke detectors that feature its High Performance Chamber Technology. This minimises the differences in sensitivity experienced in flaming and smouldering fires and the result is a device that is incredibly responsive and helps to reduce the possibility of unwanted alarms. In addition, 30 SPC-ET beam detectors and 101 call points were used.

While DES designed and commissioned the system, local company, Moretto, was responsible for its installation. The company's then Managing Director, Silvio Moretto, was delighted with the progress made once on-site and commented:

“ Hochiki products are extremely well designed. Installing Hochiki aspirating systems is incredibly quick compared to other fire detection systems, particularly when considering the building's structure. ”

The installation was completed on schedule and the new system has worked perfectly, with no unwanted alarms reported. Zeno Nicolis concluded: We are very pleased to have been involved with this project which sets new standards for car dealerships, not only in Italy but around the world. We had every confidence that the demands of Vicentini Auto for a reliable, unobtrusive and best-in-class fire detection system would be met by Hochiki Europe, and this has proven to be the case.



COSMETICS FIRM PUTS FIRE SAFETY FIRST THANKS TO HOCHIKI EUROPE

Estée Lauder is benefiting from fewer false alarms and streamlined maintenance at its Greek headquarters with a new high-performance fire safety system provided by Hochiki Europe.

The cosmetics firm's base in the heart of Athens, Greece, is large and subject to heavy traffic, with more than 150 employees spread across five floors. As such, having a high quality life safety system is crucial to protect the health and well-being of employees.

In such a busy building, the ageing fire detection system was growing costly and difficult to maintain. Moreover, the technology was becoming increasingly prone to false alarms, causing significant disruption to those in the office, and preventing workers doing their jobs.

Spiros Theodorou, the then Sales Manager at the firm leading the installation, IFSAS Fire and Security, explained:

“ The sheer number of false alarms was not just having a significant negative impact on the success of the company's Greek operations, it was contributing to alarm fatigue among its workers, their response times to alerts were deteriorating as they assumed they were not serious, which could have had disastrous consequences for their safety in the event of a genuine emergency ”

With the challenges of false alarms in mind, Estée Lauder called for a reliable solution capable of safeguarding its employees with minimal maintenance requirements or disruption. In addition, due to the high-profile nature of its offices, the company wanted products that would not impact on the aesthetics of the building interior. IFSAS Fire and Security was certain that Hochiki Europe had the right life safety solutions for the job, so recommended a number of its solutions for use throughout the building.

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ALN-EN analogue optical smoke sensors from Hochiki Europe were installed throughout the building. Incorporating innovative high performance chamber technology, the solution optimises detection sensitivity for fires in their earliest stages, extending evacuation windows for workers in an emergency, while eliminating the issue of false alarms. The manufacturer's ATJ-EN analogue heat detectors were also fitted in the kitchen area and medium voltage electric boards. The solution incorporates both variable temperature and rate-of-rise heat elements to increase sensitivity to both slow and rapidly developing fires, further improving worker safety.

In addition, Hochiki Europe's YBO-R/SCI Short Circuit Isolator Bases were integrated into the fire safety network to protect the alarm systems from short circuits. CHQ-WSB Wall Sounder Beacons with YBO-R/3(RED) Mounting Bases were included to alert occupants as quickly as possible to a fire incident, as well as HCP-E (SCI) Addressable Call Points to enable individuals to raise alarms manually.

The technologies chosen are small and unobtrusive, minimising their impact on the visual appearance of the office interior, and can be monitored and set up from a central control panel, streamlining operating and maintenance procedures for Estée Lauder's facilities managers.

Moreover, they feature Hochiki Europe's cutting-edge open Enhanced System Protocol (ESP), making them compatible with standard components from other suppliers, and cutting the cost of aftercare. It also significantly reduced the duration and complexity of the installation project for installers, CORE Contractors, by simplifying the supply chain for parts.

George Lolis, the then Project Engineer at CORE Contractors, said:

“

The compatibility of Hochiki Europe's systems with other products meant that we didn't have to wait for any specialist components to become available before installing, enabling us to carry out the project without any delay or disruption.

This significantly reduced the duration of the project, allowing us to deliver well within the tight deadline specified by Estée Lauder.

”

Hochiki Europe, added:

“

With so many workers using the building every day, not to mention visitors, Estée Lauder needed a life safety system that was reliable to keep any impact on its operations to a minimum and to protect its employees.

The solutions selected for the project delivered this reliability for the company, lowering aftercare needs and virtually eliminating false alarms. This has helped to save the facilities management team considerable time and money, while ensuring Estée Lauder's team remain safe and well as they go about their working day.

”



HOCHIKI EUROPE 'PANDAS TO WWF'S FIRE DETECTION NEEDS'

One of the world's largest and most respected independent conservation organisations, with a global network active in over 100 countries, WWF's mission is to stop the degradation of the earth's natural environment. It aims to build a future in which humans live in harmony with nature, by conserving the world's biological diversity and ensuring that the use of renewable natural resources is sustainable.

Instantly recognisable thanks to its famous panda logo, WWF was originally set up in 1961 for the purpose of campaigning to save species endangered by human activity. With Prince Charles as the current president of WWF-UK, the organisation currently supports around 1,300 conservation and environmental projects around the world.

Prior to October last year WWF's base had been at Panda House in Godalming since 1987. However, as the end of the lease approached, some big decisions had to be made. Following a large donation from the Rufford Foundation, WWF determined to create its own exemplar building where it could work more effectively and spread its message. After carrying out an extensive search a brownfield site, on land that had previously been a car park owned and run by Woking Borough Council, was chosen for the new build.

Completed and opened in November 2013 by WWF Ambassador, Sir David Attenborough, the £20m Living Planet Centre is at the forefront of sustainable design and construction, incorporating a wide range of renewable energy technologies such as ground source heat pumps and solar photovoltaic (PV) panels. One of the greenest buildings in the UK, it is an impressive timber framed structure that as well as housing WWF's administrative facilities is also home to the WWF Experience – an exciting interactive exhibition that brings to life the secrets of the natural world and the threats it faces.

Ensuring the safety of the Living Planet Centre's occupants was a key concern of WWF during the design process. Although the life safety system would obviously need to give the earliest possible warning in the event of a fire, it would also need to be sympathetic to the unique design features and minimise any disruption to the fabric of the building.

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With a reputation for excellence as a result of its work on high profile projects across the UK, Cheshire based Fire Bright Solutions, a BAFE accredited Hochiki Systems Partner, was invited to tender for the project and present its recommendations.

Its then Sales Director, Haydn Greeves, said:

“*Formed in 2003, Fire Bright Solutions aims to demonstrate the highest levels of technical competency, professional working practices and ethical conduct, so that our clients can be convinced about our quality of service. To do this we need to be 100 per cent confident in the reliability of the products we install and that’s why we suggested the use of a fire detection system from Hochiki Europe for the WWF.*”

Specialising in system design, installation, commissioning and maintenance, Fire Bright Solutions has worked with all types of fire detection technology.

Greeves went on to say:

“*Given the design of the building, the aesthetic considerations and the spaces that had to be covered, I felt confident that Hochiki Europe’s FIRElink-400 aspirating fire detection solution would tick all the boxes.*”

The FIRElink-400 aspirating unit consists of an enclosure that houses the electronics that are powered from a supply, and a fan inside it that draws air in via four pipes that are connected to the unit. The air that is drawn in then goes into an aspirating chamber after passing through a filter. The air then passes across a laser light source that is projected into the air itself and if enough smoke particles are detected an alarm condition will be activated. All detectors in the FIRElink range have been approved to EN 54-20:2006 Classes A, B & C by LPCB.

Paul Adams, Hochiki Europe’s then Marketing Manager, explained:

“*Most types of buildings can benefit from having an aspirating fire detection system but it tends to be particularly useful where an early warning is desirable. The system provides the very highest levels of sensitivity and is able to give warning at the very slightest trace of smoke. This is because aspirating detectors are around 10 times more sensitive than general point detectors.*”

Most of the system at the Living Planet Centre is hidden from view, as the majority of the pipework is located in ceiling voids and the roof fabrication.

Greeves stated:

“*This aesthetic advantage is achieved without compromising the effectiveness of the system, which is configured around Hochiki Europe’s Enhanced Systems Protocol (ESP) – A robust addressable communications solution for intelligent fire detection and fully integrated systems.*”

The system comprises a three loop Advanced MX4403 control panel, which enables a programmed phased evacuation alarm strategy to meet the specific client and local fire authorities’ requirements. This is complemented by a wide range of Hochiki Europe devices including 4 FIRElink-400 aspiration detection systems, 63 optical smoke sensors, 16 HCP-E(SCI) call points with integral short-circuit isolators, 11 YBO-BSB base sounder beacons, 39 YBO-BS base sounders and 9 multi-heat sensors, which incorporate a variable temperature heat element and a rate of rise heat element, allowing either thermal element or both elements simultaneously to be active in making the fire decision.

Part of the original car park has also been incorporated into the new building and Hochiki Europe technology has been installed here too in the form of 55 IP67 rated ACB-EW waterproof multi-heat sensors.

The Living Planet Centre has proved immensely popular with WWF staff and visitors alike, and it is being held as an exemplar of modern construction practice.

The last word goes to then WWF spokesman Richard Eaton, who concluded:

“*It is essential that a state-of-the-art building like this has an equally innovative life safety infrastructure. I’m delighted with the sound advice and skilled craftsmanship that Fire Bright Solutions provided us with in the installation of a fire detection system from Hochiki Europe.*”



HOCHIKI MIDDLE EAST PROTECTS LUXURY BUILDING IN DUBAI

A luxury residential and commercial building has recently been built in the Nad Al Hammar district of Dubai. This new development is in a prime location only 15 minutes to Sheikh Zayed Road and Dubai International Airport and 20 minutes to 'new' Dubai.

The contemporary residential and commercial building is spread over 12 floors and can accommodate approximately 800 occupants. With the building being designed for mixed use, it was essential that an efficient and reliable fire detection and emergency lighting solution was installed to ensure the safety of all occupants.

Torontec Engineering Consultants who are a building service and system design company were approached to work on Vista Star by the multidisciplinary Hassani Group of Companies, who were overseeing the design and installation of the buildings fire safety systems. Following a joint presentation from Hochiki Middle East and installers Dafoos, Torontec decided to specify Hochiki products for the project.

One of the special requirements for this job was the need for high quality products; Hochiki has led the way in the design and manufacture of life safety solutions for over 100 years, and as such their devices are world renowned for high-integrity and long-term reliability.

The consultant required the products specified to be fully compliant as well as of a high standard. Hochiki work closely with all major approval bodies across the world to ensure quality and environmental compliance is a top priority. As such, Hochiki fire detection and emergency lighting products fully conform to all the latest standards and regulations.

In 2018 Hochiki were awarded Dubai Civil Defence (DCD) approval for its fire detection and emergency lighting products. The new certification, which was granted following a year-long approval process, means that Hochiki's solutions can be used in fire safety and construction projects in every kingdom throughout the entire United Arab Emirates.

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Sathish Kumar, the then Sales Manager at Hochiki Middle East commented:

“ Our Japanese-designed products are built to be ultra-reliable and come with a three-year warranty as standard. The fact that we are now able to supply these robust and dependable solutions across the UAE means we can ensure greater levels of occupant safety in the region while also reducing false alarms. Considering the number fire safety emergencies in recent years, especially in high-rise properties, this should be seen as paramount for specifying decision-makers. ”

Half way through the project, design and support services company Lead Consult were brought in to finish the project alongside Dafoos and Hochiki.

For this project over 900 addressable detectors were installed along with three 4-loop Fire Alarm control panels as well as Hochiki's emergency lighting solution FIREscape.

The original design featured a single panel, but it was clear once the project was underway that the size and complexity of the building necessitated three control panels on a network, to support the number of devices fitted. Working in close partnership with Hochiki Middle East allowed Dafoos to upgrade the installation quickly, supplying and installing the system within the programmed completion date.



DISCREET FIRE PROTECTION FOR A LANDMARK MAYFAIR OFFICE

When leading fire and security specialists Cornerstone were appointed to deliver the life safety systems for the refurbishment of 77 Grosvenor Street, they faced a unique challenge. Located in the heart of London's Mayfair district, the prestigious building features classical architecture and over 50,000 square feet of premium open-plan office space spread across six floors. The goal was to upgrade the fire protection without compromising the building's refined aesthetics.

The client, a major property management company, required a solution that was robust, reliable and unobtrusive. Working closely with the design and construction teams, Cornerstone turned to Hochiki Europe, a long-standing partner known for dependable systems that blend seamlessly into high-end environments.

At the core of the installation is the Latitude fire detection and alarm control system. Chosen for its powerful cause and effect programming, flexible networking and modular scalability, Latitude was well suited to the demands of a multi-level heritage building. Its ability to support complex configurations made it ideal for a site where multiple zones, floors and room functions needed to be managed with precision.

To deliver complete protection across the site, Cornerstone selected a combination of Hochiki's Enhanced System Protocol (ESP) addressable devices and the FIRElink aspirating detection system. The FIRElink system is adaptable to a broad range of environments and applications. From small, to very large areas, the system is particularly useful in protecting computer rooms or data centres but can be designed to fit almost any environment. ESP detectors offer high performance with a minimal visual footprint, ideal for preserving the character of the restored interiors. In areas requiring an even more discreet solution, such as decorative ceilings or high airflow zones, FIRElink was installed using capillary sampling pipes hidden within the building's structure.

One of the key advantages of the Latitude platform is its ability to interface with wider building management systems (BMS). At Grosvenor Street, this opens the door to centralised monitoring and control of fire safety in conjunction with other building systems. Latitude's open integration options mean it can share status updates and alarm events in real time with

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the BMS, enabling facilities teams to coordinate responses quickly and efficiently. For a high-spec office environment, this not only improves safety outcomes but also supports smoother day-to-day operation and building performance.

Patrick Anthony, Project Manager at Cornerstone, explained the decision:

“ We have a trusted relationship with the Hochiki team. Their systems and devices are reliable, help reduce false alarms and are designed to aesthetically fade into the background, exactly what this project needed and delivers complete peace of mind for the management team.

”

The site at Grosvenor Street is now protected by a fully integrated, futureproof life safety system that meets modern building safety standards while maintaining the building's elegance.



RESIDENTIAL WAKING WATCH REPLACEMENT, GRAVESEND.

WHEN A WAKING WATCH SYSTEM AT THREE RESIDENTIAL BLOCKS IN GRAVESEND NEEDED REPLACING, CORNERSTONE GROUP PARTNERED WITH HOCHIKI EUROPE TO DELIVER A RELIABLE AND FUTURE PROOF FIRE DETECTION SOLUTION. THE PROJECT INVOLVED THE INSTALLATION OF A FULLY OPEN PROTOCOL SYSTEM USING ESP, LATITUDE AND WIRELESS EKHO TECHNOLOGIES.

Waking Watch was originally installed as a temporary safety measure after fire risk issues were identified in many high-rise buildings across the UK following the Grenfell Tower disaster. While it provides manual monitoring of buildings for fire, it is costly, inconsistent and heavily reliant on human response. These limitations make it unsuitable as a long-term solution.

To eliminate the need for costly manual monitoring and meet updated fire safety standards, a fully compliant and flexible fire detection system was required.

Cornerstone Group installed a Hochiki system combining Latitude fire alarm control panels, ESP hard-wired addressable fire detection devices and Ekho hybrid wireless devices. The open protocol setup allowed integration with other building safety systems and provided flexibility for future expansion.

Hard-wired detectors were fitted in common corridors, with Latitude EN54-compliant control panels managing the system. Ekho hybrid wireless units were installed in the entrance hallway of each apartment where cabling would have been disruptive or impractical.

Latitude's compatibility with both ESP and Ekho made it well suited for this multistorey residential environment. It allowed seamless control of hard-wired and wireless devices through a single panel per building, reducing the need for invasive installation work and supporting clear event reporting for the building management team.

There were some challenges the team faced during installation. Access into the individual flats proved difficult, with scheduled appointments with residents often having to be rearranged. However, by maintaining clear communication and working flexibly around residents' availability, the team was able to complete the installation with minimal disruption and ensure every flat was properly protected.

“ We chose Hochiki because their product reliability is proven and the support in sales was very responsive. If we ever needed it technical help was always first class and helped keep the project on schedule. ”

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The successful replacement of the Waking Watch system has not only reduced long-term costs but also delivered consistent and high-performance fire detection throughout all three buildings, helping to keep residents safe.



HOCHIKI EUROPE SCORES A WINNER WITH CARDIFF CITY FC

After being based at Ninian Park for the previous 99 years, in 2009 the team played its first game at the 28,000 capacity Cardiff City Stadium, a perfect example of a state-of-the-art sporting environment where life safety is a top priority.

Promotion Challenge

The second largest stadium in Wales after the Millennium Stadium, Cardiff City Stadium was built on the site of the former Cardiff Athletics Stadium. Tiger Fire & Security Limited was approached by the project's electrical contractor, NG Bailey, at the planning stages of the development to provide its expertise in designing and installing the life safety infrastructure at the ground and work began in 2007.

Gareth Pezzack, Tiger Fire and Security's then Managing Director explained:

“ We became involved at design and concept stage for both the fire detection and combined public address/voice alarm (PA/VA) systems. Our level of input was considerable and we advised on the fire standards that had to be adhered to, including The Green Guide (Guide to Safety at Sports Grounds) and other relevant British Standards for the Fire, PA/VA and Disabled Refuge Systems. ”

The Green Guide is a government funded guidance book on spectator safety at sports grounds. It was created in the aftermath of the Hillsborough disaster and provides detailed guidance to ground management design in respect to increasing safety at sports grounds and stadiums, including how many spectators can be safely accommodated within a sports ground.

Half Time

Tiger Fire & Security Limited designed and specified the installation of a BS5839-1: 2002 compliant Category L5 addressable fire detection system. A Category L5 system is one in which the protected area(s) and/or the location of detectors is designed to satisfy a specific fire safety objective. Often the design is based on a fire risk assessment or forms part of a fire engineering solution.

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Tiger Fire & Security Limited selected a system based around Hochiki's Enhanced Systems Protocol (ESP). ESP is a total communications solution for intelligent fire detection and fully integrated systems. It has a multi-purpose structure that provides the flexibility and expansion to accommodate simple addressable systems through to sophisticated integrated building management and safety systems.

Gareth commented:

"Hochiki's proven reliability made it the obvious choice for this installation and I knew that it would act as a one stop shop for all the Stadium's fire detection needs. The ESP protocol is extremely robust and we've never experienced any issues or problems with it."

All Levels

The Stadium's West Stand has five levels with Hospitality Suites, Player / Changing areas, Media Rooms, Club Shops, and Chief Executive Suite, whilst the general concourse area is effectively an outside environment. In this area Tiger Fire & Security Limited used Hochiki's multi-sensors and addressable beacons to reduce the likelihood of unwanted alarms. The fire detection system was fully integrated with the PA/VA system and it operates in two modes – match day and non-match day, each specifically designed to ensure maximum safety at different times.

To get the scale of the installation into perspective, the fire detection system and PA/VA system used a combined total of 20km of cable and 350 Hochiki devices, including smoke detectors, multi-sensors, loop base sounders and beacons, and input/output units. These components are linked to four networked panels located around the stadium, with the master control panel located in the Stadium's match control room.

Taking the lead

Hochiki's optical smoke sensors were also installed which feature the company's High Performance Chamber Technology. Hochiki's chamber design minimises the differences in sensitivity experienced in flaming and smouldering fires. The result is a high performance optical chamber that is equally responsive to all smoke types and helps to reduce the possibility of unwanted alarms.

As a modern stadium with very strong design values, aesthetics were a key consideration. Gareth summarised:

"Although they are a functional part of the building's infrastructure, Hochiki's fire detection products have the added bonus of looking good. In modern buildings this is an important quality."

Wayne Nash, then then Stadium Manager at Cardiff City added:

"With so many people in such a relatively small space, accessibility is very important and compliance with the guidelines as set out in the Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) is a definite must for us. We have to consider the needs of people of all abilities and so we made sure that all the areas have the requisite number of beacons and beacon/sounders in order to comply."

Back of the net

This was the first football stadium that Tiger Fire & Security Limited had worked on but since then it has received a number of tender invitations from football clubs around the country for similar work, due to the high level of design expertise that the company can offer.

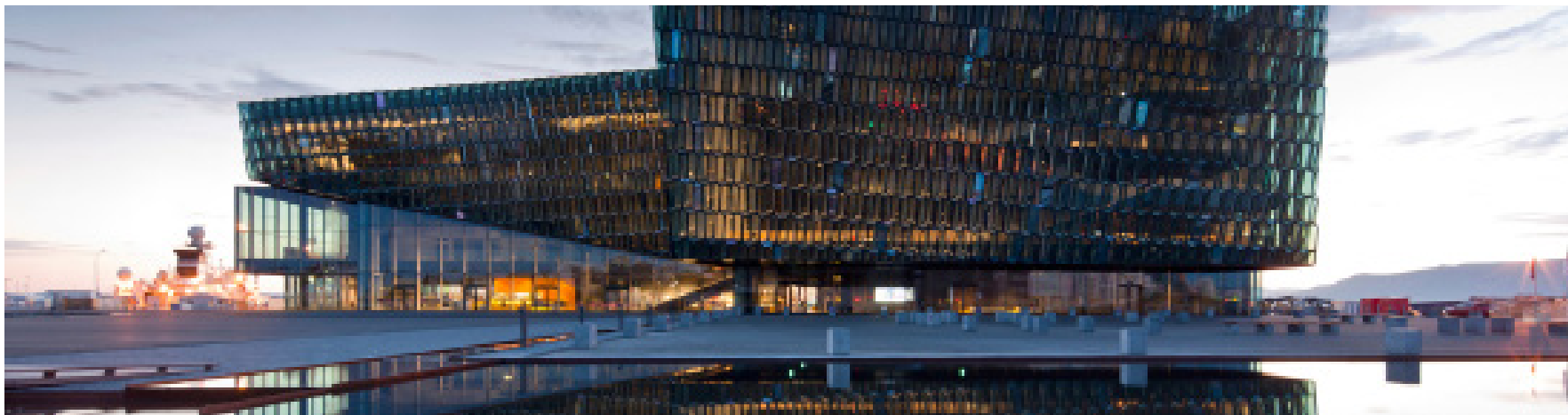


ACC-EN

A measure of the company's contribution was noted when The Cardiff City Stadium won the Local Authority Building Control Wales Award for public/community buildings.

Graham Bond, the then Senior Building Control Surveyor at The Building Control Safety Advisory Group, concluded:

"Tiger Fire & Security's input was greatly appreciated by myself and the rest of the design team in delivering design experience and solutions to what was a particularly complex and challenging project."



HOCHIKI EUROPE RECEIVES A STANDING OVATION AT THE HARPA REYKJAVÍK CONCERT HALL AND CONFERENCE CENTRE

Aspectacular addition to the Icelandic cultural landscape, when the Harpa Reykjavík Concert Hall and Conference Centre opened its doors to the public in May 2011 it was unanimously acclaimed as one of Iceland's most important contemporary buildings. As the city's first purpose built concert hall, it successfully combines being used as a classical music venue – serving as the home to the Iceland Symphony Orchestra and The Icelandic Opera – with hosting conferences and exhibitions.

