

Case Study: North Tees NHS Hospital

Description: Failed Under Floor Heating Replacement Heating System

ThermaSkirt Profile: Deco PR, Vintage Ivory & Urban LT Cricket White

Client: Stockton On Tees Primary Care Trust



ThermaSkirt provides the heating and skirting in one – here seen curved around the reception desk.

The Challenge:

Following the failure of the Under Floor Heating (UFH) at the A & E department at the North Tees Hospital, Stockton –On-Tees, Richard Speight, Senior Engineer, was tasked with the challenge of providing an alternative heating system, with minimal disruption to the busy workload in the Hospital.

Clearly, locating and repairing the UFH failure would have meant extensive upheaval of the floors and significant closure periods, and so was discounted early on. The obvious solution would have been a number of LST radiators, but again the layout of the department would have required significant remodelling to create the necessary wall space to accommodate the radiators & their bulky casings, and extensive pipe runs and drops would have been required to feed them.

It was then that Richard was introduced to the innovative product ThermaSkirt by Renewables experts Revolution Power Ltd.

Revolution Power are the commercial installation partners in The North-East of England for the Manchester based manufacturers of the ThermaSkirt system; DiscreteHeat Ltd.

The Solution:

As Seen on Dragons Den, ThermaSkirt is a radiant heating panel, formed to replicate a traditional skirting trim. Designed originally for residential applications, it has recently been developed to suit the specific demands of the HealthCare Sector following successful field trials at a number of NHS sites around the country. The system, being completely free of grilles or slots is practically maintenance free, simple to clean and has been shown to offer significant advantages over LST radiators in controlling the spread of HealthCare Acquired Infections (HAIs) such as C.Difficile and MRSA.

Other advantages are its even distribution of heat providing a more comfortable environment for patients and commensurate lower running costs and energy bills. Finally, the system is very responsive, both on & off, creating a pleasant all-around ambience in a few minutes, and offers no risk of injury to patients as there are no pipes or casing trip hazards, nor any potential ligature points.

Revolution Power were able to design & install a ThermaSkirt system at NHS North Tees that could use the existing under floor heating controls and pipework, giving an install time of only a few days with minimal disturbance and redecoration.

ThermaSkirt has been installed at both low level as a typical skirting trim, and also at high level in the waiting area, as a sort of 'heated coving' which when combined provides a remarkably comfortable and responsive heating system.



The Result

The ThermaSkirt system can be run at high temperatures or at Low surface temperatures (LST) whilst offering space & energy saving & significantly reducing the cleaning & maintenance costs associated with LST radiators.

The staff are amazed by the difference in comfort and controllability – a common complaint was both under-heating and over-heating with the previous UFH system.

With minimal disturbance to the fabric of the building, and the retention of much of the original pipework, the whole reinstatement of the heating system has come in many thousands of £s under the original budget.

Commenting on the project, Richard Speight said “ I was impressed with the concept of the ThermaSkirt system from the off, but a bit sceptical it could do the job. Reports from other Hospitals gave me the confidence to give it a go, and I cannot tell you what a difference it’s made. Rev Power did the whole job in a few days, and we were back up and running. The staff are very happy with the new heating system”.