

EXCHANGE PLACE, EDINBURGH

PROJECT DETAILS

Client:	Scottish Widows Investment Partnership
Location:	Edinburgh, Scotland, UK
Completion Date:	March 2009
Contract Scope:	Design, Supply, Installation
Applications:	Ramp heating
Technology:	nVent RAYCHEM EM2-XR with VIA-DU-20 controller



KEY CHALLENGES

Exchange Place is a high profile new build investment bank project of three separate office buildings forming a new courtyard around the existing Scottish Widows headquarters. A common basement level housing the car park, plantrooms and service areas, lies beneath the offices and is accessed by a number of reinforced concrete ramps. Consultants K J Tait were seeking an optimum cost effective and energy efficient solution to avoid snow and ice formation on the ramps. Their brief demanded a robust system for flexible installation under severe site conditions. The system also had to be compatible with the buildings' central management system. Time was an important factor for the project as it had a quick turnaround, within 4 months from design to final commissioning.

SOLUTION

nVent's ability to react quickly, both in the design and installation of the necessary system played a key role in winning the contract. The resultant solution was provided by 546 metres of RAYCHEM EM2-XR self-regulating cable controlled by a VIA-DU-20 multi-sensor control unit, located within and integrated with the centralised BMS panel. nVent's worked closely with the consultants, providing all the support necessary to enable the system to be used effectively.



The RAYCHEM cable provided the ideal solution to flexible installation under severe site conditions, proving itself faster and more economical to install than alternatives.

The use of the smart control and monitoring device helped ensure that the system only consumes energy when required, switching on only when cold weather and snowfall or rain actually occurs. The resulting energy savings over typical ambient temperature control methods is well in excess of 50% in addition to the system's overall reduction of capital, running and maintenance costs.

PRODUCTS

RAYCHEM EM2-XR is a rugged and robust self-regulating heating cable for simple, fast, and effective ramp heating to prevent snow and ice formation. The self-regulating EM2-XR cable automatically adjusts its power output in accordance with ambient conditions; more power is produced in harsh freezing conditions and less power in marginal freezing conditions. It can be cut to length on-site providing complete flexibility in installation. It can also be provided as a configured heating unit to meet specific design requirements, including pre-installed terminations and power cable.

The VIA-DU-20 is a control unit with combined moisture and temperature sensor and optional ambient temperature sensor. It is compatible with all EM snow melting systems.



BENEFITS

- Fast response to meet tight project timescale
- Flexible, robust system for installation in severe conditions
- Smart control
- Full BMS compatibility

Exchange Place is located within Edinburgh's Exchange District and was speculatively developed by Scottish Widows Investment Partnership. Each of the three buildings is built to a Category A office specification for letting to tenants. The ramp heating systems were installed by Heating & Detection Solutions of Fife and supplied via nVent's wholesaler partner Edmundson Electrical Ltd.

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