The Harpa was the brainchild of Henning Larsen Architects and Batteríð, while the renowned artist, Ólafur Eliásson, designed the façade. It consists of a steel framework clad with 10,000 irregularly shaped glass panels of different colours that reference the columnar basalt common in Iceland's terrain. The use of the glass panels provides a dramatic effect when the unique daylight in Iceland – which ranges from almost 24 hours in summer to the briefest glimpse of the sun above the horizon in winter – covers the building in a myriad of different colours.

It consists of four halls, three of which are used for concerts. These comprise a main concert hall seating up to 1,600 people, a rehearsal hall that can also be used for concerts seating up to 450, and a chamber music hall seating 200. With events taking place on a daily basis, protecting the public and staff is vital and the building's fire detection system plays an important role in keeping them safe.

The project's main contractor, IAV, began work in early 2008 and asked Iceland's leading fire safety specialist, ARK Security, to design, specify and commission the fire detection system.

Kjartan Scheving, the then Managing Director of ARK Security, explained:

“ We have worked with IAV on many projects over the years, so when it came to implementing the life safety infrastructure at the Harpa they asked us to get involved. It was clear to me that the only way to ensure the level of reliability, quality and safety demanded was to install state-of-the-art products from Hochiki Europe. ”

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Scheving and his team knew that traditional point detection would not be possible due to the Harpa's very high ceilings. He commented:

“ Some of ceilings are over 70m high so three Hochiki Europe FIRElink aspirating fire detection systems were needed to provide the requisite level of cover above 10m. These are linked to four control panels which have 1,600 addresses assigned to them in 24 separate zones. ”

Aspirating detectors are around 10 times more sensitive than general point detectors and are suitable where there is a high density of people and an early warning is desired.

Explaining how the system works, Paul Adams, Hochiki's then Marketing Manager, stated:

“ The FIRElink aspirating unit consists of an enclosure that houses the electronics that are powered from a supply, and a fan inside it that draws air in via pipes that are connected to the unit. The air then passes across a laser light source that is projected into the air itself and if enough smoke particles are detected an alarm condition will be activated. ”

The FIRElink systems are configured around Hochiki's Enhanced Systems Protocol (ESP) – a robust addressable communications solution for intelligent fire detection and fully integrated systems. ESP delivers exceptionally secure signalling and also incorporates error-checking technology to safeguard the integrity of the data and ensure correct communication. The system also has features drift compensation technology that, when activated by the control panel, automatically recalibrates the detectors every 24 hours.

The use of smoke machines within the auditoria necessitated the ability to turn off the detectors in these areas for up to four hours at a time. Scheving further explained:

“ Unwanted alarms are a serious problem for any premises but for concert halls they can be particularly disruptive, leading to the evacuation of the building and the interruption of the event taking place. Being able to deactivate the detectors in specific zones gives designated personnel a chance to investigate the cause of the alarm before taking further action. ”

Aesthetics at the Harpa are very important and design continuity has to be maintained at all times. Being able to install the FIRElink systems' pipework in the ceiling voids helped ensure this, as did the availability of optical smoke detectors in black to match the colour of the ceilings in some of the rooms. The system also utilises a wide variety of other addressable devices from Hochiki Europe including manual call points, YBO-BSB base sounder beacons, multi-heat sensors, multi-heat sensors, CHQ-DIM dual input modules and CHQ-DRC dual relay controllers.

The flexibility that the fire detection system boasts means that it can control many other aspects of the building services infrastructure such as the elevators, ventilation system, smoke curtains, smoke hatches and sprinkler system. It is also integrates and controls a public address/voice alarm (PA/VA) system that has 1,032 speakers that can also be isolated in specific zones. ARK Security spent a total of three years working at the Harpa and Scheving is delighted with what his team achieved.

He concluded:

“ When we talked to the Reykjavík fire service they said that it was the most sophisticated fire detection system in Iceland. Since the Harpa opened it has proven 100 per cent reliable with no unwanted alarms, which goes to show that specifying products from Hochiki Europe was the right decision. ”



HOCHIKI EUROPE USE CUTTING EDGE TECHNOLOGY TO PROTECT A LEGENDARY LOCATION

A new boutique hotel has recently opened its doors in one of Northern Ireland's most iconic and culturally-significant buildings in Belfast's Titanic Quarter. This historic location, now known as the Titanic Hotel, is benefitting from a range of cutting-edge life safety technology from manufacturer, Hochiki Europe.

Throughout the early 20th century, the now-listed site was the headquarters for world-leading ocean-liner builders, Harland and Wolff, making it the nerve-centre of the largest shipyard in the world. The company was responsible for the design and construction of dozens of 'floating hotels', the most famous of which being the ill-fated Titanic.

In more recent years, the area around the listed building has been transformed by property developers, Harcourt, to create the 'Titanic Quarter', a prestigious new water-front regeneration. This includes the creation of the Titanic Hotel, designed as an homage to Belfast's shipbuilding history as well as its namesake ocean-liner. The building features an art-deco style interior that mirrors the craftsmanship and precise attention to detail paid when designing the RMS Titanic's interior.

There were various considerations to take into account when designing a life safety system for the hotel. The project called for a solution that could be easily installed with minimal disruption, and networked to suit the various environments inside the hotel including bedrooms, kitchens, a public-accessed museum, and conference spaces.

To meet these requirements, Hochiki Europe supplied a range of products from its Enhanced Systems Protocol (ESP) range. This intelligent, addressable fire detection and alarm equipment is designed and manufactured to the highest international standards, so staff and building owners can rest assured that all products installed are ultra-reliable.

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Sensors in the ESP range are designed to utilise an electronics-free, ‘twist-fit’ mounting base. This gives installers, in this case Belfast-based Atlas World, the opportunity to fix the bases at “first fix” stage, with sensors added at a later stage, once the environment is clean. The ‘twist-fit’ feature also allows greater flexibility when fitting at height or in hard to reach areas. This also makes it easier for facilities managers to carry out maintenance as the sensor heads can be accessed from ground level using specialised smoke poles without the need to employ expensive and disruptive mobile platforms or “cherry-pickers”.

Over 200 sensors from Hochiki Europe’s ESP range were installed throughout the Titanic Hotel. Using a combination of ACC-EN multi-sensors and ALN-EN smoke sensors, Atlas World were able to programme the devices to suit the different environments within the hotel and their differing life safety considerations.

Richard Wharram, then a Regional Sales Manager at Hochiki Europe, noted:

“Hotels present a very unique set of requirements when it comes to life safety, even more so when they are listed buildings like the Titanic Hotel. The need to find solutions that match the different spaces and uses within the hotel, from restaurant kitchens and bars to bedrooms, public areas and lounges, while also ensuring ease of installation, can prove challenging.

Our ESP range is incredibly versatile and can be installed and networked in a way that works perfectly for each of these environments, ensuring optimum system monitoring across the entire building. It’s fantastic to see how new technology is helping protect such an iconic project and a unique part of Belfast’s history.

”

Robert Creagmile, then Key Account Director at Atlas World, added:

“Installations in buildings with high ceilings and heritage features require specialist solutions. Hochiki Europe’s range of sensors can be fitted in two parts so they were ideal for use in the Titanic Hotel. Thanks to Hochiki Europe, we were able to install the system with greater efficiency with little disruption to day-to-day operations.

”

Adrian McNally, then General Manager of Titanic Hotel Belfast commented:

“The restoration of the former Harland and Wolff Offices into a luxury hotel has been very complex. It is vital we have all current fire and life safety systems in place to ensure the comfort and safety of our guests is not compromised. However, we also wanted to make sure we preserved the architectural and visible integrity of yesteryear. We believe we have achieved this as our hotel has the most advanced technology to allow this safety, while being nearly invisible to our guests.

”



WORLD FAMOUS ATLANTIC HOTEL GETS THE HOCHIKI MAGIC TOUCH

SET IN 10 ACRES OF BREATH-TAKING HEADLAND, STEEPED IN MAGICAL HISTORY, WITH SENSATIONAL VIEWS OF THE NORTH CORNISH COAST, SITS ONE OF CORNWALL'S BEST-KEPT SECRETS, THE ATLANTIC HOTEL. THE HOTEL IS LOCATED JUST A SHORT STROLL TO THE CENTRE OF NEWQUAY, AND MINUTES FROM SOME OF THE UK'S FINEST SURF BEACHES, INCLUDING THE WORLD-FAMOUS SURF MECCA FISTRAL BEACH. THIS AA FOUR-STAR HOTEL WAS ONCE HOME TO THE WORLD'S BIGGEST BAND THE BEATLES WHILST THEY FILMED THEIR NOW-ICONIC MOVIE THE MAGICAL MYSTERY TOUR IN 1967.

Recognising the existing life safety system needed a complete upgrade, Adrian McNally, then General Manager of Titanic Hotel Belfast commented:

“

This project was a big one, we had close to 200 devices to install, and with the size of the building and the fact that the hotel was made of granite meant that cabling was going to be tricky so we knew we needed to use wireless devices. Wireless is quicker to install minimising the impact on the hotel, we knew that Hochiki's Ekho devices were the best for the job because they are incredibly quick and easy to install.

”

With over 100,000 people visiting Newquay during the summer months, getting this installation completed on time was crucial for the hotel to not miss its peak trading season. The project was scheduled to start in February and was completed in just a few short weeks.

Hochiki Europe's Martin Green consulted on this project and visited the hotel alongside the team at Action Fire Southwest to carry out detailed surveys.

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“ The last two years have been incredibly hard for the hotel industry, so I wanted to make sure for the end client we got this job done efficiently with minimal impact on their business and guests. After the initial site visit and carrying out the project survey we knew our wireless Ekho devices would be the perfect solution. They were each fitted in minutes within the individual hotel spaces and bedrooms with no on-site programming required, as this had been carried out way in advance off-site. So, it really was as simple as getting the device out of its box, attaching it in place and the system was good to go ”

“ Andrew Berry adds “There were a few hotel guests during the install, but we were able to work around them and get the job done quickly – this was one of the main concerns for the hotel, that those guests were not to be disrupted and there was to be zero impact on peak trading. Working with Hochiki devices meant we were able to achieve this. ”

In many public buildings, there may be dozens of different types of audible warning devices; are alarm systems, emergency exit alarms, lifts/elevators, intrusion alarm systems, and each can have their own audible warning device.

With so many different types of audible devices, it can be confusing to the occupants when an alarm sound – especially for hotel guests who might be fast asleep in their rooms. Is it a real alarm or a false alarm? To counter these conflicting responses, voice sounders are now an established and effective solution. Research has shown

that voice alarm messages result in quicker reaction times than when sirens or bells are used, in fact 75% of people react in a timely manner to voice messages. This has resulted in VA Systems becoming more commonplace as the primary means of evacuation in public buildings.

As part of the install at The Atlantic Hotel, staff training was provided on how the new system and devices operated, and what to expect when an alarm sounded.

“ The Ekho devices we prescribed have an additional feature of voice messaging, which can be critical during an emergency in a hotel as people tend to respond quickly when they hear a voice command to exit the building. The hotel management were very keen to take up this additional voice functionality built into Ekho, so they now have a fully functioning, voice evacuation system. ”

Following the completion of the installation and commissioning process, along with the device training, the team from Action Fire Southwest now visit the site on a six-monthly basis for ongoing maintenance as well as to update new staff on the system and devices. Andrew Berry said he would happily recommend Hochiki on future customer projects.

“ I have worked with Hochiki since 2011, and have a great relationship with my account manager, I trust Hochiki to consult on the best for every project. The tech support team, on the rare occasion I need them, are second to none. I would happily say 9 times out of 10, Hochiki are my go-to manufacturer. They design and build incredibly reliable and easy to install products which I know my customers can trust, and when it comes to the safety of people and assets, we never compromise on life safety device quality. ”



HOCHIKI EUROPE PROTECTS WORLD WAR II HISTORY

Lincolnshire is a county that contributed heavily to the United Kingdom's efforts in World War II. It is for this reason that the Lord Lieutenant of Lincolnshire, Tony Worth CVO, wanted to create a facility that would recognise and commemorate those who served in the Bomber Command Unit.

As part of the estimated £16million building project, local providers of fire and security systems, Freedom, were brought on board to specify and install a fire alarm system that would offer unparalleled performance without disrupting the aesthetics of the space.

Working closely with Hochiki Europe, Freedom selected a range of products from the company's ESP range. The ESP collection of intelligent addressable fire detection and alarm equipment offers high performance and reliability, combined with an enhanced open protocol.

Recognising that many specifiers need to consider the aesthetics of life safety solutions as well as performance when selecting products, Hochiki Europe's ESP range features ivory, black and white sensors.

Freedom opted to use black sensors to minimise their visual presence throughout the centre. It was for this same reason that the sensors had to be carefully positioned throughout the building. Having carried out multiple site surveys, Freedom fit the sensors so that both design and safety regulations were successfully met.

In total, 58 optical smoke sensors were installed throughout the site, along with three heat sensors, 23 remote LED indicators and 14 manual call points. All devices are controlled by one intelligent fire panel provided by Kentec Electronics, part of the Hochiki group of companies.

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Images courtesy of IBCC.

To find out more about the International Bomber Command Centre, visit: www.internationalbcc.co.uk

Speaking about the project, James Slater, the then Manager at Freedom Fire and Security, commented:

“ *These innovative solutions from Hochiki Europe have allowed us to offer the centre reliable and flexible solutions that protect these important records from behind the scenes.*

The fact that the ESP range features an open protocol is an added bonus for us, as it gives us even more flexibility on system design and installation.

”

Neil Eves, then Systems Sales Manager at Hochiki Europe, noted:

“ *Due to high occupancy levels and complex layouts, museums and other large facilities, such as the International Bomber Command Centre, are particularly challenging environments when it comes to life safety. Our ESP range ensures all spaces can be protected to regulations efficiently, ensuring the safety of visitors and employees.*

In buildings where aesthetics and design are also important, it's vital to consider equipment which doesn't compromise on the overall look and feel of the space. Using black sensors from our ESP range was key to achieving this in the new Lincoln memorial.

”



NEW FIRE SAFETY SYSTEM FROM HOCHIKI INSTALLED AT THE HISTORIC AND BEAUTIFUL CORTE REGIA RELAIS & SPA.

Located in the picturesque village of Borghetto di Valeggio sul Mincio, Italy, the Corte Regia Relais and Spa overlooks the river Mincio, with views across to the imposing Scaliger Castle and the Visconteo Bridge and a short journey to Lake Garda. For its guests this hotel is an escape from the outside world and is famed for providing a relaxing experience.

In 2020 the hotel underwent a massive transformation with the renovation of historical barns originally built in circa 800. The aim of the renovation project was to conserve the building and to improve the functional use of the building while maintaining the original integrity and structure.

As part of the renovation project a fully compliant fire detection and life safety system was to be designed and installed throughout the hotel's luxury rooms and spa. The installer, Cressoni Impianti Tecnolgici chose Hochiki Italia as the manufacturer who designed the successful solution for the hotel.

The biggest challenge with the project was the fact that the hotel was a listed historical building. The original stone walls date from the 800s and the ceilings with wooden beams had to be kept. This made the wiring for the project quite complex, hence the need for a wireless solution.

To keep with the aesthetics of the building and to minimise additional building changes the Hochiki Italia team worked closely to collaborate with the installer and the architect to satisfy the client's request to be sympathetic and respect the historical building.

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The ideal solution was to install both Hochiki's ESP range and Ekho wireless systems. Products from the ESP range included multi-heat sensors, intelligent photoelectric smoke sensors with short circuit isolators and high performing chamber technology. This allowed for sensor threshold levels to be increased, thereby improving the signal to noise ratio which reduced the susceptibility to costly false alarms happening within the hotel.

Hochiki's Ekho system raises wireless fire detection and alarm system gave the hotel new levels of reliability and flexibility. The hybrid system utilises the latest MESH net technology to provide the client with absolute and an economic wireless fire system installation with the minimum of disturbance to the surroundings – particularly important in keeping to the aesthetics of the Corte Regia Relais and Spa where installation of fire cabling would have been difficult, overly expensive or even prohibited in some parts. The wireless solution installed could be easily expanded around the entire site and worked particularly well with the original solid walls of the building.

Ezio Danese, then Project manager at Hochiki Italia commented:

“ The project had to comply with both architectural and standards requirements. The standards state that inside each room, in addition to a smoke detector, an alarm must be installed with a sound level of 75dB (A) in addition to an optical system capable of reaching even hearing impaired people. For this reason, the EKWL8-OV detectors were chosen as they are equipped with an EN54-23 certified VAD and an EN54-3 certified voice sounder. The translators, connected to Hochiki's ESP loop, were installed in the false ceilings in the corridors; their considerable range (1,200m in free area) made it possible to reach all the different wireless devices installed in the rooms. The Ekho system proved to be a perfect solution for the Corte Regia Relais and Spa project.

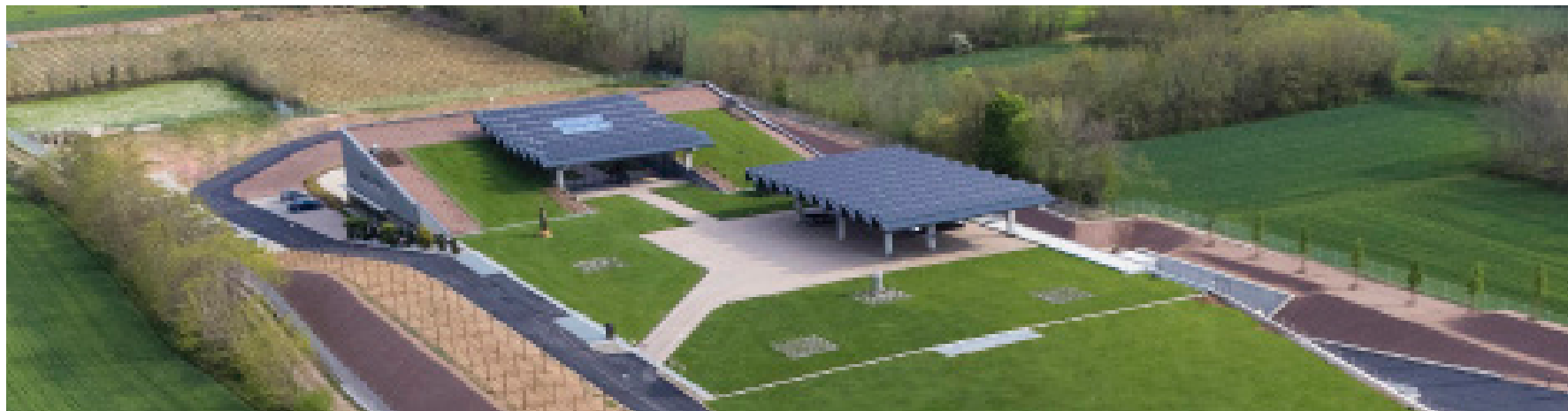
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The Corte Regia Hotel Manager told us:

“

We are really happy to have found such a technologically advanced solution which is able to guarantee the best fire protection for our guests and hotel staff whilst also fully respecting the particular architectural and aesthetic requirements of our hotel.

”



HOCHIKI ITALIA PRODUCTS CHOSEN FOR PRESTIGIOUS WINERY FIRE SAFETY UPDATE

In the heart of Franciacorta, at the top of the hill overlooking Bornato, sits the historic headquarters of the Società Agricola Monte Rossa srl. Owned by the Rabotti family since 1972, the Winery is famous for its fine wines that can satisfy even the most demanding palates.

Producing 500,000 bottles per year and with 70 hectares of managed vineyards, Monte Rossa is considered a leader for the quality level of the Franciacorta wines it produces.

Last May, the new Winery by Monte Rossa was inaugurated - just a few kilometres from the historical headquarters. This was an ambitious project, using the latest in wine making technology, that also included an innovative fire detection system designed with the support of the installation company Eurodue srl of Brescia, a leading distributor of fire-fighting equipment and Hochiki dealer.

Just like many other wineries in Italy, and indeed around the world, Monte Rossa is made up of different buildings for processing, storage, and packaging, which are mostly made of reinforced concrete and masonry. In terms of fire, the room that is the most at risk is the storage and packaging areas, since copious quantities of combustible materials are often stored in this room. In the wine industry, substances (such as nitrogen) contained in pressure vessels (cylinders) are commonly used, so particular care must be taken when using them, and the produces must ensure the room can be sealed in an emergency, to avoid explosions and fires.

The new fire detection system was to cover an area of 20,000 sqm, divided across four levels with indoor and outdoor areas. The automatic and manual fire detection systems were installed in offices, laboratory, vinification areas, the Barrique cellar, the “sur lattes” bottle ageing rooms

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and the disgorging and bottling areas. The new Hochiki fire detection system also controls the fire doors of the compartmentalised processing and production areas of the building.

Products chosen to protect the building, contents, staff and visitors include Hochiki's SCI Sensors which are part of the ESP (Intelligent Range) which are trusted worldwide to reduce false alarms and allow systems to be tailored to achieve optimum performance.

Ezio Danese, then Project manager at Hochiki Italia explained:

“ The UNI 9795 standard requires the installation of a short-circuit isolator for each zone in a building. SCI detectors with integrated isolator and various installed devices such as call points and I/O modules with double isolator ensure that the system complies with the regulatory requirements, without having to install additional isolators. This is definitely an advantage for the installer ”

Visual Alarm Devices (VADs) were also installed. These were a key component to the install because they provide a visual indication of an alarm condition, essential for areas where the public might be visiting, or in areas where staff might be wearing ear defenders.

Filippo Piubeni, co-owner of Eurodue srl, commented:

“ It is always a pleasure to be able to complete such an important fire detection system project. We are proud to have made secure a site such as the Monte Rossa Winery, which is not only technologically advanced but equally linked to the winemaking tradition of the Franciacorta region. ”

This top-quality system will provide the best possible protection for staff and the facility's many visitors. The system was installed by the company Bignetti Salvato and carefully programmed by FYS srl di Gregorelli Francesco, Hochiki's Technical Assistance Centre, which was able to optimise the various operational requirements in accordance with the project and current regulations

The Hochiki fire detection system installed at Monte Rossa is a feather in our company's cap for the foreseeable future

”



STEPPING OUT OF THE DARK: HOW FIRESCAPE NEPTO SAVED THE SHOW AT UNITY THEATRE

Liverpool's Unity Theatre, a champion of new writing, social justice, and community engagement, boasts a rich history intertwined with the building it calls home. Founded in 1983 by unemployed actors and writers, the company initially resided in a converted warehouse. By 2003, they found their permanent home on Hope Street – a former synagogue built in 1957. This unique space, once a place of worship seating 450, now serves as a vibrant theatre and a living testament to a bygone era of radical theatre.

The name "Unity" itself reflects a legacy. It's a connection to a national movement that significantly impacted British theatre and politics. The story begins in the 1930s with the birth of Merseyside Left Theatre, which later became Merseyside Unity Theatre in 1944. Renowned for their experimental and politically charged productions, this company's final act was securing the Hope Place building and transforming the former synagogue into the thriving Unity Theatre we now know.

Today, Unity Theatre thrives as a registered charity, producing a mix of professional and amateur productions while fostering community engagement through workshops and mentoring schemes.

An organisation such as this relies heavily on the generosity of private benefactors and support from arts funding to keep the lights on and the doors open. It also relies on specialist companies to help with some of the more complex upkeep of the building, such as fire safety.

Realising that their emergency lighting system was rapidly ageing, Technical Manager Xenia Bayer knew this would be a massive project to undertake, and financially impossible with ever tightening theatre budgets.

This was when hope flickered back on.

“ While exploring options and regulations with the ABTT (Association of British Theatre Technicians), I stumbled upon a brochure by Hochiki detailing their newly launched FIREscape Nepto system. It felt like a dream come true for our theatre. The features were perfect for this environment. ”

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- **Intelligent and Self-Sufficient:** No more tedious lamp replacements or manual system checks. The system runs self-tests, stores reports, and alerts the owners to any maintenance needs.
- **Energy Efficient:** The low voltage system promised significant energy savings, a win for both budget and the environment.
- **Adjustable Light Levels:** This can be a game-changer for performance spaces. There is regulatory compliance for light levels, but also the ability to achieve complete “blackout” for scene changes and actor entrances/exits. FIREscape Nepto can offer both.

“ It seemed too good to be true. Reaching out to Hochiki, I hesitantly inquired about sponsorship possibilities, offering site visits for interested parties. Thankfully, after email exchanges and a site visit, Hochiki offered an incredible solution: a complete replacement system. ”

The team at Hochiki worked closely with the installation company Grainger Fire and Security, experts with over 40 years’ experience in the industry. Hochiki initially reached out to the company’s MD, David Wardman to ask if they would like to get involved in this local charitable project and they jumped at the chance.

“ We’ve worked with Hochiki products for a number of years, always successfully, so the opportunity to work install this new to the market emergency lighting system as well as help keep this local hub of the community open was something we were keen to get involved in. ”

Leading on the project Will Taylor comments on the ease of installation.

“ Hochiki products are famously easy to install, and FIREscape Nepto was no different. The theatre is quite a large space and so we initially scoped 5 to 6 days for the installation plus commission. In the end it only took 4 days, plus a day for commissioning. We were also able to retrofit using a lot of the old cabling to save on waste, and the new system enabled us to fault find any issues with that old cable so we could replace it if needed. ”

Bayer continues

The communication with both the Grainger team and Hochiki throughout has been brilliant, we were able to work around shows all the while ensuring everyone’s safety. The new system is so much more aesthetically pleasing and saves so much space compared to the previous bulky system. The best outcome is that over the year, based on the old system running costs, we predict we’ll be able to save almost 40 times the energy which equates to just less than £900 in savings a year. In our world that is an incredible amount of money which we will be able to plough back into the theatre and the many projects we run for our local and wider theatrical communities. ”

Overjoyed and incredibly grateful, the Unity Theatre looks forward to welcoming artists, communities, and audiences under the safe and efficient glow of the FIREscape Nepto system.

“ This new system won’t just replace our old one – it will transform our day-to-day operations and ensure we can continue to shine a light on the arts for years to come, thanks to Hochiki – the show can go on. ”

To learn more about the project and FIREscape Nepto head to the Hochiki Website: <https://hubs.la/Q02yfg820> For further information please contact:

Paul Adams, Hochiki Europe,
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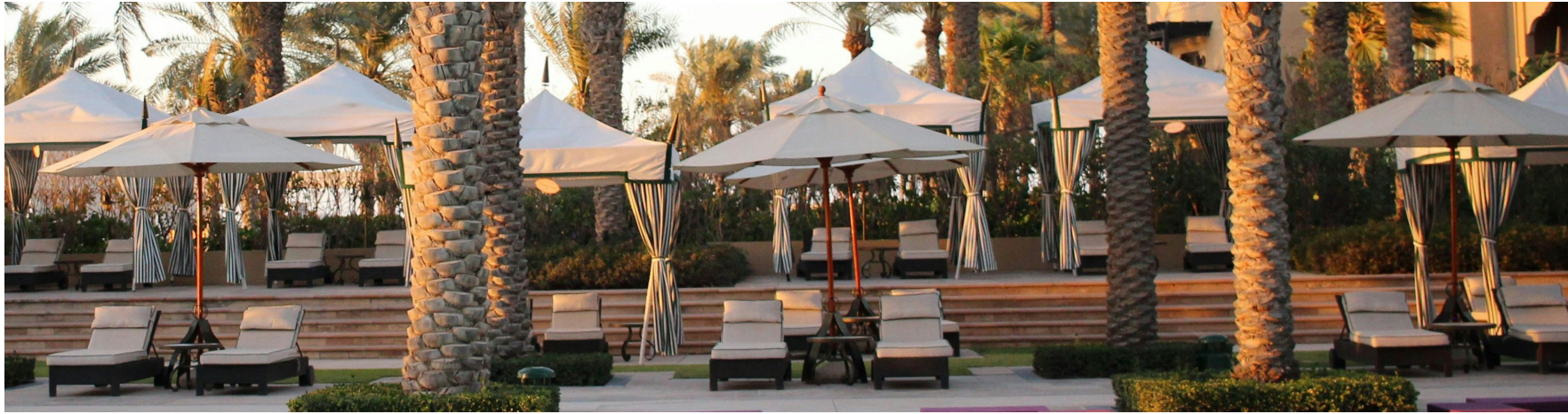
For over 100 years Hochiki has led the way in the design and manufacturer of innovative life safety solutions. Its leading edge commercial and industrial fire detection and emergency lighting products have acquired global acceptance as the benchmark for high-integrity and long-term reliability.

With global group sales turnover exceeding £400m, Hochiki is a wholly independent, multinational, publicly listed company with over 2000 employees working across six manufacturing plants, 38 sales offices and 14 subsidiaries.

Its ongoing commitment to manufacturing innovation ensures customer satisfaction and its production facilities in Japan, the USA and Europe offer international continuity in quality, service and supply.

OUTPOST AL BARARI

QATAR | ESP INTELLIGENT RANGE



TRANSFORMING FIRE SAFETY IN THE DESERT: HOCHIKI EKHO AT OUTPOST AL BARARI

OUTPOST AL BARARI, A LUXURIOUS DESERT RETREAT NESTLED IN THE REMOTE EXPANSE OF QATAR, PRESENTED A UNIQUE CHALLENGE FOR FIRE SAFETY. THE RESORT'S VAST, EVER-CHANGING LAYOUT, COUPLED WITH THE HARSH DESERT ENVIRONMENT, RENDERED TRADITIONAL WIRED FIRE ALARM SYSTEMS IMPRACTICAL. TO SAFEGUARD GUESTS AND STAFF IN THIS EXTRAORDINARY LOCATION, FIRE CLOUD QATAR IMPLEMENTED A GROUNDBREAKING SOLUTION: THE HOCHIKI EUROPE'S EKHO HYBRID WIRELESS FIRE DETECTION SYSTEM. HERE WE EXPLORE HOW THIS INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY OVERCAME SIGNIFICANT HURDLES TO DELIVER UNPARALLELED FIRE PROTECTION IN THIS CHALLENGING ENVIRONMENT.

Outpost Al Barari is a luxurious resort nestled in the heart of Qatar's breathtaking desert landscape. Surrounded by towering sand dunes and the vast expanse of the Inland Sea nature reserve, it offers a unique escape from the bustling world. A haven for those seeking a truly authentic desert adventure combined with world-class hospitality, The Outpost describes itself as a place where guests can disconnect from the outside world and reconnect with nature.

Whilst guests are enshrined in luxury, the surrounding harsh desert climate can cause significant shifts in sand dunes, potentially affecting the layout of the resort. It is for this reason the resort uses temporary structures to minimise its own impact on the surrounding natural environment. This however, presented a formidable

challenge for traditional fire alarm systems; to address this, the management sought the expertise of Fire Cloud Qatar, a leading fire safety solutions provider in the region.

A fire alarm system was urgently needed that could be rapidly deployed without extensive cabling, withstand the harsh desert environment, and adapt to the outpost's changing layout. Traditional wired systems were deemed unsuitable, emphasising the need for a wireless solution.

Fire Cloud Qatar recommended the Hochiki's Ekho hybrid wireless fire alarm system as the ideal solution. The system's advanced wireless technology offered the necessary flexibility, reliability, and ease of installation.

Key features of Ekho include a self-configuring mesh network which enables seamless communication between the fire control panel and all of the wireless field devices, without any physical cabling. This allows for easy expansion and reconfiguration to match the outpost's complex and changing layout. The wireless nature of the devices expedited installation, minimising disruption to hotel operations.

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The full system was up and running in just four simple steps:

1. **Site Survey and Assessment:** Fire Cloud Qatar conducted a thorough site survey utilising Ekho's Survey Kit, to determine optimal placement of the wireless fire detection devices and control units in regard to radio signal strength. Hochiki's Ekho system's flexibility allowed for strategic deployment to ensure comprehensive coverage.
2. **Installation:** The Ekho wireless devices were swiftly installed by Fire Cloud Qatar's skilled technicians and the absence of cabling significantly simplified and accelerated the process.
3. **System Configuration and Testing:** Fire Cloud Qatar meticulously configured the system to ensure optimal performance and communication within the wireless mesh network. Rigorous testing validated the system's reliability and responsiveness.
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“It seemed too good to be true. Reaching out to Hochiki, I hesitantly inquired about sponsorship possibilities, offering site visits for interested parties. Thankfully, after email exchanges and a site visit, Hochiki offered an incredible solution: a complete replacement system.”

The team at Hochiki worked closely with the installation company Grainger Fire and Security, experts with over 40 years' experience in the industry. Hochiki initially reached out to the company's MD, David Wardman to ask if they would like to get involved in this local charitable project and they jumped at the chance.

“We've worked with Hochiki products for a number of years, always successfully, so the opportunity to work install this new to the market emergency lighting system as well as help keep this local hub of the community open was something we were keen to get involved in.”

Guests can now relax knowing that Hochiki's Ekho system has significantly improved fire safety at Outpost Al Barari, providing reliable detection and alarm coverage across the site. Staff can go about their day offering a five-star service knowing that however this luxury resort evolves, the fire detection system can adapt to its ever-changing layout, ensuring continuous protection.

The successful installation of the Hochiki Ekho wireless fire alarm system by Fire Cloud Qatar at Outpost Al Barari underscores the effectiveness of wireless technology in overcoming challenges posed by traditional wired systems. The system's adaptability, reliability, and ease of installation proved to be the ideal solution for this unique and demanding environment. This customer story highlights the power of innovative fire safety solutions in addressing the specific needs of challenging sites like Outpost Al Barari.

TOURING HOTEL

ITALY | FIORANO MODENESE | EKHO RANGE



A MODERN SHIELD OF SAFETY: THE TOURING HOTEL'S FIRE PROTECTION UPGRADE

LOCATED IN THE HEART OF NORTHERN ITALY, IN THE EMILIA ROMAGNA REGION, IS THE TOURING HOTEL & RESTAURANT. SYNONYMOUS WITH COMFORT AND HOSPITALITY, THIS YEAR, THE HOTEL EMBARKED ON A TRANSFORMATIVE JOURNEY TO NOT ONLY RENOVATE THE HOTEL BUT ENSURE THE SAFETY AND WELL-BEING OF ITS GUESTS AND STAFF. THIS LED TO THE INSTALLATION OF A CUTTING-EDGE FIRE DETECTION SYSTEM, POWERED BY HOCHIKI EUROPE'S INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY.

The Touring Hotel & Restaurant in Fiorano Modenese first opened in 1991 and provides a retreat for travellers seeking a taste of authentic Emilia-Romagna. With its warm hospitality, elegant accommodations, and a renowned restaurant serving traditional local cuisine, the Touring Hotel & Restaurant is the perfect destination for those who appreciate both relaxation and fine dining.

The hotel recently underwent a significant transformation, not only in its physical appearance but also in its commitment to safety. To ensure the highest level of fire protection, the hotel partnered with Gorzanelli srl, a local company specialising in security systems, to install a state-of-the-art fire detection system using Hochiki Europe's innovative technology.

At the heart of the new system is a Latitude control panel, configured with the optional 'Hotel Mode' software feature for optimal performance in hospitality environments. This intelligent panel monitors a network of ESP intelligent sensors, visual alarm devices (VADs), sounders, and manual call points, providing real-time data on potential fire threats.

One of the most challenging aspects of the installation was the extensive size of the restaurant and hotel rooms, which made traditional fire cabling difficult. To overcome this obstacle, Gorzanelli srl, with the guidance of Eter Biometric Technologies, implemented an Ekho Hybrid Wireless system. This powerful and versatile technology proved to be the ideal solution, offering flexibility and reliability even in challenging environments.

The hotel opted for a combination of optical, thermal, and multi-criteria Ekho sensors, ensuring comprehensive coverage across all areas via a 'mesh network'. The Hochiki Ekho wireless system operates using a self-configuring mesh network topology which allows wireless field devices to determine the strongest signal pathway back to the fire control panel.

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These sensors were pre-programmed off-site, streamlining the installation process and minimising disruption to the hotel's day to day operations.

Mr Massimo Gorzanelli from the installation company had this to say about the chosen products:

“ This innovative and high-performance hybrid system allowed us to perfectly fulfil all technical and regulatory requirements of the project, and all the devices have been simple to install. The product knowledge and expertise from the Hochiki distributor has been of great help ”

The successful implementation of the Hochiki fire safety system has not only enhanced the Touring Hotel & Restaurant's safety profile but has also provided peace of mind for both guests and staff. This investment in modern technology demonstrates the hotel's dedication to protecting its patrons and maintaining the highest standards of hospitality.

ECO-POWER STADIUM

UNITED KINGDOM | DONCASTER | ESP INTELLIGENT RANGE



SAFEGUARDING DONCASTER'S ECO-POWER STADIUM WITH HOCHIKI'S OPEN PROTOCOL

THE ICONIC ECO-POWER STADIUM, HOME TO DONCASTER ROVERS F.C., HAS UNDERGONE A SIGNIFICANT UPGRADE TO ITS FIRE SAFETY SYSTEM. IN PARTNERSHIP WITH JLA FIRE AND SECURITY, THE STADIUM HAS ADOPTED HOCHIKI EUROPE'S INNOVATIVE OPEN PROTOCOL TECHNOLOGY TO ENSURE THE SAFETY OF ITS 15,231-CAPACITY CROWD AND STAFF. THIS STRATEGIC MOVE HAS NOT ONLY ENHANCED THE STADIUM'S SAFETY INFRASTRUCTURE BUT ALSO STREAMLINED OPERATIONS AND REDUCED MAINTENANCE COSTS.

JLA Fire and Security and Hochiki form a Premier Partnership for Enhanced Safety.

The Eco-Power Stadium, formerly known as the Keepmoat Stadium, is a multi-purpose stadium in Doncaster, England. Opened in 2007, it is home to Doncaster Rovers F.C., Doncaster R.L.F.C., and Doncaster Rovers Belles L.F.C. With a capacity of 15,231, the stadium is a key sporting venue in the region, hosting a variety of football, rugby league, and women's football matches. It is also a premier hospitality venue for the city of Doncaster, regularly hosting business meetings, weddings and awards ceremonies.

The old fire alarm system was installed nearly 20 years ago and operated on 'managed protocol' meaning it could only be worked on by the company who manufactured the system. The panel and detection had become obsolete, so replacement parts were becoming increasingly hard to source and, although still within regulations, had left the stadium facilities team dealing with multiple unfixable faults.

An upgrade was required but the installation needed to be completed in a way which meant the stadium could remain operational throughout. Due to the nature of the site and the potential of having over 15,000 spectators (excluding matchday staff and the teams) it was imperative that the new system and devices were all fully functional with 'in date certification' to allow safety certificates to be issued meaning events could safely take place.

JLA Fire and Security, a leading provider of fire safety and security solutions for high-profile venues, successfully secured the contract to install a brand-new state-of-the-art fire safety system that would solve the above issues.

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With both the need for an open protocol system and the ‘in date certification’ in mind, JLA chose to incorporate Hochiki Europe’s cutting-edge ESP devices, which not only offered a significant upgrade to the stadium’s safety infrastructure but were also JLA’s preferred product due to the fact they are easy to install and operate on an open-protocol system.

The open protocol compatibility of the Hochiki ESP devices, such as smoke, heat and multi-sensors, ensured seamless integration with other building systems, such as the stadium’s security system, enhancing overall site efficiency. And with Hochiki’s renowned ultra reliability the stadium would now see a significant reduction in false alarms, optimising system performance.

The team, led by Louis Cooper, JLA’s Installation Manager, were able to replace the old system using existing wiring having carried out continuity testing to ensure loop integrity. This combined with Hochiki’s user friendly install features, streamlined the installation process, taking just 15 working days to complete the project, keeping disruption to the stadium’s operations to the absolute minimum.

“Hochiki products, in particular ESP, are our ‘go-to’ for fire safety installations, particularly for projects of this size – Hochiki make the complex, easy. They provide incredible reliability when it comes to false alarms. We were able to complete the project during the close season. Using Hochiki allowed us to achieve this. I would 100% use Hochiki products for other stadium/concert style projects in the future.

”

JLA’s total care contract provides a comprehensive safety solution for the Eco-Power Stadium, meaning the facilities team there had expert installation of both fire alarm and intruder alarm systems, regular maintenance visits to ensure optimal system performance and swift response should there be any faults.

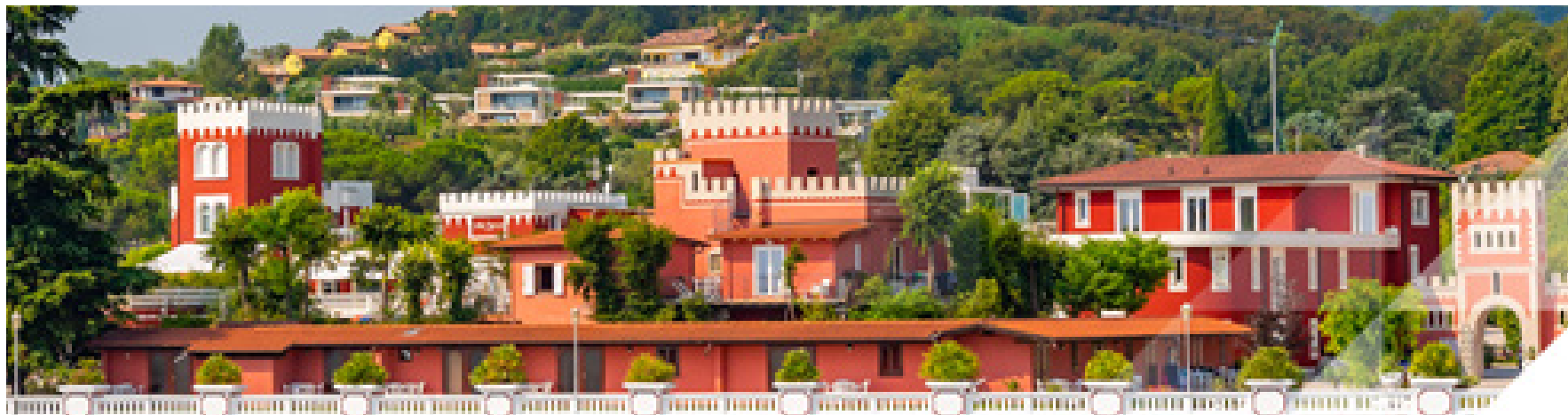
By replacing the outdated managed protocol fire alarm

system with a modern open protocol solution from Hochiki Europe, JLA has significantly enhanced the stadium’s fire safety capabilities.

Head to the Hochiki website if you would like to learn more about the ESP range and how they might help your next installation project.

VILLA GARUTI

ITALY | LAKE GARDA | ESP INTELLIGENT RANGE



HOCHIKI PROTECTS THE ELEGANT VILLA GARUTI WITH ADVANCED AND DISCREET FIRE DETECTION SYSTEM

NESTLED ON THE PICTURESQUE SHORES OF LAKE GARDA, VILLA GARUTI IS A DISTINGUISHED 4-STAR HOTEL RENOWNED FOR ITS ELEGANT SUITES, SERENE AMBIANCE, AND BEAUTIFUL PARK. FOLLOWING A RECENT COMPREHENSIVE RENOVATION, THE HOTEL PRIORITISED THE INSTALLATION OF A HIGH-PERFORMANCE FIRE DETECTION SYSTEM. THE KEY OBJECTIVES WERE TO GUARANTEE THE UTMOST SAFETY FOR ALL GUESTS AND STAFF WHILE SEAMLESSLY INTEGRATING WITH THE HOTEL'S SOPHISTICATED AND LUXURIOUS AESTHETICS, MINIMISING THE POTENTIAL FOR DISRUPTIVE FALSE ALARMS.

Fire alarm designer Pezzaioli Stefano from Studio Tecnico FUTURA PROJECT in Montichiari (BS) and the expert installer Ervin Peza, owner of ELE.CO Srl, collaborated closely to deliver a fire safety solution tailored to Villa Garuti's unique needs. Their meticulous planning and execution led them to select Hochiki's advanced product range.

The implemented fire detection system features:

Latitude6 Loops: This powerful and scalable control panel provides the hotel with a robust and reliable foundation for its fire safety infrastructure. Its loop capacity ensures that multiple devices can be connected and managed efficiently, offering comprehensive coverage across the entire property. For the hotel industry, this scalability

means the system can adapt to future expansions or modifications without requiring a complete overhaul, representing a long-term and cost-effective solution. The advanced diagnostics and userfriendly interface of Latitude also simplify maintenance and reduce potential downtime, crucial for uninterrupted hotel operations.

ESP Intelligent Devices (Sensors, Call Points, Sounders and VAD): Hochiki's ESP (Enhanced System Protocol) devices offer a multitude of benefits for hotels. Their intelligent nature allows for sophisticated detection algorithms, significantly reducing the likelihood of false alarms caused by steam, dust, or cooking fumes – a common concern in busy hotel environments. This reliability ensures minimal disruption to guests and staff, preserving the hotel's reputation for seamless service. The addressable nature of ESP devices allows for precise pinpointing of fire incidents, enabling swift and targeted responses, minimising potential damage and maximising safety.

The Hochiki ALN-EN: An intelligent optical smoke sensor ideal for hotel environments as it offers reliable and early detection of smoke from various fire types while minimising false alarms caused by steam or aerosols, common in areas like kitchens, bathrooms or near cleaning activities.

[DOWNLOAD](#)


ACC-EN multi-sensor: Enhances safety by combining both optical smoke and heat detection capabilities. This makes it particularly useful in hotels, as it can respond effectively to a broader range of fire conditions, providing quicker and more accurate alerts to protect guests, staff and property.

Both of the above sensors integrate seamlessly with Hochiki's ESP protocol for efficient and addressable fire detection systems.

Black Sensors (Wellness/Spa Area): Recognising the importance of aesthetics in the hotel's wellness and spa area, which features dark ceilings throughout, the installation team opted for Hochiki's black sensors. This thoughtful choice demonstrates how Hochiki's product range caters to specific design requirements without compromising on safety. By seamlessly blending with the dark ceiling, these sensors maintain the sophisticated and relaxing ambiance of the spa, ensuring that safety measures are discreet and do not detract from the guest experience.

rvin Peza, owner of ELE.CO Srl, the installation company, stated:.

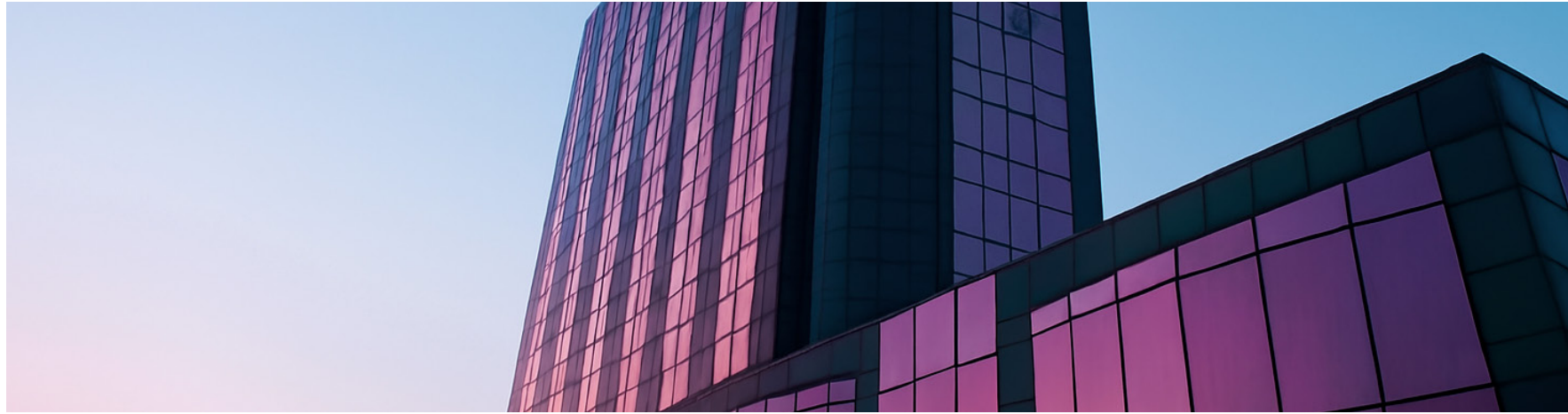
“ When Villa Garuti approached us for a new fire detection system, we knew we needed a solution that offered both exceptional performance and aesthetic sensitivity. Hochiki's products, particularly the Latitude panel, the intelligent ESP sensors, and the availability of black sensors, provided the perfect combination of reliability, advanced technology for minimising false alarms, and design flexibility. The ease of installation and the robust nature of the system give us and Villa Garuti complete confidence in the safety of their guests and the protection of their beautiful property.

”

Hochiki's comprehensive and adaptable fire safety solutions have provided Villa Garuti with a system that not only meets the highest safety standards but also respects and enhances the hotel's elegant environment, ensuring peace of mind for both management and guests.

HOTEL MONTRESOR

ITALY | VERONA | ESP INTELLIGENT RANGE



ENHANCING FIRE SAFETY AT HOTEL MONTRESOR TOWER WITH HOCHIKI'S LATITUDE LIFE SAFETY PLATFORM

Hotel Montresor Tower, located just outside Verona, is a beautiful example of contemporary Italian design. This four-star hotel is a preferred destination for both business and leisure travellers, boasting spacious guest rooms and a large, newly renovated conference centre. With the recent refurbishment, the hotel saw an opportunity to modernise its fire detection system—ensuring it met the latest safety standards while maintaining the sleek aesthetics of the updated spaces.

Having relied on Hochiki technology for many years, the hotel once again turned to Hochiki products for this latest upgrade. The project, managed by local installer TOLA & C. SRL, involved a system refresh, including VADs, sensors, call points and the installation of a new Hochiki Latitude 8-loop control panel, a powerful platform designed to manage large, complex fire systems with ease.

“ We chose Hochiki's Latitude system because of its flexibility and intuitive programming options. Its Hotel Mode is particularly valuable in environments like this, where guest comfort must be balanced with safety. It offers the kind of tailored cause-and-effect logic that's simply not available in many competitor panels. ”

Eddy Tola, owner of TOLA & C. SRL

Latitude's Hotel Mode enables customised alarm behaviours suited to hotel environments. For example, it allows for controlled alarm delays in guest rooms to permit on-site verification before a full evacuation is triggered, helping avoid unnecessary disruption while maintaining safety compliance.

To complement the aesthetics of the refurbished conference centre, new black-finished ESP sensors were selected to blend seamlessly with the venue's dark ceilings. Throughout the rest of the hotel, older smoke sensors were replaced with new ESP devices to comply with UNI11224, an Italian standard that provides guidelines for the inspection and maintenance of fire detection and alarm systems, which also mandates system upgrades every 12 years to maintain peak reliability and performance.

DOWNLOAD



“ We’ve been extremely satisfied with Hochiki’s technology over the years, it’s reliable, easy to maintain, and straightforward for our staff to operate. When the time came to expand and refurbish, there was no question we’d stay with Hochiki for the new system too.

”

Luca Montresor, Director at Montresor Hotels

By upgrading to Latitude and continuing their use of Hochiki’s ESP range, Hotel Montresor Tower has futureproofed its fire safety infrastructure—delivering a smarter, more reliable, and visually integrated fire safety system that protects both guests and staff without compromise.



HOCHIKI EUROPE MARINE LIFE SAFETY SYSTEMS HELP PERENCO HOTEL BARGE SET SAIL

Innovative fire safety systems from Hochiki Europe have been used to protect the residents of a renovated hotel barge operated by oil and gas company Perenco in Gabon.

Able to accommodate up to 120 people, the barge has been designed to offer a comfortable home away from home for Perenco employees while they are working on the company's oil exploration projects out at sea. Operating in such remote locations, having an advanced, reliable life safety system specially designed for marine environments is vital to protect the ship and uphold the health and well-being of everyone on board.

When renovating the barge, Perenco wanted to replace the ageing life safety technology used throughout the vessel, to ensure it continued to comply with relevant Gabonese regulations and, at the same time, was suitable for use in challenging marine environments.

The company tasked fire protection installers, Autochim, to select and fit the most appropriate solutions for the needs of the barge, while ensuring it remained compatible with the existing cabling.

Jean-Marie Rabier, then Sales Manager at Autochim recommended solutions from Hochiki Europe:

“

The barge didn't just have sleeping quarters, it had a wide range of zones, from the kitchens to the engine room, which all had unique life safety requirements that needed to be addressed, explained Rabier. Hochiki Europe offered equipment specially developed for the marine environment that would be capable of meeting the needs of every space on the barge, ensuring the new system would offer the best possible protection for residents.

”

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Hochiki Europe's ESP Marine Approved Intelligent range of analogue addressable fire safety systems were chosen for use on the project. In addition to having Loss Prevention Certification Board (LPCB) and Germanischer Lloyd approval to EU Marine Equipment Directive requirements, the range consists of analogue addressable equipment that allows fire incidents to be precisely located and dealt with quickly. In doing so, they can help minimise damage to the vessels on which they are installed, as well as reduce the risk to residents. Moreover, the ESP Intelligent range's reliability and software enhancements can virtually eliminate the risk of false alarms, helping to cut disruption to the daily routines of the barge's residents.

Hochiki Europe, added:

“ The barge has a high turnover of residents, as workers leave at the end of their cycles and new ones arrive to take over. As a result, many of the people on the ship may not be familiar with the layout of the vessel. This makes life safety system reliability even more important, to ensure residents are not unduly alarmed by false alerts and to ensure they remain relaxed and comfortable while they are living on the ship. ”

In total, more than 139 optical smoke detectors were fitted across each deck of the ship, in addition to 17 rate of rise (ROR) heat detectors. Some 20 manual call points were installed at strategic points throughout the barge, as well as 20 audible alarms and nine visual alarms. An addressable, marine approved fire panel was also installed, providing a single, central location from which the entire life safety system could be controlled and monitored, simplifying the maintenance process for the crew in charge of fire safety.

All of the products from Hochiki Europe were integrated quickly and effectively into the existing cabling system. This significantly streamlined the project, which saved time and resources, and kept the time the barge spent out of use to a minimum.

Astrid Bouchardie, then HSE Manager, Perenco concluded:

“ Hochiki Europe and Autochim both worked hard to carry out the renovation of the barge's life safety system on time and they more than delivered. ”

The installation was completed quickly, minimising the amount of time the barge was out of action, as well as cutting the disruption to Perenco's operations in Gabon. As a result, we now have a fully compliant, reliable fire safety system on the barge, ensuring we can continue to keep our workers comfortable and, above all, safe while they are out at sea. ”

CASTOR DORDT NAVY SHIP

NETHERLANDS | ROTTERDAM | ESP INTELLIGENT MARINE APPROVED RANGE



HOCHIKI EUROPE TAKES TO THE SEA ON THE DUTCH EX-NAVY SHIP

Having been moored in the fishing town of Urk for several years, The Castor's glory days as one of the Dutch Navy's premier vessels were a distant memory and the 46m long, 8.5m wide ship was a shadow of its former self. Once the pride of the Dutch shipbuilding industry, it was in a state of complete disrepair – a rusting hulk that served as a home to a group of squatters.

That was until 2007 when a group of maritime enthusiasts led by Mario van Parijs joined forces with the sole intention of restoring the ship.

The Castor was taken to the Rijnhaven in Rotterdam and a restoration project began in earnest. Fast forward to early 2011 and as a result of the gargantuan efforts of a team of sponsors and volunteers, the vessel had been transformed to its original state.

After being approached by AF-X Fire Solutions, which had furnished the ship's engine room with fire extinguishers, Fire Products & Solutions Netherlands (FSN), one of the country's leading providers of life safety equipment, was asked to contribute its expertise and configure a suitable fire detection system.

Ruud Benjamins, FSN's then Manager, explained:

“ We agreed to supply, design, commission and help with the installation of a system for The Castor based on Hochiki Europe's market leading range of products. ”

The design that FSN came up with was based on Hochiki's innovative Enhanced Systems Protocol (ESP). ESP is a total communications solution for intelligent and integrated fire detection and provides the flexibility and expansion to accommodate simple addressable variants through to sophisticated integrated building management and safety systems.

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For obvious reasons devices from the company's range of marine approved products were chosen.

Paul Adams, then Marketing Manager at Hochiki Europe, commented:

“*Our marine approved products have an enhanced IP rating and are designed to offer the best levels of environmental protection. Only products that have been approved for marine use by a recognised marine approvals body should be used for this type of application.*”

Hochiki's ESP analogue addressable marine approved range has Lloyd's Register approval, and the products have also been tested and approved to the Marine Equipment Directive (MED) standard by Germanischer Lloyd (GL).

The Castor's fire detection system comprises a range of smoke and heat detectors along with manual call points configured around a Kentec control panel.

Benjamins said:

“*We installed a total of 40 ALG-ENM optical smoke sensors which feature the Hochiki's High Performance Chamber Technology. This chamber design minimises the differences in sensitivity experienced in flaming and smouldering fires and the result is a high performance optical chamber that is equally responsive to all smoke types and helps to reduce the possibility of unwanted alarms.*”

Five marine approved multi-heat detectors were installed in the galley and food preparation areas. These products incorporate a variable temperature heat element and a rate of rise heat element, both of which are controlled from the control panel, allowing either thermal element or both elements simultaneously to be active in making the fire decision. These were complemented by a total of eight marine approved manual break glass call points, which are operated by pressing an EN54 compliant plastic element that produces a high level ESP interrupt, allowing the control panel to respond very quickly.

The installation went very smoothly and FSN's experts were on hand to assist the volunteers wherever possible. Asked what proved to be the biggest challenge, Benjamins replied:

“*The ship is made of iron and steel, so drilling holes into thick metal was sometimes tricky and always time consuming. This was the first time we had installed a fire detection system on a ship, so it was a learning curve that necessitated a great deal of patience.*”

The installation was completed in December 2011 and this graceful and powerful ship is now available to hire as a unique venue for parties, events and promotions. Even though it is now open for public use, work is ongoing and the fire detection system has been called into action on more than one occasion.

Benjamins explained:

“*Recently, when some welding was being carried out, a section of dry teak decking caught alight. The situation was quickly brought under control with only minor damage but I was delighted with the fast response of the Hochiki system.*”

The Castor is a prime example of what can happen when a group of like-minded individuals set their sights on achieving an objective. The ship is now one of the focal points of Rotterdam's Rijnhaven and is open for viewing.

For Mario van Parijs this represents the culmination of a long journey and he concludes:

“*Bringing The Castor back to life has not been an easy task but it has been immensely satisfying. It would not have been possible without all the help that we received and I'd like to thank FSN for installing the ship's state-of-the-art Hochiki fire detection system that will ensure the safety of all those on board.*”



HOCHIKI LIFE SAFETY PRODUCTS ARE THE 'GO TO' BRAND WHEN IT COMES TO KEEPING ONE OF THE UK'S BIGGEST OFFSHORE WIND FARMS OPERATING SAFELY.

For a country once solely reliant on coal to power its homes and businesses, the UK is now the leader in offshore wind energy. Encouragingly, today 44% of the UK's electricity comes from renewable sources – a figure expected to grow to meet the UK's climate goals of net-zero emissions by 2050 and 40 GW of offshore wind by 2030.

One of the facilities helping to achieve this greener goal is the Margate offshore Wind Farm, operated by London Array. Generating about £1million worth of electricity a day when all 175 turbines are in operation, this wind farm produces enough electricity to power half a million UK homes a year and reduces harmful CO2 emissions by around 925,000 tons per year. But with this incredible achievement, comes the awesome responsibility of keeping the people who are helping to make this green energy production a reality, safe. KM Security Solutions are the contractors responsible for the security, fire safety and evacuation systems on board the offshore and onshore substations, and for them life safety is the number one priority. Therefore, they say Hochiki are their 'go to' manufacturer when it comes to the installation of fire detection products at the sites they operate.

Dan Smith, the then Technical Services Manager for KM Security Solutions explained:

“ The constant change in weather combined with sea-salt spray makes offshore wind farms an incredibly hostile environment to work in, not only for people but also for the systems, cabling and devices that help to run it and keep it safe. Anyone who steps foot on one of the wind farm rigs must be highly skilled and trained. All my teams undergo intensive, and ongoing, training to ensure they keep themselves and those around them safe. Therefore, it's imperative we install life safety devices that won't let the teams and premises down in an emergency. ”

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Having worked with Hochiki for well over a decade, Smith described this latest project at the wind farm which paved the way for the current generation of even larger wind farms being built around Britain's coastline, as a refresh of the existing Hochiki technology and systems.

“ We have been using Hochiki products for well over a decade now. Not only do we trust them to work, but we also trust the devices to last. When you are out at sea, even a few miles off the coast, the weather can change in an instant, and decay is a big problem to tackle. You need to ensure that the life safety products you install are fit for purpose and more importantly weatherproof. The Hochiki products specified are designed to be waterproof and have lasted extremely well. Which is incredible considering the environment they are operating in. ”

Flexibility is key

For this unique and vital project Visual Alarm Devices (VADs) combined with the CHQ-WPK Weatherproofing Kit, IP-rated manual call points and the Hochiki FIREvac Voice Alarm system was installed across the windfarm's sub-stations. As well as being simple to install, one of the USPs of Hochiki Life Safety devices is the flexibility to be able to operate alongside other brand products via Hochiki's open protocol, ESP. Although Hochiki do manufacture their own fire control panels, such as the L@titude platform, in the case of the Margate Wind Farm project, a control system was already in place, and it was the devices which needed the upgrade.

“ We do look at other companies, to ensure we are using the best in class, however every time we come back to Hochiki products for several reasons - the main one being the innovation in technology and flexibility the Hochiki range offers us ”

The other benefit is the fact that Hochiki provide isolating devices. When you consider the scale of a life safety system on board a Wind Farm Rig, you can imagine the chaos that would ensue should part of the system fail.

“ Failures can arise from parts of the system experiencing erosion from the weather, where plastic parts can break down, allowing water ingress, causing short-circuits which could impact the entire life safety system onboard. Using the isolating devices from Hochiki prevents an entire system from going down, isolating only the part that has failed, saving time, money, and materials. It allows us to go in as part of our ongoing maintenance project and upgrade parts as and when needed without the need for huge overhauls. ”

The other added benefit of Hochiki isolating devices is, and particularly prudent in a facility which is helping protect the environment, is the reduction in waste, as only the part that no longer works is replaced, not an entire system. When asked if Smith would recommend Hochiki

“ absolutely, 10 out 10. We are about to start new projects on several other offshore wind farms around the UK and Hochiki will once again be our go to brand for life safety systems. ”



CORNERSTONE GROUP AND HOCHIKI PARTNER TO DELIVER LIFE SAFETY SYSTEM FOR ROYAL FREE HOSPITAL, LONDON

The Royal Free Hospital is a major teaching hospital in the Hampstead area of the London borough of Camden. The hospital is part of the Royal Free London NHS Foundation Trust, which also runs services at Barnet hospital, Chase Farm hospital and several other sites.

The Royal Free Hospital is a major teaching hospital in the Hampstead area of the London Borough of Camden. The hospital is part of the Royal Free London NHS Foundation Trust, which also runs services at Barnet Hospital, Chase Farm Hospital and several other sites.

Established in 1828 by William Marsden, a newly qualified surgeon, after he found a penniless young woman who was in desperate need of medical care. None of the local hospitals would take her, and so sadly she died two days later. Shocked by these events Marsden set up the Royal Free Hospital on the founding principle that they would take in anyone who needed treatment – the first hospital in London to do so and the only London hospital to stay open during the 19th-century cholera epidemics.

Today the hospital continues to lead improvements in healthcare and have some of the best clinical outcomes in the country.

With demand for the hospital's facilities growing, a new building was proposed and in June 2021 the brand new 60million pound Pears Building was opened. A groundbreaking collaboration between the Royal Free Charity, UCL and the Royal Free London NHS Foundation Trust, this new building brings together the theory and implementation of research as well as allow the public easy access to the latest discoveries in immunology. Cornerstone Group Fire and Security Systems, who are a valued member of the Hochiki System partners network were commissioned by a major London based mechanical and electrical contractor to scope, design and install

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the life safety systems in this new facility, which is now one of the largest patient-focused immunology centres in Europe.

The equipment installed at the site was Hochiki HFP range of devices which utilise the globally proven open protocol ESP technology. Famed for its quality and ease of installation reduction, the ESP range is adaptable to a broad range of environments and applications. From small to very large areas, the range can be utilised to fit almost any environment, and because the range benefits from false alarm reduction technology, it was particularly suited to this sensitive and complex hospital and research environment.

Neil Eves, the then Head of System Sales at Hochiki Europe shared:

“ There was a very extensive cause and effect requirement for this project and significant witness testing required subsequently, however it is testament to the skilful installation by Cornerstone and the quality of the product that has led to there being no unwarranted false alarms on the project to date ”

Neil Thurgood, the then Project Manager at Cornerstone explained:

“ A state of the art building like this requires the very best in fire detection technology to protect the patients, staff and assets. Cornerstone have worked with Hochiki Europe for several years now so we knew their devices would be the best for this project. The system at Royal Free's Pear Building is run off four panels and eight loops. We've installed Hochiki sounders, as well as heat and smoke detectors and call points. ”

“ Hochiki devices are world famous for their ease of install and reliability, particularly in reducing false alarms. The system has been in for a year now and there have been no issues at all ”

Cornerstone group also commented that the cost for this project was competitive;

“ when you are dealing with buildings such as this, which are operating to strict NHS budgets, it's essential to work with manufacturers who understand this. Our Hochiki rep understood the brief and is among the most professional and helpful I've ever worked with. We also own the service contract for this building, so it's good to know the Hochiki devices that are installed are easy to maintain ”



SACRO CUORE DON CALABRIA HOSPITAL AN EXCELLENCE IN MEDICINE AND IN SECURITY

The hospital is made up of eight buildings with more than 30 medical departments, operating theatres, offices, canteens, and conference rooms. In recent years, the hospital has undergone considerable renovation and expansion and along with this the improvement and adaption of the life safety system. The update to the fire detection system is to ensure the best possible protection for the thousands of people who visit the facility every day as well as the preservation of property, patient data and vital medical equipment.

The healthcare sector has a duty of care for its patients, staff and visitors as well as having to provide constant protection of its property and assets from the threat of fire. After extensive assessments and a rigorous qualifying stage by the Hospital technical team and Amperia srl, the installation company, Hochiki fire detection systems and equipment were found to offer the best solution and offered the highest quality standards for the hospital.

Hochiki is a well-respected name in healthcare across Europe and famed for its reliability in Italy, particularly when it comes to reduction in false alarms. Minimising this risk was critical to the hospital who wanted to avoid unnecessary and hugely problematic evacuation situations, especially where some patients may find moving around independently difficult and, in some cases, impossible, especially for patients in critical care departments.

Following consultation, 26 fire detection panels, including Syncro and Hochiki's Latitude system, and two Vision remote panels were installed in the hospital, all of which were networked.

The project brief stated that it was important the systems and any devices used must be installed with minimum impact on the day to day running of the hospital. Hochiki ESP range was recommended because these devices have been specifically designed to be quick and easy to install and therefor ensured minimal disruption was achieved by the team at Amperia srl.

Another priority for the project was that any fire detection system needed to be able to alert every person in the building to an emergency, including visually and hearing-impaired visitors. Hochiki's range of VADs (visual alarm devices) were used to provide a visual indication of an alarm condition to those people who would not normally be alerted to a fire by standard audible-only devices such as sounders and bells.

The final key priority was the ability for the entire system to be continuously monitoring 24 hours a day. During the consultation period between the installers and Hochiki, the fire detection system was designed to provide 24/7 monitoring. This was thanks to the I/O modules and technological fault alarm signals which were also implemented and connected to the fire control panel loop. These were then monitored by the personnel 24 hours a day thanks to two supervision systems, one for the fire detection system and one for the technological alarms.

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This project at the IRCCS Sacro Cuore Don Calabria Hospital was one of the largest and most complex projects that Hochiki have ever been involved in Italy involving the installation of multiple detectors, Detectors, 10 fire extinguishing systems, 14 gas detection panels and 10 aspirating panels.

Davide Montoli, Product Manager at Hochiki Italia, explains:

“ An interesting aspect of our systems is the “Bridge” communication between different generations of fire alarm control panels. In the case of this Hospital, the possibility of connecting the new Latitude control panels to the existing network of Syncro control panels made it possible to expand the system even though many years had passed since the installation of the original control panel. In fact, Hochiki’s Latitude platform can adapt its communication protocol to ensure backward compatibility with previous generation control panels. ”

Thanks to the expert Hochiki team working closely with both the installer and the technical team at the hospital a high-quality installation was achieved, with the best products on the market installed ensuring that fire safety for patients and staff is kept as a top priority.

Loris Fornaser, Technical Manager at the installer company Amperia srl, commented:

“ As you can imagine the fire safety standards of this project were extremely high due to the complex environment in which a hospital operates. This led us to choose a technologically advanced life safety product that would guarantee the client excellent performance and long-term reliability. The manufacturer’s technical support was always precise and Hochiki proved to be the ideal solution ”



HOCHIKI EUROPE'S FIRE DETECTION SOLUTION SENDS THE RIGHT SIGNALS AT ASHFORD INTERNATIONAL

Located just a short walk from the centre of Ashford in Kent, Ashford International railway station is well known to European travellers as one of the primary UK transport hubs for Eurostar services to Paris and Brussels.

The station was built in 1995 and opened in 1996 prior to the completion of Section 1 of the now fully operational HS1 high-speed rail link from London to the Channel Tunnel. It is used for international services, currently only operated by Eurostar, between London and France and Belgium. The station is operated by Eurostar on behalf of HS1 Limited.

Over recent years Tim Garrett, Ashford International's then Maintenance Manager, began experiencing significant problems with the station's fire detection system. He explained:

“ We started to get an increasing number of unwanted alarms and because it was a closed protocol system, we found that replacement parts were becoming difficult and expensive to source. ”

Although they didn't originally install the system, Gillingham based Senseco Systems was recently procured by Eurostar and with the support from Tim Garrett Senseco was engaged to maintain it. Steve Thomas, the company's then Business Development Director, commented:

“ We are a specialist fire detection and security solutions provider and our team has worked at Ashford International for a number of years. During our planned maintenance regime we found that we were spending an increasing amount of time sourcing spare components. This situation was untenable, so we discussed with Tim the benefits of installing a new system that would eliminate these problems. ”

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After Tim issued a tender document in March 2011 Senseco outlined its proposal which, following a rigorous procurement strategy, was duly accepted. Central to its plan was replacing the existing system with a solution based around Hochiki Europe's Enhanced Systems Protocol (ESP).

Steve based this decision on a number of criteria and said:

“Hochiki is well known and respected within the rail sector and its products are used in some of the busiest stations in the UK. We also know that ESP is one of the most resilient protocols on the market and is able to utilise an existing cabling infrastructure without experiencing any deterioration in performance. These factors meant that Hochiki's products could offer the requisite level of reliability, quality and performance required for this project.”

ESP is a robust total communications solution for intelligent fire detection and fully integrated systems. It has a multi-purpose structure that provides the flexibility and expansion to accommodate simple addressable systems through to integrated building management and safety systems.

Products from Hochiki's HFP range were utilised and the analogue addressable system comprises of an eight loop main control panel that is supplemented by two repeater panels and a number of mimic panels sited in various locations in the main terminal.

A total of over 700 HFP devices were installed including 90 interfaces, 13 heat sensors, and 77 call points including weatherproof call points. A number of combined smoke and heat detectors, single and dual input modules, and dual relay controllers were also used.

Railway stations can be very dirty and dusty environments so it was important to use devices that have a high resistance to unwanted alarms. To account for this Senseco installed over 500 Hochiki optical smoke sensors. These

devices feature the company's unique High Performance Chamber Technology, which minimises the differences in sensitivity experienced in flaming and smouldering fires. The result is a high performance optical chamber that is equally responsive to all smoke types and helps to reduce the possibility of unwanted alarms at Ashford International.

The installation went incredibly smoothly and according to Senseco Systems' Steve Thomas, many of the possible obstacles were surveyed and expertly managed by our contracts department and therefore avoided. He said:

“For an upgrade project like this in a public building maintaining detection coverage during the installation is important. To make sure this happened we replaced one loop at a time so that the entire station was continually covered and the protection of those on the premises was maintained at all times.”

The project was a huge success and we are very proud of our contract performance, our product partnership with Hochiki and our excellent relationship with a high profile client such as Eurostar.

Ashford International's Tim Garrett is delighted with the result. He concluded:

“In a busy environment like this carrying out this type of installation work discreetly and with minimal disruption can be difficult, however, Senseco Systems managed this with apparent ease. After the problems we'd experienced previously our new state-of-the-art fire detection system from Hochiki Europe has had a positive impact on the smooth running of the station and I'm confident that staff and passengers now have the best possible protection.”



HOCHIKI FULLY NETWORKED INTO NETWORK RAIL

Hochiki Europe detectors are integrated to a fully networked fire detection and alarm system at Edinburgh Waverley station.

A fully networked fire detection and alarm system has been developed and installed for Network Rail, providing centralised control of fire monitoring at Edinburgh Waverley station, as part of a major enhancement programme.

In excess of 500 Hochiki detection devices have been integrated into the system by specialist contractors, Dante Fire & Security, and the system comprises four main panels from Advanced Electronics.

Central to the network's system design is the flexibility to accommodate cause-and-effect scenarios within complex fire strategies. For such a demanding project, system reliability and integrity are of paramount concern, and Dante affirms that 'Hochiki's warranted product quality and reliability' were deciding factors in determining Hochiki as the preferred technology for this prestigious installation programme.

The quality assured, interference-free performance of Hochiki's ESP range detectors is just one aspect of the

efficient functionality demanded of the installation by the Network Rail specifiers.

Dante highlighted the ease with which Hochiki's analogue addressable sensing devices can be sub-addressed as of particular benefit during system configuration. In addition, Dante emphasised the advantage of Hochiki products in permitting a more flexible interface by allowing more devices to be added to the loop compared with any other competitive technology.

Commenting on the installation Neil Corney then of Dante Fire & Security said:

“ The installation of the system was challenging due to the demands of working in a busy capital city railway station, with minimal impact on the operation of the station of paramount importance to the customer, however the flexibility of the system installed in conjunction with the efforts of the Dante Fire & Security and Network Rail project teams ensured this was achieved. ”

The advanced system design, together with compatible products for trouble-free integration, combined to fulfill the demands of a project where, as Network Rail comments, 'quality, efficiency, reliability and longevity of the systems were high on Network Rail's requirements'.

Renowned for its specialist expertise, Hochiki has gained the reputation as one of the world's leading manufacturers of high quality commercial and industrial fire detection solutions. Hochiki's products can be found in numerous prestigious locations including state parliaments, metro systems, airports, banks, commercial centres, hospitals and hotels. All products are approved to UK and International standards.

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HOCHIKI LIFE SAFETY DEVICES REDUCE FALSE ALARMS AND HELP MAKE THE 75KM LONG DUBAI METRO TRANSPORT NETWORK SAFE FOR PASSENGERS.

Famed for its luxury shopping and extraordinary architecture, the city of Dubai in the United Arab Emirates is home to over 3.3 million people, and the world's longest driverless single metro line - the Dubai Metro.

Designed to take up to 13,380 passengers an hour on its green line, and 11,675 passengers an hour on its red line at peak time, the Dubai Metro is almost 75 km long and operated by RTA and Serco. Under contract to the Dubai Roads & Transport Authority, the network is run by a team of 2000 staff with 57 trains running at peak times.

Dafoos Fire and Security were commissioned to run the fire detection installation project on the entirety of the Dubai Metro. Trusted as a market leader in the Fire Protection Industry in the United Arab Emirates, Dafoos specialises in providing end-to-end design, erection and commissioning and maintenance of both active and passive Fire Protection Systems, and partners with some of the best OEMs in the world, including Hochiki. With tens of thousands of passengers using the network daily and the system itself operating in a hot and sandy environment, any false alarm could potentially cause mass disruption

and cost the operator financially, especially during peak service times. The company's Marketing Director, Vijay Chandran said about the project:

“ it was especially important as part of the life safety system design process to negate false alarms. Hochiki fire detection devices were chosen as they have a reputation for being the best in the market for their quality and their reliability when it comes to false alarm reduction. Our selection of Hochiki was confidently backed by the operators RTA and Serco ”

The Hochiki sensors were to be installed inside the metro and tram coaches. This is considered an extremely sensitive area with thousands of people transiting at a time, thus posing a higher chance of triggering false alarms. Any fire alarm trigger was programmed to send a command to the central station, and this would halt the operations within the entire network until the problem is rectified.

The Hochiki technical team also worked closely with the Dafoos team to negate the challenge of frequent dust build up in the chambers. It was advised that periodic maintenance of the sensors was moved from every 6 months to every two instead, which is customary practice for commercial buildings in the region.

“ Hochiki Smoke Sensors have been installed across the entire Dubai Metro and tram coaches; they have been functioning with minimal issues for the last three years. with Hochiki's technical team recommendation. Our team would not hesitate to recommend Hochiki life safety systems and products to be used in other projects within the transport industry ”

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ST PANCRAS INTERNATIONAL NINETEENTH-CENTURY STATION DELIVERING A TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY HIGH-SPEED RAILWAY SAFELY WITH THE HELP OF HOCHIKI.

Designed by William Barlow in 1863, it gained instant fame for its “Barlow Shed” train shed arch that spans 73 metres and is over 30 metres high at its apex; at the time, the largest enclosed space in the world. The Grade 1 listed red brick Gothic landmark façade fronting the station was the result of an architectural competition in 1865 and became the Midland Grand Hotel. In 1935, the hotel was closed and the building became railway offices, renamed as the St Pancras Chambers.

One of the largest transport hubs in Europe, St Pancras International has 13 platforms, six of which are around one kilometre long and are devoted to international Eurostar services. The station also incorporates 47 retail outlets and

designer boutiques on the undercroft, plus stylish Eurostar arrivals and departure lounges, and a further ten shops on the station platform level. It also boasts a daily farmers’ market and, at 90 metres, the longest champagne bar in Europe. However, thanks to careful attention to detail and a sensitive understanding of the architectural importance of the National Heritage building, St Pancras International remains one of the greatest Victorian buildings in London.

FAST & RELIABLE SOLUTION

System design and product selection, installation, testing and commissioning of the new and extensive fire safety solution for the station was undertaken by the Infrastructure and Rail Services division of EMCOR as part of its £310 million contract with Union Railways North for the refurbishment of St Pancras International. The team was headed by Peter Patrick, head of EMCOR’s fire division and an expert at undertaking major infrastructure capital projects such as the Jubilee Line and Russian pipelines who, on this contract, managed four project managers, five commissioning engineers and more than 50 electricians.

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Following a site safety upgrade, the Eurostar terminus at St Pancras International in London bristles with the latest high-performance fire detection and alarm technology, including no fewer than 5,000 Hochiki ESP – Enhanced System Protocol – analogue addressable devices, installed throughout the site. A variety of Hochiki devices were selected, each chosen for its proven ability to combat fire risks in the huge multi-activity station. They included optical smoke sensors for back office and main passenger concourse areas; multi-sensors for more challenging environments such as plant rooms and workshops; heat detectors in kitchens and toilets; audio visual devices and base sounder beacons.

They are all automatically re-calibrated every 24 hours by the Syncro panels to compensate for any environmental contamination and to ensure that they continue to operate reliably at the specified sensitivity. Indeed, a key factor cited by the installer for the decision to opt for the Hochiki solution was the flexibility of the devices to be compatible with other products already installed. For example, Hochiki's ESP protocol devices are configured to share system information and event details on a highly fault-tolerant secure network.

The success of the installation can be judged by the fact that the same solutions were also adopted to protect two other stations on the UK side of the London-to-Paris rail link. The Ebbsfleet International Station near Dartford in Kent, and the Stratford International Station near the City and Canary Wharf that was also central to the 2012 Olympic transport strategy, with forecasted passenger volumes of 25,000 a day to and from the Olympic Games' venues.

However, technical performance was not the only consideration with which the installer had to contend:

“ We had to take great care when installing the fire detection equipment, as it was vital to minimise any adverse aesthetic impact on the highly decorative Victorian architecture. Another major challenge was the need to install the new system in a station that was to remain open and be used daily by thousands of passengers. So, the fire safety system had to be always fully functional.

”

ERROR-FREE DETECTION

The life safety installation is managed in the station's main control room where, around the clock, a 1.2-metre LCD screen displays the entire station and its fire detection system. This provides an overview of the whole installation, or a drill-down showing various levels of detail; if necessary pinpointing information on any specific device. If, for example, a fire is signalled, the precise location can be viewed on screen, and devices can be interrogated. The screen can even display the best evacuation routes.

With huge numbers of people converging on the station's platforms at peak travel times, and the travelling public's ever-present concerns regarding terrorist activities, ensuring the minimum disruption from false alarms was a paramount consideration.

In the event of a confirmed fire, the Syncro system directly controls and monitors the station's voice evacuation system, which is audible in all of the station's public areas. However, in places where high levels of ambient noise may make it difficult to hear voice alarms, such as toilets, beacons are also fitted.

Famous for helping to reduce false alarms, Hochiki's ESP protocol uses a combination of sophisticated algorithms that reduce data corruption. Additionally, with parity and checksum error detection principles applied to every set of data, unwanted external “noise”, such as EMC interference is eliminated.

Hochiki optical smoke sensors are designed for both efficient detection and the virtual elimination of false alarms. The sensor's chamber incorporates uniquely angled baffles which allow air and smoke to circulate within the chamber but reduce the ambient light entering the chamber, thus improving the response of the optical elements. The sophistication of the sensing elements in the chamber enables it to also sense a wider range of fire types, so providing a more balanced response to different types of smoke particles. This is an Hochiki-developed technology that the company calls its “high-performance chamber”.

The sensitivity of each device is set to match the prevailing conditions additionally, to allow the most suitable sensing mode to be adopted for a particular environment, the multi-sensors can be set to heat.

AN INTEGRATED SOLUTION

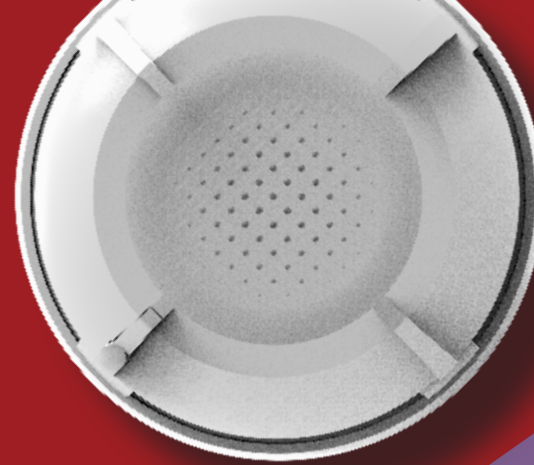
The main control panel was designed and engineered to meet High Speed 1 requirements. It incorporated 196 fire zone indicators, and several firefighters' control switches to allow the plant to be managed anywhere in the network via Hochiki loop output relays. A repeater panel, with an emergency fire telephone, was incorporated into the system for use by the fire brigade should an emergency condition occur within the main control suite.

Summarising on the St Pancras International project the installer said:

“Over the years we have used many different fire detection devices and we can truly say that Hochiki has time and time again proved to be the most reliable and best performing of them all”. Explaining in more detail: “The key elements that we look for in a fire system are reliability, flexibility, good quality control, high performance and false alarm management. The last thing we need on a site such as St Pancras International is unwanted false alarms. Hochiki have delivered superior product performance and hands-on technical support.”

Just as Eurostar trains speeding out of the rejuvenated St Pancras International have established Britain's credentials in world-class high speed rail travel, so too has a new European benchmark for railway station fire safety been established.

 **Ekho**
Hybrid Wireless



 **HOCHIKI**

 **L@titude**
Life Safety Platform



 **FIREscapeNepto**
Emergency Lighting System





HOCHIKI EUROPE KEEPS TRACK OF FIRE DETECTION FOR MICHELIN IN SERBIA

Currently one of the two largest tyre manufacturers in the world, Michelin has come a long way since two French brothers, Édouard and André Michelin, formed the company in 1888. Having continually innovated and pushed the boundaries of tyre technology, its products are now found on vehicles ranging from family hatchbacks to Formula One racing cars, and were even used on the NASA space shuttle.

As a multinational organisation, Michelin has operations throughout the globe and in mid-December 2009 it became the sole owner of the Tigar Tyres car tyre factory in Pirot, Serbia. In 2010 Michelin announced that it would invest €10m in Serbia over the next 18 months, including a new logistics centre that has created over 100 new jobs, and since then it has doubled production at the Pirot factory to 12 million tyres annually.

Work on the logistics centre began five years ago and was finally completed in 2011. To protect those working in this complex of buildings, Michelin knew that it would need to have a rigorous life safety infrastructure in place. To achieve this objective, the company called on the services of leading fire detection system design and installation expert, Quadel, to specify a suitable solution.

After conducting a site survey Dejan Ciric, Quadel's then Technical Manager, had no hesitation in recommending the installation of a fire detection system from Hochiki Europe. He explained:

“Quadel was founded in Nis in 1992 and since then we have built an enviable reputation for the specification and installation of the highest quality life safety systems. We first began working with Hochiki in 1996 and have enjoyed a close working relationship by installing their products in a variety of locations in Serbia. It was obvious that only their products would offer the requisite level of performance required for this project.”

”

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The Michelin logistics centre utilises an addressable fire detection system based around Hochiki's Enhanced Systems Protocol (ESP).

Paul Adams, Hochiki's then Marketing Manager, commented:

“*ESP is a robust total communications solution for intelligent fire detection and fully integrated systems. It has a multi-purpose structure that provides the flexibility and expansion to accommodate simple addressable systems through to integrated building management and safety systems. It is a robust system and is perfect for use in harsh and hazardous environments such as the Michelin site.*”

The system is based around nine addressable control panels and a number of devices that are linked via a local area network (LAN) and connected to an off-site remote monitoring centre. Due to the large quantities of smoke and dust particles created in the production and storage of tyres, as well as the high ceilings in the buildings, the team from Quadel decided to use Hochiki's ESP FIREbeam reflective beam smoke detectors, which feature advanced motorised technology allowing them to self-align to the centre of the reflector when commissioning.

Dejan Ciric explained:

“*Using beam detection allows us to cost effectively cover a large area. Once commissioned the Hochiki detector continually monitors alignment and will automatically realign itself back to the centre of the reflector if any movement occurs. The detector comes with a separate controller unit that allows our engineers to commission, monitor and maintain from ground level.*”

Even with this automatic alignment technology, regular maintenance is crucial to a fire detector's correct operation and the physical removal of dust and dirt will eventually become necessary. The design of Hochiki's detectors means that it is possible to simply and quickly dismantle the detector and clean or replace it on site.

Other Hochiki products used included base sounder beacons, multi-heat sensors and optical smoke detectors, which feature Hochiki's unique High Performance Chamber Technology. This minimises the differences in sensitivity experienced in flaming and smouldering fires, resulting in a high performance optical chamber that is equally responsive to all smoke types and helps to reduce the possibility of unwanted alarms. This has enormous benefits for Michelin as the costs associated with evacuation of personnel and subsequent loss of production are immense and must be avoided.

The development of the state-of-the-art logistics centre represents a massive investment for Michelin in this region and the company was determined to use best in class solutions throughout. Reliable and high performance fire detection is a fundamental requirement for a facility of this kind and Michelin is confident that this is provided by the system from Hochiki.



HOCHIKI EUROPE REVS UP FIRE SAFETY FOR MOTORCYCLE FACTORY

The Yamaha motorcycle factory in Chennai, India, is protecting its employees with a low maintenance, high performance fire alarm system, provided by Hochiki Europe.

With a population of 6,000 workers in eight large buildings spread across a vast 147,450m² site, Yamaha's building designers faced a challenge when developing a centralised fire safety and emergency lighting network. The distance between the buildings and the number of devices needed made it impossible to use a single control panel for the entire plant. At the same time, installing a separate control panel in each structure would be expensive and make it more difficult to look after long term. The company had no doubt that a system from Hochiki Europe was the ideal solution.

“ With such a large site and so many workers, we needed a life safety solution that could be easily monitored from a remote location to help us pinpoint and correct potential performance issues as quickly and efficiently as possible. The final system had to help us centralise control, while also minimising disruption due to false alarms.

”

Technical experts from Hochiki Europe worked closely with life safety installers, Bell Automation, and Yamaha's designers to develop an effective solution that could be easily integrated into their computer aided design (CAD) models. Hochiki Europe recommended dividing the site's buildings into four separate groups, each connected to a centralised control panel – provided by the manufacturer. This would overcome the challenge presented by the site's complexity, while simplifying maintenance and monitoring procedures.

Photoelectric Smoke Sensors from Hochiki Europe were selected for use in all buildings across the site. Offering high-precision chamber technology, rather than standard ionisation sensors, the solution has a greater particle sensor threshold than traditional products, minimising the risk of false alarms.

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Hochiki Europe's Intrinsically Safe Photoelectric Smoke Detectors were selected for the site's paint store area. These detectors have been specially designed to operate on a reduced current and have been third-party approved for use in hazardous areas. They are installed in conjunction with a barrier, which reduces the energy entering the hazardous zone and their components are encapsulated in a non-conductive material, negating the chance of sparking and igniting a flammable atmosphere.

In the canteen kitchen, Hochiki Europe recommended the installation of its Water-Proof Heat Detectors. Featuring a variable Fixed Temperature heat element, these sensors are able to overcome the issue of excessive smoke from cooking food. Their water-proof casing means that they are able to withstand the humidity of the kitchen, increasing durability and cutting maintenance needs. Weather-Proof Sounders and Weather-Proof Manual Call Points were chosen for external assembly areas.

The safety products installed in each building were linked to the relevant network each controlled by one of four centralised control panels provided by Hochiki Europe, meeting the requirement for streamlined monitoring.

Alok Chaturvedi, then Director of Bell Automation, added:

“Thanks to Hochiki Europe's innovative open Enhanced Systems Protocol (ESP), all of the equipment was compatible with the network loop modelled by Yamaha's designers. This really simplified the installation process and enabled us to complete the work in just four months, well within the company's strict deadline.”

Rohit Harjani, then Country Manager for India at Hochiki Europe, concluded:

“The Yamaha Chennai site is complex. It has many buildings, each housing hundreds of workers every day. With this in mind, it is vital that the final life safety system was both reliable and effective with minimal maintenance needs to reduce disruption to the business of the plant.

The technologies recommended offered the high performance required combined with compatibility to a wider safety network. These streamlined maintenance and monitoring needs for the company, saving it time and money, while enabling workers to do their jobs in a safe environment.



TECHNICAL METALS, A HIGH-RISK METALS MANUFACTURING ENVIRONMENT, INSTALLS HOCHIKI PRODUCTS TO IMPROVE FIRE SAFETY

Established in 1984, and with several awards including the queen's award for enterprise, technical metals, based in Northern Ireland, offers anodising and surface preparation processes to a wide range of customers across the aerospace industry, defence, telecommunications, electronics, computer, pharmaceutical, street furniture, architectural, wind turbine and general engineering sectors.

Specialised Fire and Security were awarded the contract to update Technical Metals existing fire detection system which required completely modernising. Established in 2013 by two experienced fire and security professionals with a combined 65 years industry experience, the company has grown to be one of the best known and respected independent specialist fire and security providers in Northern Ireland and have quickly earned a reputation for delivering tailored solutions for clients.

Situated on an industrial park, Technical Metals consists of a group of buildings including offices, goods in, packaging and high-risk manufacturing environments with acid baths, heat and smoke and corrosive atmospheres. This presented a unique challenge for the team at Specialised Fire and Security, led by Tom Skates, who chose Hochiki Europe products to help keep this hazardous facility safe.

“

Originally, we were presented with a plan that included multisensors situated at high-level points in the anodising department block. However, during a site inspection we realised this would be an issue. Some of the light fixings were corroding due to the chemical fumes rising from anodising equipment below. We recommended that Hochiki flame detectors were fitted at a low level, pointing to the area above. This meant the area was secured without risk of deterioration

”

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Hochiki multi-sensors were then fitted throughout the rest of the building allowing for heat and smoke to be detected night or day.

“
This kind of manufacturing plant is naturally prone to dust and smoke, which can cause false alarms. A key requirement to this project was to reduce and even eliminate false alarms. Hochiki was chosen because they offer the most reliable products to help protect against false alarms. Multi-sensors are particularly good at this and allow for a flexible approach to fire detection. We have set up an ongoing maintenance programme with Technical Metals which means, should they need to change parts of the building, the Hochiki multi-sensors devices we have fitted can be easily switched to the most applicable detection method required. This is a future proofed project.
 ”

Products with integrated short-circuit isolators (SCIs) were also fitted. On a healthy addressable fire system, the voltage from the fire control panel is driven one way around the loop, both powering devices and carrying data. But if a fire loop cable is accidentally damaged by tools, equipment or chemicals for example, particularly if not mechanically protected by conduit, and the result of that damage is that the positive and negative conductors within the cable make contact with each other, that vital voltage level drops. This is a short-circuit and at this point this entire loop is instantly out of action, which of course puts the whole building and its occupants at risk.

Hochiki's SCI-enabled devices recognise this voltage drop and when they activate, they divert the loop voltage back along one of the conductors, maintaining the flow of power and data for the rest of the loop.

At the same time, because it is programmed to recognise when it's no longer receiving a return loop drive voltage, the fire control panel will automatically switch to driving voltage from both ends of the loop, using both conductors. In high-risk manufacturing environments such as Technical Metals, this innovative technology makes all the difference.

“
I've worked with Hochiki products for nearly all my career, and in fact when I moved to Specialised Fire and Security four years ago, it was a big tick for me that they were already recommending Hochiki kit to their customers. The reliability is second to none, the devices are innovative and easy to install, plus they are flexible to a range of applications
 ”

The installation project at Technical Metals is a fantastic example of how Hochiki Europe's range of products can be used in high-risk environments to help reduce the risk fire poses to people and assets.



HOCHIKI INSTALLED AT HISTORIC THOMSON DOCK'S TITANIC DISTILLERS, INSTALLS HOCHIKI PRODUCTS TO IMPROVE FIRE SAFETY

The year is 1911, and the empty hull of the Titanic has moved into Belfast's Thompson Dry Dock for its fit-out, painting and installation of the propellers. Adjacent to the dry dock sits the Pumphouse, where powerful pumps can drain the Thomson Dock of 26 imperial gallons of water in just 90 minutes, the equivalent of two swimming pools per minute. With the ship in place, the caisson gate closes, the pumps kick into life and the dock drains to reveal its beautiful Victorian architecture.

Today, 112 years after the Titanic made her fateful maiden voyage, the Pumphouse has been bought back to its former glory, with every red brick and arched window lovingly restored to host Belfast's first working distillery in almost 90 years. Opening to the public in April 2023 Titanic Distillery housed in this historic building will welcome tourists hoping to learn a little more about the heritage of Belfast's famous docks and sample some traditional Irish whiskey.

Atlas World, a leading fire installation company also based in Belfast, were commission for this prestigious project by the consulting company who specified Hochiki products.

With experience in fire security projects in both modern and listed buildings, including Belfast's Royal Victoria Hospital, Queens University, Belfast MET College and Lidl's Northern Ireland Distribution HQ the team led by Gavin Nesbitt, the then technical sales manager knew this would be a complex job not only because the building was listed, but also because of the methods used during the distilling process:

“

Although Atlas World have been using Hochiki products for several years now, my experience has only been in the last 18 months or so. I loved how easy the products were to fit out, especially in comparison to competitors, plus the range is vast so you can pick and mix depending on the requirements of the project

”

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The process of making whiskey is quite dangerous, with the potential for fire occurring from the release of flammable compounds such as ethanol (alcohol). Although the essence of whiskey distilling is steeped in heritage and tradition, when it comes to safety there is no room for nostalgia. It was important that Atlas World were able to use a range of products that were suitable for the use of the room, ensuring the safety of staff and visitors and of course protecting this world heritage site.

“Hochiki’s ESP range was installed including multi-sensors and optical sensors. This enabled us to programme the sensitivity of the devices depending on the environment, for example steam and heat. With Hochiki’s products we could adapt the parameters to not only to keep everyone safe, but also to reduce the risk of false alarms. Once that alarm goes off everyone must leave immediately because there is a high risk of explosion in this type of environment. For a distillery which is also operating as a tourist venue, false alarms are not only hugely disruptive to the operation itself but can cost the distillery a lot of money and be damaging to their reputation as a safe tourist spot. Hochiki Europe’s products have dramatically reduced the risk of false alarms for our customer.”

We also installed Hochiki’s range of loop powered sounders and beacons. These visual devices were critical for the parts of the building where noise levels might cover the sound of an alarm for workers using ear defenders and of course they are vital in facilities such as disabled toilets. The other bonus is they consume exceptionally low levels of electrical current and maximise the loop’s capacity.”

A key priority for the distillery owners was to ensure that this listed building was not damaged in any way, and so the National Trust and a specialist archaeologist was recruited to ensure that any works carried out would be done so empathetically.

“We needed to ensure that all the work we carried out complied with the specifications set out by the heritage experts. Aesthetically the design of Hochiki products is modern yet simple, so they can just slip into the background, do their job, all without detracting from or impacting on the surroundings. This was a feature that was important to Titanic Distillery.”

As with many fire installation projects over the last few years, frustrations have been felt when projects have been delayed due to supply chain issues. Unfortunately, this project was not immune from this. However, as Nesbitt explains Hochiki were able to handle the issue

“We knew we would have some issues over call point availability, however our contact at Hochiki Europe was excellent at keeping us informed at every step and he came up with an alternative solution that worked well and meant we could still deliver the project on time.

Following the project at Titanic Distillery Hochiki are now my go-to supplier. We did use alternative manufacturers for the panels and aspirators but only because we weren’t familiar with these products from Hochiki, however going forward having now seen the standard, reliability, and ease of install I would not hesitate to recommend Hochiki Europe next time.”



LUXURY LOGISTICS SITE GETS A BESPOKE HOCHIKI FIRE SYSTEM

For more than a decade, IRIS 2002 SRL has delivered premium logistics services for the luxury Italian fashion industry. During a recent overhaul of systems on site, IRIS 2002 realised they required a bespoke and extensive fire system to ensure their operations facility was entirely safeguarded to guarantee business continuity. Hochiki Italia's distributor, DSA Technology SRL, partnered with authorised installation specialists, EM Sistemi Di Sicurezza, to engineer a tailored and flexible solution to IRIS 2002's application.

IRIS 2002's site is a complex and vast operating area, with a dedicated hanging garment section which features an overhead trolley system and a loading platform for efficient logistics operations. With this covering three floors, a comprehensive fire system was vital.

In addition, the site also contains 1,500 specially designed garment stands, and box and pallet warehouses that occupy approximately 4,500sqm. With the warehouses being in close proximity with one another, combined with a vast quantity of flammable materials stored, any fire could escalate rapidly, creating a significant risk to life and property. A comprehensive fire detection system was vital to protect the substantial volume of high-value inventory in this multifaceted logistics facility, as well as its personnel.

DSA Technology SRL has partnered with Hochiki Italia for countless number of years to distribute Hochiki products to customers nationwide:

“ Supplying Hochiki products has created great satisfaction from our installers and end-users. They are perfect solutions for various types of environments and sectors, proven to be highly reliable and easy to maintain by the end-user. ”

With over 35 years of expertise, EM Sistemi Di Sicurezza has established itself as a trusted leader in the security systems industry. They were able to draw on this expertise to successfully integrate Hochiki's intelligent fire detection products within IRIS's structurally demanding application, from design right through to installation.

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EM Sistemi Di Sicurezza faced numerous challenges when it came to the layout of the warehouse due the structural complexity. The warehouses' dimensions and open-plan design meant installing Visual Alarm Devices (VADs) was impractical due to the absence of structural columns. This demanding warehouse environment meant a more flexible solution was required.

The installer chose Hochiki's YBO-BSB2, base sounder beacons. These VAD-style bases are mounted beneath the ESP intelligent (addressable) sensors on the ceiling to provide both audible and visual notifications. These products have the ability to provide fifty-one EN54-approved audio tones for emergency identification as well as a high intensity flash. Providing audio-visual warnings are mandatory in environments with a high level of background noise, to protect and notify personnel working there. Hochiki's base sounder beacons in this application provided a highly flexible and compliant option for the IRIS 2002's elaborate logistics application.

Hochiki's ESP addressable range of sensors were seamlessly compatible with the base sounder beacons. Considering IRIS 2002's scale of operations in their three floor, 6,600sqm garment warehouse, the extensive range of the ESP intelligent sensors can be tailored to specific locations and feature several enhancements to combat false alarms including automatic drift compensation and variable sensitivity. Combined with a compliant addressable fire control panel, they will pinpoint the exact location of a fire, enabling rapid responses as well as providing critical protection.

At the heart of the installation, EM Sistemi Di Sicurezza

“ We installed Hochiki's Latitude panel networked with their ESP fire detection and alarm devices. Despite the challenges with the structure and layout of the warehouse, the flexibility of Hochiki's system made the design and installation process easy, which resulted in a robust and simple to maintain system. We and IRIS 2002 have full

“ confidence that Hochiki's fire system will continue to operate smoothly and protect the staff who work there for the future.

The range of Hochiki devices allowed us to face all detection and signalling needs with reliable and certified solutions.

”

Quotes Ugo Bonucci, part of Technical Support at DSA Technology SRL, Hochiki Italy's distributor.

“ Configuration and programming were extremely simple, reducing commissioning times. In addition, the user interface is clear and intuitive, ensuring immediate and safe management of the system for end operators.

”

This project highlights how successful Hochiki products are at providing a flexible solution for highly intricate environments such as IRIS's 9,000sqm facility, keeping staff and inventory protected whilst maintaining crucial logistical operations.

NOVALEGNO WOOD PROCESSING

ITALY | CADORE | LATITUDE RANGE



HOCHIKI ITALIA ENSURES FIRE SAFETY IN DEMANDING WOOD PROCESSING ENVIRONMENT IN 1982, NOVALEGNO BEGAN ITS JOURNEY IN WOOD PROCESSING, ULTIMATELY ESTABLISHING A SAWMILL IN THE PICTURESQUE CADORE (BL) AREA. OVER THE YEARS, THIS COMPANY HAS EVOLVED, EXPANDING ITS OPERATIONS AND CAPABILITIES. BY 1993, NOVALEGNO VENTURED INTO THE PRODUCTION OF FINGER-JOINTED SEMI-FINISHED WOOD PRODUCTS, SETTING UP A FACTORY IN AMPEZZO (UD). NOT CONTENT WITH THESE ACCOMPLISHMENTS, THE COMPANY CONTINUED ITS GROWTH, CULMINATING IN THE OPENING OF A NEW PLANT IN THE INDUSTRIAL PRECINCT OF AMARO IN OCTOBER 2021.

Today, Novalegno operates within an impressive 13,000 square meters of covered space, ensuring consistent climate control during wood processing, along with an additional 12,000 square meters of storage and handling space for planks. The Amaro plant specialises in the production of jointed semi-finished wood products used in crafting doors, frames, profiles, and windows.

With the presence of dust, sawdust, and highly flammable materials in the production environment, the need for a dependable, high-quality fire detection system became paramount. Novalegno was determined to safeguard its facilities and the valuable resources within.

Novalegno's operations posed a unique challenge due to the presence of dust, sawdust, and flammable materials. To safeguard their facilities and personnel, the company needed a robust and adaptable fire detection system capable of addressing the specific needs of their production site.

To meet these challenges head-on, Novalegno entrusted the installation company DFL srl with the responsibility of overseeing the project. The scope of protection encompassed various areas, including offices, warehouses, production zones, wood chip storage, briquette storage, and wood grinding mills.

In collaboration with Security Planet, a leading distributor of safety and security systems, the technical team at Novalegno opted for Hochiki's cutting-edge fire protection technology. Hochiki's comprehensive range of solutions perfectly matched the diverse requirements of Novalegno's facilities.

The result of this collaboration is a high-performance fire safety system that utilizes a range of cutting-edge technologies:

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Aspirating System: Novalegno implemented an aspirating system to ensure early detection of potential fire hazards.

ESP Detectors: Hochiki's advanced ESP detectors were deployed to provide reliable and accurate fire detection.

Beam Detection: Beam detection technology with detectors installed at heights of 9-10 meters added an extra layer of protection.

Woodchip Stock Area Enhancement: Recognising the unique challenges of the woodchip storage area, an aspirating pipe was installed to facilitate maintenance, a task that would have otherwise been cumbersome.

Custom Activation: Thanks to the functionality offered by the Latitude control panel, Novalegno was able to create tailored activations for smoke/heat evacuators located on the structure's rooftop, all easily managed through a remote panel's touch screen.

Alberto Frare of Security Planet commented,

“ We suggested to our customer to consider installing an Hochiki system, which we were certain would perfectly meet all the requirements of this production site and would guarantee maximum reliability. We are very pleased that the project was completed with satisfaction for both the installer and the end user. ”

The collaboration between Novalegno, DFL srl, Security Planet, and Hochiki Italia has resulted in a state-of-the-art fire protection system that ensures the safety of personnel, resources, and the facility itself. Novalegno now enjoys peace of mind, knowing that they are well-prepared to mitigate fire risks in their demanding production environment.

In choosing Hochiki's fire protection technology, Novalegno srl has demonstrated a commitment to the highest standards of safety, securing a bright and prosperous future for their wood processing operations.



HOCHIKI EUROPE PROTECTS HAZARDOUS ENVIRONMENT FOR GLOBAL LEADER IN PETROLEUM STORAGE AND DISTRIBUTION. METRON ENERGY APPLICATIONS WAS FOUNDED IN GREECE IN 1997 TO OFFER INTEGRATED FABRICATION AND CONSTRUCTION SOLUTIONS IN THE OIL AND GAS INDUSTRY. EVER SINCE, THE COMPANY HAS GROWN RAPIDLY TO NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL PROMINENCE, EXPANDING ITS ACTIVITIES TO OTHER FIELDS, SUCH AS POWER, AVIATION, WATER, MARINE AND FOOD INDUSTRIES, AND IS INVOLVED IN PROJECTS IN MORE THAN 45 COUNTRIES WORLDWIDE.

Formula Techniki S.A. were commissioned to install a new fire detection system at the new petroleum products storage and distribution terminal in Tema, Ghana as a subcontractor of Metron Energy Applications. Having worked with Hochiki Europe on previous projects, and as an expert in the manufacturing of fire detection for hazardous areas, the global leader was the natural choice for this project.

As this was a hazardous environment, Hochiki's SIL-2 detection range of smoke sensors, sounders, modules and call points were chosen. This specialist fire detection range not only meets but exceeds the stringent safety standards required, making it a game-changer in the realm of fire safety.

SIL is an acronym for Safety Integrity Level, and is

a system used to quantify and qualify the requirements for Safety Instrumented Systems. The International Electro-Technical Commission (IEC) introduced the industry standards to assist operators with quantifying the safety performance requirements for hazardous operations.

These standards have been widely adopted in the hydrocarbon, oil, and gas industries as a means of improving safety and availability of Safety Instrumented Systems. Angelos Angelikas, Formula Techniki's project manager on the project said

“ The main challenge for us was that we are based in Greece, and this project was taking place in Ghana, almost 7,000km away. We were chosen due to our expertise in working in challenging hazardous environments such as this. We had a strict time schedule to stick to, so communication between us, our client, and the team at Hochiki was vital. The Hochiki technical team were a great help when it came to the technical installation, particularly as the fire detection system of the building we were working in needed to connect with the main fire detection of the whole complex. We would absolutely recommend Hochiki and their range of SIL products for customers operating in these industries.

”

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TIPOLITOGRAFIA ZARDINI - PRESERVING BEAUTY AND BUSINESS CONTINUITY WITH HOCHIKI ITALIA

TIPOLITOGRAFIA ZARDINI, A HISTORIC PRINTING COMPANY IN VERONA, ITALY, RECENTLY EXPANDED ITS OPERATIONS INTO A STUNNING NEW HEADQUARTERS. TO PROTECT THIS ARCHITECTURAL MARVEL AND ENSURE THE SAFETY OF ITS EMPLOYEES, THE COMPANY TURNED TO HOCHIKI ITALIA. WITH A TAILORED FIRE DETECTION SYSTEM, HOCHIKI ITALIA HAS SECURED ZARDINI'S FUTURE, BLENDING ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY WITH SEAMLESS AESTHETICS.

Having experienced significant growth in recent years Tipolitografia Zardini needed to expand its facilities and not long ago moved into their state-of-the-art multistorey headquarters in Marano di Valpolicella. The building features modern aesthetics and expansive glass walls, and so demanded a fire detection system that seamlessly integrated with the beautiful architecture of the building and its interior design.

To safeguard their valuable assets and ensure employee safety, Tipolitografia Zardini partnered with CUBI IMPIANTI TECNOLOGICI, an experienced fire protection specialist in the local area. They opted for a high-performance and aesthetically pleasing solution from Hochiki Italia.

Tipolitografia Zardini's multi-storey headquarters received a tailored fire detection system. The basement parking area is now protected by ACD multi-sensors (CO detection) from the ESP intelligent range. The housing production lines, relaxation areas, canteens, offices, and meeting rooms, is secured by a combination of Ekho hybrid wireless and ESP wired sensors. The upper

floor offices and meeting rooms are totally protected by the Ekho hybrid wireless range, ensuring coverage in an area where traditional wired fire protection was not possible. The entire system, both wired and wireless, is centrally managed by Hochiki's Latitude fire control panel for efficient monitoring and operation.

Ezio Danese, Project Manager, commented:

“ The Ekho system proved to be ideal for this project due to its flexibility. Across the building the team faced challenges with the flooring, external walls and office patricians being made entirely of glass. In addition, the presence of so many different areas would have required the use of many translators. The Ekho mesh technology easily overcame all these challenges. ”

Hochiki Italia's solution offers numerous benefits to Tipolitografia Zardini. The system ensures uncompromised safety from its reliable 24/7 monitoring for fire incidents, protecting both employees and valuable equipment whilst at the same time reducing false alarms. The chosen sensors seamlessly integrate with the modern design of the building, maintaining aesthetic appeal. The combination of Ekho wireless and ESP wired devices provides adaptable and flexible protection, even in areas with complex layouts. Whilst the centralised Latitude panel simplifies system control, offering a unified platform for efficient monitoring and operation.

Tipolitografia Zardini's experience exemplifies Hochiki Italia's commitment to delivering innovative and aesthetically pleasing fire detection solutions that prioritise not only safety but also design integration.





TECNOSYSTEMI S.P.A. SOCIETÀ BENEFIT: A SUITABLE FUTURE SECURED BY HOCHIKI'S FIRE SAFETY

TECNOSYSTEMI S.P.A. SOCIETÀ BENEFIT, A COMPANY SYNONYMOUS WITH ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY AND CUTTING EDGE TECHNOLOGY, PARTNERED WITH GHIN ANTIFURTI, BASED IN CONEGLIANO, TO INSTALL A HIGHPERFORMANCE FIRE PROTECTION SYSTEM IN BOTH THEIR HISTORICAL HEADQUARTERS AND THEIR IMPRESSIVE NEW 30,000 SQ. M PRODUCTION HUB. THIS PROJECT EXEMPLIFIES TECNOSYSTEMI'S COMMITMENT TO SAFEGUARDING THEIR PEOPLE, ASSETS, AND THE ENVIRONMENT, WHILE ALIGNING WITH THEIR FOCUS ON SUSTAINABILITY.

Tecnosystemi, a leader in the manufacturing of accessories for air conditioning, air exchange, ventilation and photovoltaic systems, is dedicated to minimising their environmental impact. Their new production hub, built in 2023, embodies this philosophy. The state-of-the-art facility boasts technologies designed to significantly reduce CO2 emissions. When it came to fire safety, Tecnosystemi demanded a system would protect this building, the assets and the people working within.

Understanding Tecnosystemi's needs, Ghin Antifurti, the chosen installer, recommended a Hochiki fire detection system which was renowned for its reliability and longevity. The installed Latitude system safeguards all critical areas, encompassing production zones,

offices and a brand new, fully automated warehouse.

The Hochiki system incorporates a range of advanced technologies to provide comprehensive fire protection. The core of the system is comprised of multiple networked Latitude panels, known for their robust performance and efficient operation. These panels seamlessly integrate with Hochiki's ESP intelligent range of fire detection and alarm devices, offering a wider range of detection capabilities. Additionally, aspirating smoke detection systems are strategically placed to ensure even the most minute particles of smoke are identified swiftly.

Michele Ghin, owner of Ghin Antifurti, said

“ We proposed installing the Hochiki system because we were certain it would meet the requirements of this project; we have worked with Hochiki for a number of years and know that they manufacture quality products that are flexible to the specific needs of any type of environment. ”

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The collaboration between Tecnosystemi S.P.A. Società Benefit, Ghin Antifurti, and Hochiki Italia exemplifies a successful partnership built on shared values. By implementing a cutting-edge fire safety system, Tecnosystemi prioritises the safety of their employees and assets while adhering to their commitment to environmental responsibility. The Hochiki system, with its emphasis on reliability, empowers Tecnosystemi to focus on achieving their ambitious sustainability goals with complete peace of mind.

KERO FRUIT PROCESSING

NETHERLANDS | ROGGE | LATITUDE RANGE



HOCHIKI'S BOSEC APPROVED LATITUDE SYSTEM AND WATERPROOF DEVICES SECURE NEW FOOD PRODUCTION FACILITY IN THE NETHERLANDS. INSTALLERS JTI BRANDBEVEILIGING WERE CONTRACTED TO HELP MAKE SAFETY A NUMBER ONE PRIORITY AT A LEADING FOOD MANUFACTURER IN THE NETHERLANDS. THEY ACHIEVED THIS BY CHOOSING HOCHIKI EUROPE'S MARKETING LEADING FIRE DETECTION SYSTEM, LATITUDE, ALONGSIDE WATERPROOF DEVICES FROM THE ESP RANGE. THIS COMPREHENSIVE SOLUTION ENSURES THE HIGHEST LEVEL OF FIRE PROTECTION THROUGHOUT THE FACILITY, GIVING THE FOOD MANUFACTURER PEACE OF MIND AND ALLOWING THEM TO FOCUS ON WHAT THEY DO BEST: PRODUCING DELICIOUS FOOD.

Kervo is a specialist in high quality cultivation and processing of fruit in the Netherlands. Since 1980 morello cherries have been grown in the Vossen family's orchards in Roggel, The Netherlands. The family were one of the first growers in the region to use mechanical harvesting in the 80's, fast forward 43 years later and Kervo now runs operations across Europe and the UK and is proud of its reputation for offering the finest quality fruit to bakeries and fresh food processors.

JTI Brandbeveiliging was founded in 2009 and is trusted by its customers for advice, installations, repairs and maintenance of fire protection systems across the region. The team, led by Luciën van Eldijk was commissioned in 2022 to design and fit the fire safety system that would be integrated into Kervo's new manufacturing plant in Neer.

One of the complexities of this project was that during food production, and particularly during the cleaning processes, significant amounts of steam is generated leading to false alarms. Lucien explains how he and the

team navigated this issue:

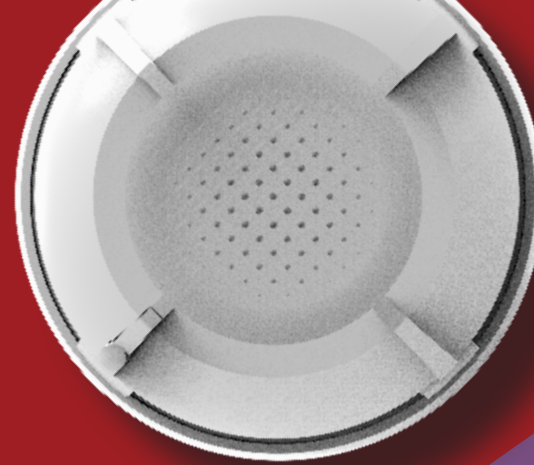
“ In food production sites like this it is essential for the machinery to remain clean throughout the entire process. This means there is a lot of steam and water present, which unfortunately, can trigger false alarms. We needed to install devices that could negate this issue, Hochiki's waterproof call points, sounders and sensors were the perfect solution. They worked seamlessly with the Latitude fire safety system from Hochiki ”

Latitude, which is BOSEC approved, a requirement for fire detection devices and systems in The Netherlands, has a powerful network-wide cause and effect capability. The system has capacity to supports 5000 entries, with up to 20,000 inputs and 20,000 outputs across the network. The new building at Kervo is a huge facility, at over 40 meters in height it required over 2.5km of cabling and hundreds of fire detection devices to help make the building secure, making the Latitude system the best solution.

“ Due the nature of this project, there have been some technical aspects where we have needed to seek advice, but the team at Hochiki have been very helpful in working with us to create the best solution for our customer. We choose Hochiki products and systems because they are reliable, they are easy to install, and most importantly meet the high standards and regulations required by the laws of The Netherlands – we would recommend Hochiki products for this reason. ”

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 **Ekho**
Hybrid Wireless



 **HOCHIKI**

 **L@titude**
Life Safety Platform



 **FIREscapeNepto**
Emergency Lighting System





HOCHIKI TECHNOLOGY SAFEGUARDS HISTORIC BELFAST PRINTWORKS

A BLEND OF HISTORIC CHARM AND MODERN FUNCTIONALITY, THE PRINTWORKS BELFAST HAS UNDERGONE A SIGNIFICANT RENOVATION TO MEET THE DEMANDS OF CONTEMPORARY OFFICE SPACES WHILE PRESERVING ITS VICTORIAN HERITAGE. CENTRAL TO THIS TRANSFORMATION IS A ROBUST FIRE SAFETY SYSTEM POWERED BY HOCHIKI DEVICES, ENSURING THE PROTECTION OF OCCUPANTS AND THE BUILDING'S ARCHITECTURAL INTEGRITY.

The Printworks Belfast, a historic Victorian warehouse dating back to 1890, located in the heart of Belfast's vibrant business district. Originally built for R Carswell & Son, a renowned printing and stationery firm, the building has undergone meticulous restoration. Angus Properties acquired the property in 2019 and has transformed it into a modern, open-plan office space while preserving its industrial character. Key features include a new atrium, cobbled courtyard, and additional floors with panoramic city views. The Printworks is now a sought-after location, offering flexible office spaces and potential retail or hospitality opportunities on the ground floor.

The comprehensive modernisation of the Printworks Belfast across its five floors, necessitated the installation of a robust life safety system that would safeguard future occupants while integrating sympathetically with the building's historical features.

365 Fire Security, a premier provider of life safety solutions, was entrusted with installing the fire safety systems at Printworks Belfast. This marked the company's inaugural use of Hochiki equipment, renowned for its dependability, quality, and user-friendly installation. The decision was influenced by a recommendation from James Morrison, National Key Accounts Manager for Hochiki, who highlighted the advantages of Hochiki's cutting-edge technology and streamlined installation process.

The installation at Printworks Belfast encompassed a variety of addressable heat and smoke sensors from Hochiki's ESP range, interconnected to a central fire alarm control panel equipped with a selection of other Hochiki field devices. The heat and smoke sensors are engineered to deliver swift and precise fire detection, ensuring optimal safety for the building's occupants.

Wesley Allan, Managing Director at 365 Fire Security explained how the Hochiki equipment proved to be an asset in the Printworks Belfast restoration project. "Its ease of installation was a significant advantage, given the complex nature of the building and the need to minimise disruptions during the upgrade works.

Even though we installed over 500 devices, the process was remarkably smooth thanks to Hochiki's consistent base design. This standardisation significantly simplified the installation process and reduced the overall project timeline."

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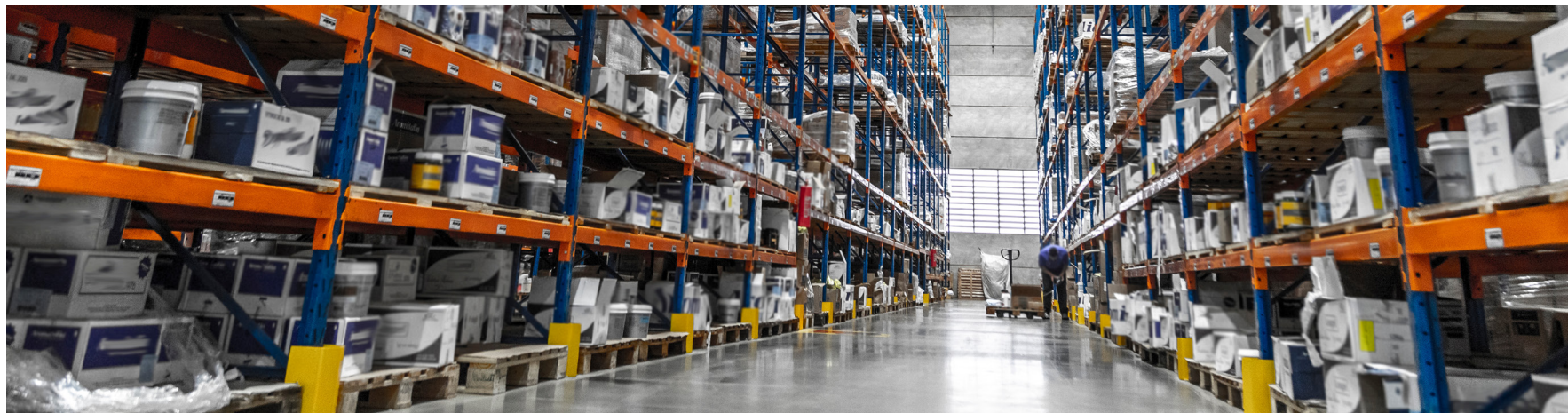

The sensors provide comprehensive fire protection across all five floors, offering reliable and early detection of potential hazards. Moreover, the devices seamlessly integrate with the building's architectural elements, preserving its historic charm while ensuring state-of-the-art fire safety.

The successful installation of Hochiki's fire detection system by 365 Fire Security has fortified Printworks Belfast with a robust and reliable life safety infrastructure. This project exemplifies the effectiveness of Hochiki's technology in a complex, mixed-use building, balancing historical preservation and modern safety standards.

“ Despite having no prior experience with Hochiki devices, the Printworks Belfast project has convinced us of their exceptional quality and reliability. Unless specified otherwise, we'll now make Hochiki our first choice for fire detection systems and devices. ”

Consequently, Printworks Belfast is now primed for its modern office space role, equipped with a fire safety system that safeguards both the building's heritage and its occupants. The triumph of this installation marks a promising commencement for 365 Fire Security's utilisation of Hochiki equipment, underscoring the systems' user-friendliness, dependability, and effectiveness in intricate and demanding environments.

To find out more about the devices used at the Printworks head to the Hochiki website.



HOCHIKI EUROPE SYSTEM AND PRO METHEUS SLOVAKIA SAFEGUARDS 17,000M² KL LOGISTIC WAREHOUSE

KL LOGISTIC'S SPRAWLING 17,000M² WAREHOUSE IN GALANTA, SLOVAKIA, PRESENTED A SIGNIFICANT FIRE SAFETY CHALLENGE. WITH RACKING SOARING TO 18 METERS AND HOLDING A DIVERSE RANGE OF GOODS, A RAPID AND RELIABLE DETECTION AND EVACUATION SYSTEM WAS PARAMOUNT. PRO METHEUS SLOVAKIA, A TRUSTED SLOVAKIAN FIRE SAFETY SPECIALIST, STEPPED IN TO DESIGN AND INSTALL A COMPREHENSIVE HOCHIKI EUROPE SOLUTION.

The sheer scale of the warehouse demanded a robust and sensitive detection network. Hundreds of Hochiki ESP optical smoke sensors were strategically placed throughout the building, providing early warning capabilities. To safeguard the dense racking system, Hochiki's FIRElink air sampling system was also deployed, ensuring even the most concealed areas were protected.

The entire Hochiki system was seamlessly networked using Hochiki's ESP protocol. Networked Hochiki HFP control panels served as the overall monitoring and control system, with ESP input and output modules facilitating integration with the warehouse's sprinkler system. This integrated approach ensured a coordinated response in the event of a fire.

Another feature of the system was a voice evacuation system, this combined with the rapid detection capabilities of the Hochiki system, ensures the safe and efficient evacuation of the warehouse staff in any emergency.

“ The size and complexity of the KL Logistic warehouse required a fire detection system that was both powerful and reliable,” said Tibor Lelkes, CEO Prometheus Fire. “Hochiki's comprehensive range of products, combined with their advanced networking capabilities, allowed us to design a solution that met the client's specific needs. The voice evacuation system was a significant factor in giving KL Logistics peace of mind. We are proud to have delivered a system that enhances the safety of their employees and protects their valuable assets.”

To find out more about any of the devices or systems fitted at the KL Logistic warehouse please visit the Hochiki website.

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KEEPING THE GOLD STANDARD SAFE: HOW HOCHIKI SECURED AU VODKA'S SWANSEA HQ

AU VODKA, THE BRAND THAT'S TAKEN THE SPIRITS WORLD BY STORM, ISN'T JUST ABOUT EYE-CATCHING GOLD BOTTLES. THEIR SWANSEA HEAD OFFICE, A STRIKING EXAMPLE OF ULTRA-MODERN DESIGN, REFLECTS THEIR AMBITIOUS VISION. AS ONE OF THE UK'S FASTEST-GROWING BRANDS, THEY NEEDED A FIRE SAFETY SYSTEM THAT WAS AS RELIABLE AND SOPHISTICATED AS THEIR BRAND ITSELF.

This wasn't just your average office fit out. As reported by several national newspapers, the AU Vodka HQ is a truly unique space. Think sleek, contemporary offices alongside open communal areas, a bustling kitchen, and, uniquely, a mini golf course and even a maze. Spanning two floors with the capacity to house over 150 employees, it's a complex building with a diverse range of spaces, each with its own specific safety requirements.

H3 Group, a trusted name in fire safety and security solutions in South Wales, were tasked with protecting this prestigious location. Having worked with Hochiki Europe for several years, they knew they could rely on the global manufacturer's reputation for quality and innovation.

"When we won the AU Vodka contract, we knew we needed a system that offered both exceptional reliability and seamless integration with the building's"

"contemporary aesthetic," explains Simon Goneso from H3 Group. "Hochiki's ESP addressable range was the perfect solution. We've always found their devices to be incredibly reliable, significantly reducing the risk of false alarms – a crucial factor in a busy environment like this. The ease of installation and ongoing maintenance for our engineers is also a major benefit."

The ESP addressable system was chosen not just for its performance, but also for its aesthetic appeal. AU Vodka's headquarters boasts a modern architectural design, and the sleek, unobtrusive Hochiki devices blend seamlessly into the environment. This was a critical consideration for a brand that places such high value on design.

Furthermore, the need for robust networking capabilities across the two floors was paramount. Hochiki's system enabled seamless communication and control, ensuring comprehensive fire safety coverage throughout the entire building, from the bustling office spaces to the unique recreational areas.

Ultimately, H3 Group's choice of Hochiki Europe devices ensures that AU Vodka's headquarters, a hub of creativity and innovation, is protected by a fire safety system that is as reliable, stylish, and cutting-edge as the brand itself.

Want to learn more about the ESP addressable range and how it can secure your premises? Visit the Hochiki Europe website today.

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WALES | SWANSEA | ESP INTELLIGENT RANGE

AU VODKA



HOCHIKI ESP RANGE INSTALLED AT LEADING PLUMBING AND DRAINAGE MANUFACTURER VALSIR.

IN MODERN INDUSTRIAL ENVIRONMENTS, ENSURING THE SAFETY OF PERSONNEL AND ASSETS IS CRITICAL. VALSIR, A RENOWNED ITALIAN MANUFACTURER IN THE PLUMBING AND DRAINAGE SYSTEMS INDUSTRY, RECOGNISED THE SIGNIFICANCE OF ROBUST FIRE DETECTION SYSTEMS IN MINIMISING THE RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH FIRE OUTBREAKS, ESPECIALLY IN A FACILITY LIKE THEIRS. TO ADDRESS THIS NEED, THEY COLLABORATED WITH CUBI IMPIANTI TECNOLOGICI, A REPUTABLE FIRE DETECTION INSTALLATION COMPANY, TO DEPLOY CUTTING-EDGE LIFE SAFETY TECHNOLOGY FROM HOCHIKI ITALIA IN VALSIR'S THREE PLANTS LOCATED IN VOBARNO, VEROLANUOVA AND PREVALLE PLANTS.

Valsir, headquartered in Vobarno, Italy, is a global leader in the design and production of innovative plumbing and drainage systems. With a strong commitment to quality and safety, Valsir sought to enhance its fire safety measures by implementing an advanced fire detection solution, under expert guidance from CUBI Impianti Tecnologici. This well-respected brand in fire detection and prevention industry has a proven track record of delivering tailor-made solutions that meet the unique needs of various industrial and commercial clients.

The brief required a highly reliable system, which should be easy to maintain yet capable of providing suitable opticalacoustic signals, especially in the production area, which is very noisy. CUBI Impianti Tecnologici proposed the use of Hochiki's ESP range because they are known for their reliability, precision, and adaptability.

CHQ-WSB2 wall sounder beacons were installed in the areas where noise levels were high as these alarm devices are also equipped with a visual warning device, making them ideal for noisy areas where the acoustic alarm alone may not be sufficient. And, being loop-powered, the installer avoided additional battery power supplies.

The Hochiki ESP wall sounder beacon also makes it possible to provide a double sound for pre-alarm and evacuation (as indicated by the UNI744 standard) with the same sounder, instead of installing two different sounders.

Several Hochiki conventional beam smoke detectors from the CDX range were interfaced to the ESP intelligent system via addressable Zone modules. The beam detectors were chosen for their ability to quickly detect the presence of smoke across a wide area; with a detection range of 15 metres wide and up to 100m in length, they are ideal for large, open-plan industrial spaces.

Key features of the chosen solution included:

- **Early Detection:** The SPC-ET beam smoke detectors offer early and accurate fire detection by continuously monitoring the environment for the early presence of smoke at high level.

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- **Adaptive Technology:** The detectors are equipped with advanced adaptive algorithms that enable them to adjust sensitivity levels based on environmental conditions, reducing false alarms while maintaining high sensitivity.
- **Network Compatibility:** The ESP Range components are designed to seamlessly integrate with a facility's existing fire safety network, allowing for centralised monitoring, control, and reporting.
- **Scalability:** The modular design of the ESP Range ensures scalability, enabling easy expansion or modification of the fire detection system as the facility's needs evolve.

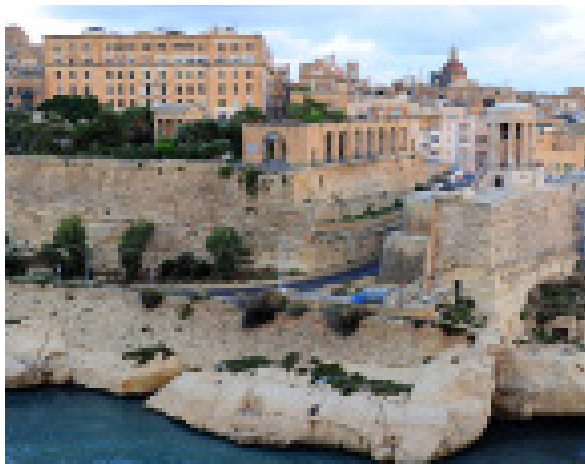
Managing the system is the 6-loop Latitude control panel, which is powerful, versatile, and capable of interfacing with gas detection systems installed at the Valsir plants, allowing for precise monitoring of the entire production process.

The implementation process was executed with meticulous planning and precision. CUBI Impianti Tecnologici's team of experienced technicians worked alongside the Hochiki project management team to conduct a thorough assessment of each of the three facility's layouts, identifying key areas for the Hochiki devices to be placed, e.g., along critical pathways, potential hazard areas, and other high-risk zones.

Ezio Danese, Project Manager di Hochiki Italia said:

“ Given the special nature of the environments, numerous sounders tests were carried out prior to installation, with all the production machinery in operation, to find the right flashsound combination and achieve an optimal result for the individual sites. This individual and rigorous testing ensured that the fire alarm was able to always reach all the occupants of the buildings. ”

The collaboration between VALSIR and CUBI Impianti Tecnologici resulted in a highly effective fire detection solution that addressed each of the plant's safety concerns. The deployment of the Hochiki ESP Range with SPC-ET linear detectors yielded several significant benefits including early detection, reduced false alarms, scalability and has created enhanced fire safety at the facilities by fostering a culture of vigilance and preparedness among employees. The Hochiki ESP solution was much appreciated by the client.



THE BEST OF CARE - MALTESE CARE HOME PROVIDER INSTALLS PIONEERING FIRE DETECTION FROM HOCHIKI

The CareMalta Group is Malta's largest private care provider and operates six facilities across the island. The company employs a team of over 500 highly qualified personnel who are focused on providing quality care services and facilities management.

In 1993 CareMalta was the first private company in Malta to invest in developing a privately owned facility for the elderly and its latest development is Roseville, which has beautiful surroundings, state-of-the-art residential facilities, recreational areas and a peaceful garden designed to offer maximum comfort to its residents.

When carrying out renovation work at Roseville, CareMalta wanted the very best fire detection system to be installed in order to offer an unsurpassed level of protection for those working and living there.

Malta's leading fire detection installation specialist, Firetech, was invited to tender for, and was subsequently awarded, the contract to install Roseville's fire detection system by the project's M&E contractor. The company was commissioned to install a BS5389 compliant category L1 addressable fire detection system.

Firetech's then Managing Director, Brian Vassallo, had no hesitation in recommending the installation of Hochiki Europe's products throughout. He said:

“Firetech has been an installer of Hochiki's fire detection systems for 19 years and due to their extensive range, proven reliability and excellent support service, we knew that they would act as a one-stop-shop for all Roseville's fire detection product requirements.”

”

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Roseville is a four storey, early 20th century house and is one of Malta's few Art Nouveau villas. This unique architectural gem, with floral sculpted windows surrounded by painted motifs is architecturally stunning. In order to maintain the aesthetic integrity of the building, the fire rated cables were installed in a way to make them as discreet as possible during the first fix. Firetech installed cables between the bricks and any other visible cables were hidden in stone coloured trunking. Where possible, false ceilings were also created which could house the cables and keep them out of sight.

To enhance the safety of the building Firetech integrated Roseville's heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) system into the control panel. Authorised staff can now control the closure of all fire doors and shut off the air conditioning system to reduce the spread of fire, should the need arise.

A wide variety of Hochiki products were installed including heat sensors, mains relay controllers, call points, sounders and sensor bases. Over 220 of Hochiki's innovative ALG-EN optical smoke sensors were also installed which feature the company's High Performance Chamber Technology. By redesigning the internal optical angle and chamber structure within the photoelectric smoke detector, Hochiki's chamber design minimises the differences in sensitivity experienced in flaming and smouldering fires.

The result is a high performance optical chamber that is equally responsive to all smoke types, helping to reduce the possibility of unwanted alarms. Chamber design minimises the differences in sensitivity experienced in flaming and smouldering fires. The result is a high performance optical chamber that is equally responsive to all smoke types, helping to reduce the possibility of unwanted alarms.

All of the installed sounders are fitted with flashing beacons which are activated first in the event of an alarm condition. This gives staff a specified amount of time to investigate the alarm after which the beacons can be deactivated or the sounder activated to initiate an evacuation of the premises. The sounders themselves have been limited in order to ensure that the alarms are heard but do not cause unnecessary distress.

Unwanted alarms are a serious problem for any premises but for care homes they are particularly problematic because of the logistics involved in getting infirm and disabled people to safety.

Brian Vassallo commented:

“To minimise the possibility of an unwanted alarm we used Hochiki's inbuilt product technology to reduce alarm sensitivity thresholds in certain areas of Roseville such as the corridors. We also programmed the system so that the different sensitivity conditions for day and night are taken into account.”

Firetech also had to make sure that the fire detection system met the requirements stipulated in The Disability Discrimination Act (DDA), which makes it unlawful for building owners and service providers to treat disabled people less favourably for a reason related to their disability. In practice, this means that Roseville's call points can be easily reached and identified and that the fire detection system is able to guide residents of all abilities to safety.



MERRIMAN GRANGE: PRIORITISING RESIDENT SAFETY WITH HOCHIKI AND SOUTHERN FIRE ALARMS

MERRIMAN GRANGE, A BEAUTIFUL NEW CARE HOME FROM CINNAMON CARE COLLECTION, LOCATED IN WORTHING, WEST SUSSEX, IS DESIGNED TO PROVIDE A WARM, COMFORTABLE, AND SAFE ENVIRONMENT FOR ITS RESIDENTS. OFFERING EXCEPTIONAL CARE ACROSS THREE FLOORS, INCLUDING A DEDICATED DEMENTIA UNIT, THE HOME PRIORITISES THE WELLBEING OF ITS VULNERABLE RESIDENTS. ENSURING COMPREHENSIVE FIRE SAFETY IN SUCH A COMPLEX ENVIRONMENT IS PARAMOUNT, REQUIRING A TAILORED APPROACH THAT BALANCES ROBUST PROTECTION WITH THE SPECIFIC NEEDS OF THE RESIDENTS.

Care home fire safety is a multifaceted project. It demands a system that not only detects fires rapidly but also integrates seamlessly with other building systems, minimises disruption during installation, and provides reliable, user-friendly ongoing maintenance. For Merriman Grange, Southern Fire Alarms was entrusted with the crucial task of designing and installing a state-of-the-art fire safety system.

As a new build project, Southern Fire Alarms had the opportunity to implement a comprehensive solution from the ground up. They chose Hochiki as their primary life safety manufacturer, citing their ESP range's reputation for ease of installation and excellent compatibility with other building management systems. This integration was crucial for Merriman Grange, allowing for a streamlined and efficient operation of all building services.

The system installed was a full L1 category fire alarm system, providing complete smoke and fire detection coverage across all three floors of the building. This comprehensive approach ensures that every area, from communal spaces to individual rooms, is protected. The presence of a dementia unit presented a unique challenge, requiring a system that would not cause undue stress or panic among residents. Hochiki devices were selected specifically for their flexibility in terms of alarm volumes and tones, minimising potential distress for these particularly vulnerable individuals.

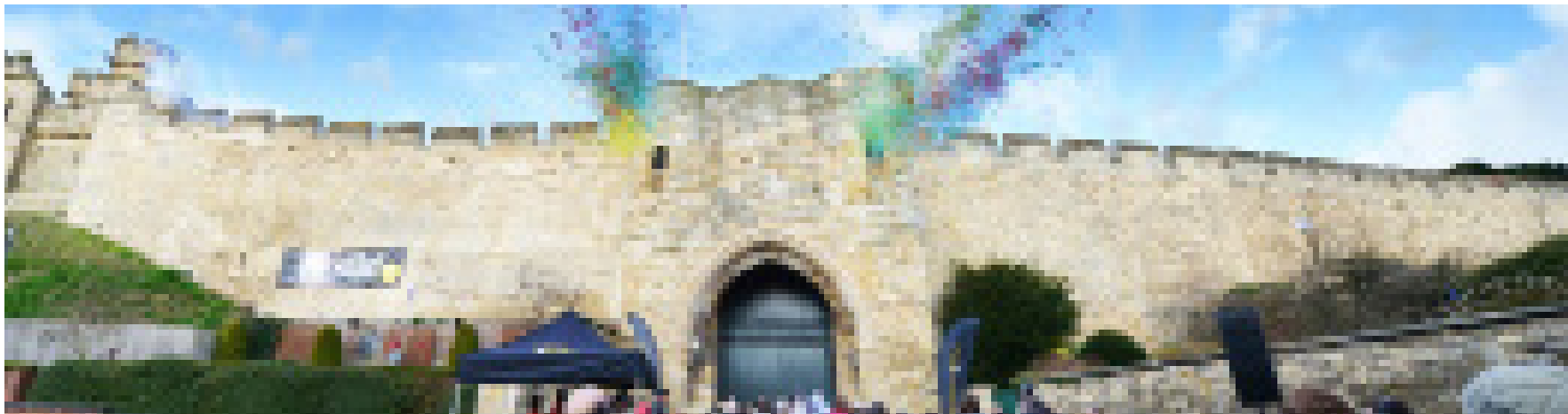
The ease of use for staff was another key consideration. Hochiki devices are designed to be intuitive, simplifying routine testing by maintenance teams. This user-friendliness ensures that staff can respond effectively to any fire safety event, providing peace of mind for both residents

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and their families.

“ When it comes to reliability and ease of installation, Hochiki is our go-to manufacturer,” said Naomi Fell of Southern Fire Alarms. “Their ESP range of addressable products are consistently high-quality, and their integration capabilities are second to none. For a complex project like Merriman Grange, where we needed a robust and dependable system that also considered the specific needs of dementia residents, Hochiki was the perfect choice. Their devices are designed to minimise false alarms and provide clear, reliable warnings, which is crucial in a care home environment. We know that with Hochiki, we’re providing our clients with the best possible protection. ”

The successful installation of the Hochiki fire safety system at Merriman Grange underscores the importance of a wellplanned and expertly executed fire safety strategy. By partnering with Southern Fire Alarms and utilising Hochiki’s advanced technology, Cinnamon Care Collection has created a safe and secure environment for its residents, ensuring their comfort and well-being for years to come.



PROTECTING BRITISH HISTORY: HOCHIKI EUROPE SAFEGUARDS MAGNA CARTA AT LINCOLN CASTLE

As part of a £22 million restoration of Lincoln Castle, Hochiki Europe has been drafted in by Reflex Systems to provide the fire safety system that will guard the castle and its precious consignment – one of only four surviving, original 1215 Magna Carta.

The Lincolnshire County Council site - which includes the 947 year old castle, perimeter wall and Victorian prison, as well as the new David P J Ross Magna Carta Vault - is the only location worldwide where the Magna Carta and its sister document, the Charter of the Forest (1217), can be viewed together. Four years of painstaking restoration has now been completed, ahead of Magna Carta's 800th anniversary in June 2015.

To ensure the best possible protection for Lincoln Castle, the Council called upon security and fire systems specialist, Reflex Systems, to design commission and supply a new, integrated fire safety system. Given a challenging brief – to provide high level fire security in an architecturally sensitive environment – John Pye, the then MD at Reflex Systems, turned to leading fire safety solutions provider, Hochiki Europe:

“ Due to the complex nature of the buildings, there were a number of restrictions and requirements set out by English Heritage. We selected Hochiki Europe for its innovative, open Enhanced Systems protocol (ESP) that would allow Lincoln Castle to be future-proofed, The versatility of the ESP system meant we could mix and match Hochiki Europe products with components from other suppliers – ultimately this flexibility will help the Council reduce ongoing maintenance costs.

”

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Jayne Griffiths, then Regional Sales Manager at Hochiki Europe, continued:

“Historical buildings, such as Lincoln Castle, often come with the challenge of balancing the need for top of the range fire safety solutions with preserving the aesthetics of the building, so that the guest experience is conserved. Choosing products that have minimal wiring requirements is one way to address the approach, and the use of our FIREbeam system in the sites’ larger spaces has helped to achieve this.”

FIREbeam is a highly specialised, reflective beam smoke detector which is able to detect smoke scattered over wide areas thanks to the use of infra-red light beams; measuring their obscuration by smoke particles to identify any fire before it can spread. This system not only reduces the amount of cabling required but, thanks to its advanced motorised technology, means that should any building movement occur, the detectors will automatically realign ensuring the system is always providing optimal detection.

To further reduce the amount of cabling required on-site, and minimise the disruption to the fabric of the historical buildings, hybrid wireless fire detection products were installed. Combining a wired translator unit with battery operated detectors, the hybrid system helped to overcome some of the architectural challenges of the buildings as the individual components did not need to be wired together.



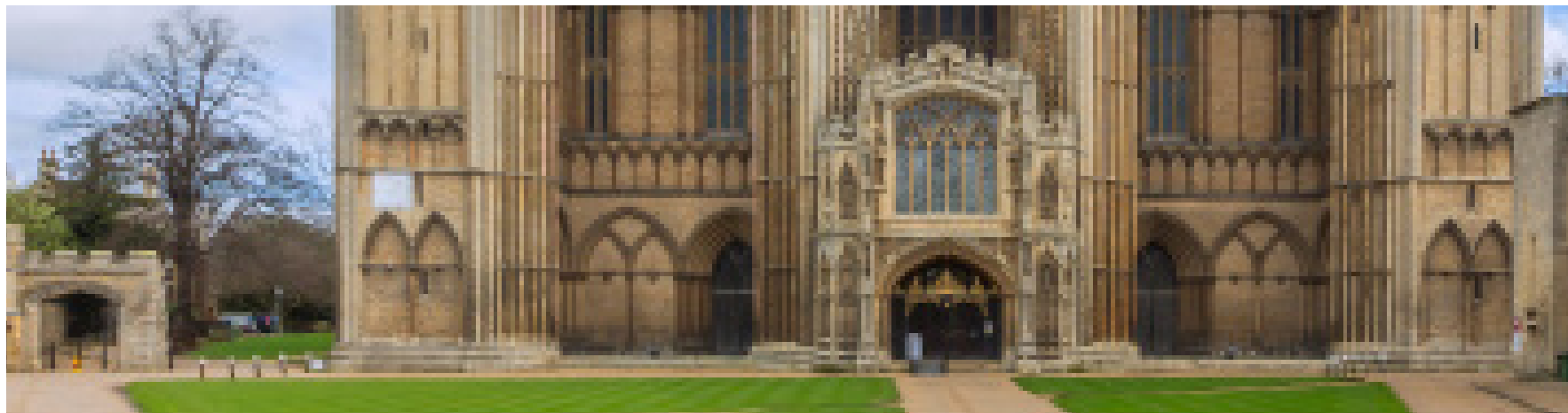
In addition, it was vital that the products installed blended with the background.

“As well as hiding wiring and our equipment during the installation, we also had to make sure the rest of the system was sensitive to the environment.

In this case, that included spray painting the heat and smoke detectors in the Magna Carta Vault and prison so that they would disappear against the walls.”

Mary Powell, the then Programme Manager at Lincoln Castle, concluded:

“The restoration marks a huge investment for Lincoln Castle, and ensuring that we had the very best in fire protection was a key consideration to securing its future. We’re confident that the Hochiki Europe solution specified by Reflex Systems will do just that; safeguarding our site for individuals and families to enjoy for years to come.”



PETERBOROUGH CATHEDRAL SINGS THE PRAISES OF ITS HOCHIKI EUROPE LIFE SAFETY SYSTEM

With a history dating back over 1,350 years Peterborough Cathedral is one of the UK's top landmarks and one of the finest Norman buildings in Europe today. The cathedral is an amalgam of archaeological, architectural, cultural, musical and artistic treasures that visitors from all over the world come to discover and enjoy.

Within its rich and varied history fire has, unfortunately, been a recurring theme, dating back to 1116 when an accidental blaze destroyed large parts of the building and its contents. It was rebuilt in its present form between 1118 and 1238 and became the Cathedral of the new Diocese of Peterborough in 1541. More recently, in 2001 it experienced another fire – believed

to have been started deliberately – in plastic chairs stored in the North Choir Aisle. It was spotted by one of the vergers, which led to a swift response by emergency services, however, the oily smoke given off was particularly damaging, coating much of the building with a sticky black layer.

Not surprisingly, due to a combination of precious artefacts and the high numbers of worshippers and other visitors that use the building on a daily basis, a fire detection system is a key part of its infrastructure. It means that in the event of another fire people and property will be kept as safe as possible thanks to an early warning.

In late 2011 Peterborough Cathedral recognised that its fire detection system was coming towards the end of its life and an increasing number of highly disruptive unwanted alarms made the installation of a new one an urgent requirement. Having had its services recommended by one of the other companies working at the Cathedral, Walsall based fire and security solutions specialist, Lyrico Systems, was invited to visit and outline its recommendations as part of a competitive tender.

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Lyrico Systems has developed an enviable reputation for its expertise and the quality of its work.

Mike Palmer, the company's then Managing Director, explained:

“It was clear that the previous system needed replacing and, given the size and scale of the area that needed to be covered, we knew that only state-of-the-art technology could ensure the requisite level of protection. As a result, our proposal centred on the installation of a Hochiki Europe addressable fire detection system which would offer Peterborough Cathedral excellent reliability and performance.”

Lyrico Systems was awarded the contract in early 2012 and began work in the April. The fire detection system is based around the innovative Enhanced Systems Protocol (ESP) and Jayne Griffiths, Hochiki Europe's then Regional Sales Manager, commented:

“ESP is a total communications solution for intelligent fire detection and fully integrated systems. It has a multi-purpose structure that provides the flexibility and expansion to accommodate simple addressable systems through to building management and other safety systems. It is also highly robust and therefore perfectly suited for Peterborough Cathedral, as maximum reliability and minimum disruption from unwanted alarms are essential.”

The system comprises a wide variety of Hochiki Europe devices, including the YBO-R/3 mounting base, which is coloured red for easy identification and designed specifically for use with the company's range of wall sounders – such as the CHQ-WS2 wall sounder and the CHQ-WSB wall sounder beacon – which were used extensively throughout.

These were complemented by the use of optical smoke sensors that feature High Performance Chamber Technology. This minimises the differences in sensitivity experienced in flaming and smouldering fires and the result is a high performance device that is incredibly responsive and helps to reduce the possibility of unwanted alarms. In addition, Lyrico Systems specified a number of CHQ-POM powered-output modules and CHQ-AB loop powered addressable beacons.

Although there were some problems accessing and utilising the existing cabling, the ease of installation and flexibility offered by Hochiki Europe's products helped ensure that the project was completed on time.

Mike Palmer commented:

“The ability to use a standard YBN-R/3 base unit offered us significant time and cost savings. However, while fast installation is obviously a good thing, with Hochiki Europe it's also backed up with excellent levels of reliability.”

Work was completed in June 2012 and the system has since lived up to all expectations, with no unwanted alarms reported.

Richard Cattle, the then Assistant to the Dean and Head of Fundraising for Peterborough Cathedral concluded:

“Its somewhat troubled history is part of what gives our Cathedral such a rich and wonderful heritage, as well as its blend of diverse and interesting architecture. We obviously want to protect it so that many more people can experience this fantastic building and I'm confident that our new Hochiki fire detection system will ensure they remain safe while they do so.”



HOCHIKI PROTECTING AND PRESERVING HISTORY AT BULGARIAN NATIONAL LIBRARY

Sofia has been the home of the Bulgarian National Library since 1881. In that time, the building and its historic contents have become treasures with significant national importance. Earlier this year, leading life safety systems manufacturer, Hochiki Europe, was appointed to protect these relics and preserve this slice of Bulgarian History.

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The library was first founded in 1878 by Mikhail Bobotinov, a teacher and secretary of the City Council in Sofia, as a cultural and educational resource for the city's residents. In 1944, a bombing raid during WW2 destroyed the library, and it was almost ten years later that it reopened in 1953, under the new name "Vasil Kolarov". Now, it is known as St. Cyril and Methodius, named after the creators of the ancient Glagolitic alphabet.

Sectron Ltd, a security solutions provider based in Sofia, was tasked with replacing the library's twenty-year-old life safety system which was no longer fit for purpose.

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Historic buildings often pose a challenge when it comes to specifying life safety solutions, and for the Bulgarian National Library, this was no exception. Project leaders, Sectron Ltd, recognised that it was essential that the installation of a life safety system could offer enhanced performance and reliability without compromising the aesthetics of the building. It was also necessary that the new system had the functionality to network a range of devices, as multiple solutions were required for this installation.

Sectron's safety systems experts specified Hochiki Europe's hybrid, wireless fire detection range, FIREwave. FIREwave uses the latest radio technology to provide a simple yet effective fire detection solution, with minimal disruption to the fabric of a building. The FIREwave products integrated seamlessly with the cabled fire system, as they too operate on Hochiki Europe's Enhanced Safety Protocol (ESP). This allowed Sectron more choice when it came to selecting the appropriate field device for the environment.

Georgi Kolev, Product Manager at Sectron noted:

“The Bulgarian National Library is a jewel in the crown of our capital city. When specifying a new life safety system for this project, we had to address a number of different challenges, from the age and structure of the building, to the need for simple installation and ongoing maintenance.

Working closely with our design and engineering team, Hochiki Europe was able to recommend and supply a range of solutions to meet these specific project requirements. This means our national relics are now protected with the highest standards of life safety equipment.

”

Petia Simeonova, then Regional Sales Manager at Hochiki Europe, added:

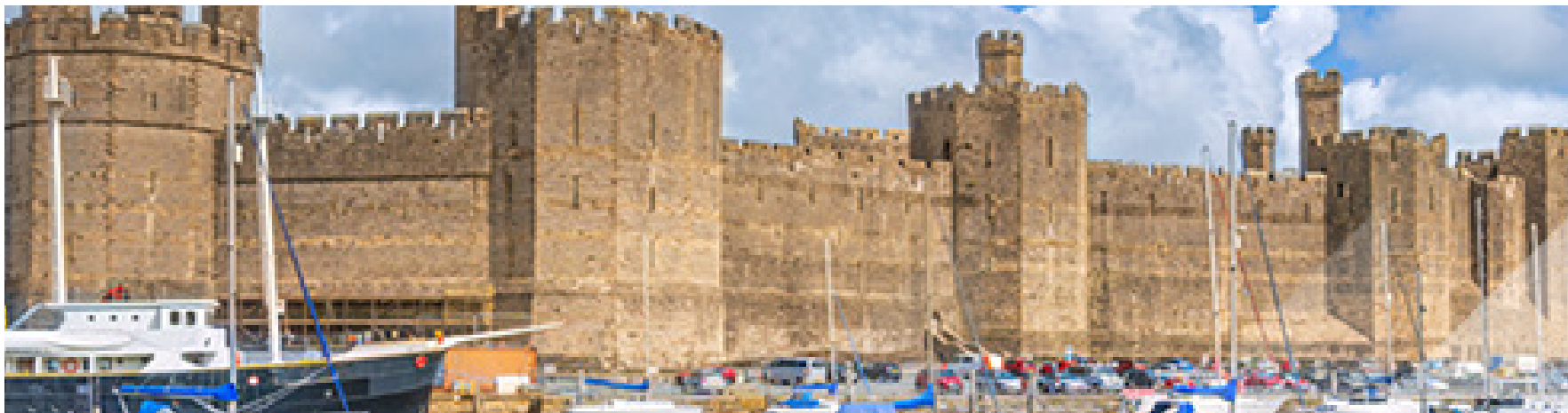
“FIREwave is one of our most flexible product ranges when it comes to architecturally-challenging installations. By removing the need for hard-wired cabling in our life safety systems, we're able to provide a solution that is ideal for a wide range of buildings, from busy hotels to heritage buildings like the Bulgarian National Library.

The new installation looks fantastic and I'm delighted that we were able to support in a project of such national importance.

”

CASTELL CAERNARFON'S KING'S GATE

WALES | CAERNARFON | FIRESCAPE+ RANGE



A WORLD HERITAGE SITE, CASTELL CAERNARFON'S KING'S GATE, IS A MAJESTIC MEDIEVAL GATEWAY BUILT IN THE 1280S DURING THE REIGN OF KING EDWARD I OF ENGLAND, MAKING IT ROUGHLY 740 YEARS OLD. THIS HISTORICAL STRUCTURE STANDS SHOWCASES WALES'S RICH HISTORY AND ATTRACTS HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF TOURISTS EACH YEAR WHO COME TO MARVEL AT ITS GRANDEUR AND LEARN ABOUT ITS PIVOTAL ROLE IN THE REGION'S PAST. AS A CHERISHED HISTORICAL LANDMARK, THE PRESERVATION OF THE KING'S GATE, PARTICULARLY IN TERMS OF FIRE SAFETY, IS OF UTMOST IMPORTANCE. THIS ENSURES THE CONTINUED PROTECTION OF ITS ARCHITECTURAL SPLENDOUR AND CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE FOR GENERATIONS TO COME

A Historic Restoration: Protecting the Past with Modern Fire Safety

Castell Caernarfon's iconic King's Gate, a symbol of Welsh heritage, underwent a monumental restoration project. This £5 million endeavour, led by renowned UK architects Buttress, aimed to revitalise the historic site and make it more accessible to the public for the first time in centuries.

The project, which spanned five years, faced numerous challenges including extensive archaeological investigations and the unexpected delays caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. However, despite this, Cadw

(meaning 'to keep' or 'to protect' in Welsh), the Welsh Government's historic environment service, goal remained steadfast: to restore the gatehouse to its former glory while ensuring its safety for future generations.

A critical component of this restoration was the installation of a state-of-the-art combined fire safety and emergency lighting system. Given the building's historical significance and complex architecture, the system had to be both effective and discreet. Snowdonia Fire and Safety, recognising the unique demands of the project, recommended Hochiki's FIREscape+ system. Dafydd Greasley, of Snowdonia Fire and Safety commented

“The FIREscape+ system is the perfect solution for protecting a historic site like the King's Gate. It's discreet, reliable, and ensures the safe evacuation of visitors and staff should a fire be detected.”

”

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Old castle walls are often made of porous materials like stone or brick. These materials can absorb moisture from the surrounding environment, such as rain or humidity, which can impact the performance of some safety components. Mick Hall from Hochiki Europe explains how the challenge of working within these ancient walls was overcome:

“ Working in such old buildings such as the Castell Caernarfon, there is a risk that the brickwork itself can damage any fire safety systems installed due to humidity. We overcame this potential risk by using Hochiki’s MBB-2 marine back box to protect against condensation ingress from the stone walls of the castle ”

FIREscape+, a cutting-edge combined solution, offered several key advantages for a historic site like the King’s Gate:

- **Minimal Impact on the Structure:** The system’s innovative design allowed for discreet installation, minimising any damage to the historic fabric, with one control panel and one type of cable for both fire detection and emergency lighting devices
- **Advanced Navigation Features:** FIREscape+ features an intelligent wayfinding technology, which guides occupants to safety, even in smoke-filled conditions, ensuring a smooth and efficient evacuation.
- **Reliability and Durability:** The system’s robust construction and advanced monitoring capabilities provide peace of mind, providing assurance that the complete life safety system is always functioning optimally.

Commenting on the success of the project, Chris Wilson, Head of Conservation for Cadw told us:

“ It’s reassuring to know that such a significant historical site is protected by a state-of-the-art life safety system like FIREscape+. This project demonstrates the team’s collective commitment to preserving our history. ”

By selecting Hochiki’s FIREscape+, the design team ensured that the King’s Gate would be protected for centuries to come. This project stands as a testament to the harmonious blend of historical conservation and modern technology, safeguarding a cherished piece of Welsh heritage. To find out more about the products used at Castell Caernarfon’s iconic King’s Gate head to the Hochiki website.

VILLA SAN CARLO

ITALY | COSTABISSARA | ESP INTELLIGENT RANGE



PRESERVING HERITAGE, ENSURING SAFETY: HOCHIKI PROTECTS HISTORIC VILLA SAN CARLO WITH HYBRID FIRE DETECTION SYSTEM

To protect Villa San Carlo without compromising its historic features, Hochiki Italia provided a hybrid system using the Latitude control panel, ESP hardwired devices, and Ekho wireless technology, delivering reliable fire detection where cabling wasn't possible.

Villa San Carlo is a historic residential complex in Costabissara, Vicenza, now serving as a spiritual retreat centre under the Diocese of Vicenza. Originally owned by the Bissari Counts from the 13th century, the main villa sits within a 58,000 m² park that includes a monumental Lebanon cedar. Following its acquisition by the Diocese in December 1960, the villa underwent extensive restorations through the 1960s and 70s, including the construction of a chapel, the addition of a reception hall, and various other architectural enhancements. The retreat was officially inaugurated on May 10, 1964.

Today, the complex includes the original north wing, expanded south wings, a church, a restored Doric colonnade, and several outbuildings, all surrounded by a historically significant park. As the site has grown in use and significance, the need for a modern, effective fire detection system became paramount, particularly one that could protect the site without compromising its heritage architecture.

The installer Ciemme Electronic srl, was selected to deliver a bespoke fire detection solution. The system had to overcome several key challenges: maintaining the integrity of the original interiors, avoiding any visible cabling in protected areas, and delivering high reliability with minimal risk of false alarms. Most importantly, the system had to be intuitive for the retreat staff to manage. To meet these requirements, the team installed Hochiki's advanced Latitude control panel at the heart of the system. A hybrid solution was deployed, combining hardwired ESP devices, such as smoke sensors, call points, visual alarm devices, sounders, and modules, in areas where cabling was feasible. In the more sensitive historic zones, where intrusive wiring was not an option, the full Ekho wireless range was used. This allowed for discreet, comprehensive fire detection throughout the villa, all without altering its protected features. Matteo Cecchin, at Ciemme Electronic srl, commented

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“ We were asked to respect every architectural detail while ensuring complete fire protection. After a careful study of the various environments and the challenges related to system design and installation, we chose the flexibility and performance of Hochiki systems; the wireless devices were particularly important for preserving the interiors: this system represents a perfect balance between safety and heritage preservation, ”

Cecchin continues:

“ Hochiki’s Latitude system, combined with ESP devices and the Ekho wireless range, gave us exactly what we needed: smooth installation, reliable performance, and the ability to maintain the character of the Villa. ”

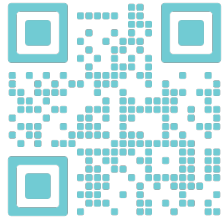
An.Bo Technology, Hochiki’s Distributor Partner, supported the installer throughout the various stages of the project. Antonio Bozzato, the company’s owner, commented:

“ We have been working with Hochiki for a long time, and our customers appreciate the versatility and reliability of these products. The hybrid wireless system has proven to be perfect for many applications, such as in this case with the historical site of Villa San Carlo. ”

Combining innovative technology and a sensitivity to architecture, Hochiki technology ensures the ongoing safety of Villa San Carlo without compromising its historical integrity.

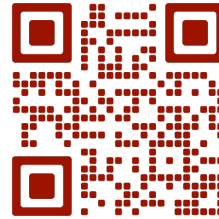
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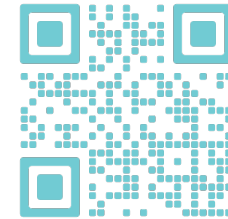
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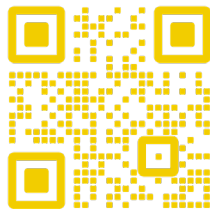
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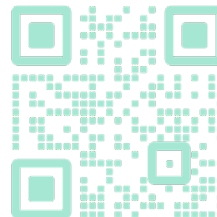
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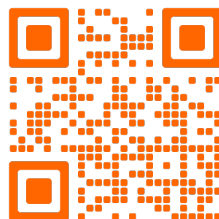
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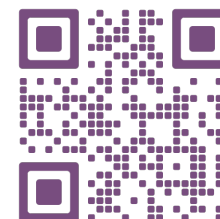
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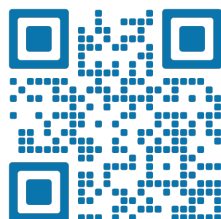
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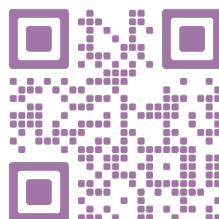
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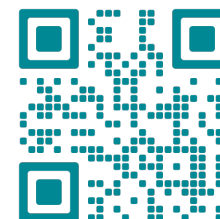
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