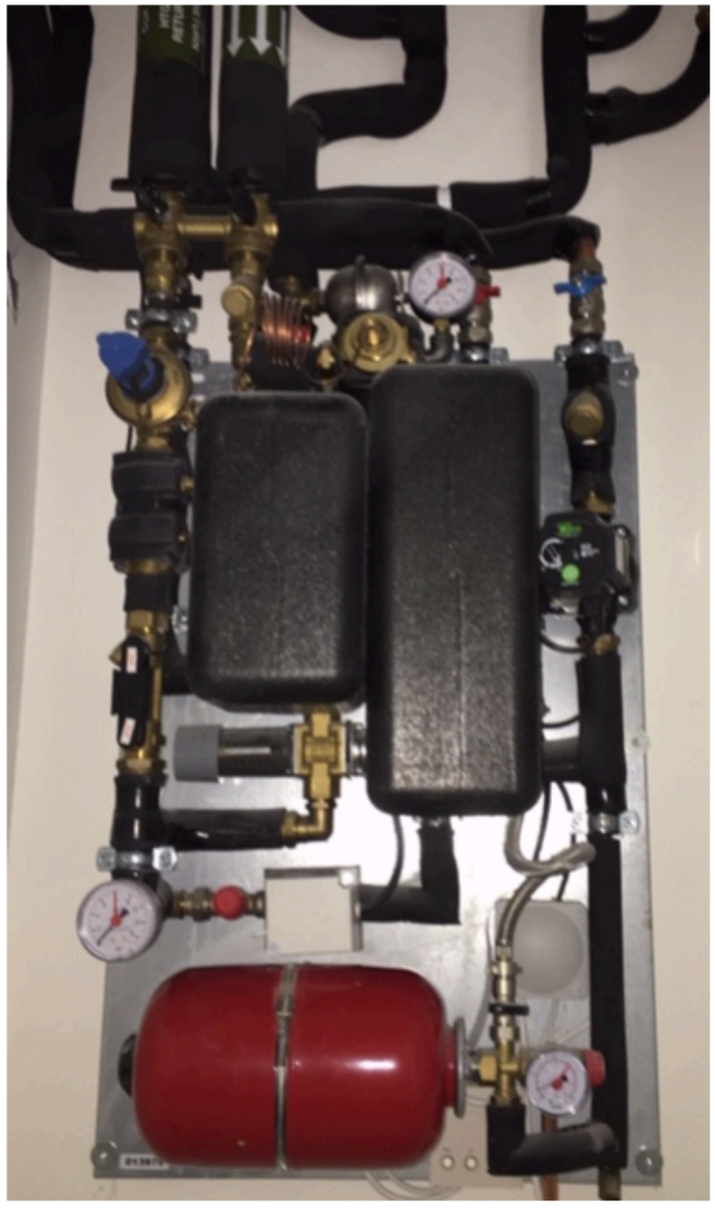
Manchester Media City -Light Box Project -2018 / 2019



Scheme specified 500 Bespoke HIU- Type 3000

Bespoke HIU Specified For Luxury MediaCity Apartments

MediaCityUK in Greater Manchester is one of the largest media and technology hubs in the UK and in 2017 development work began in the area on the Lightbox scheme, which consists of brand new luxurious residential apartments. Two blocks are currently in progress each with more than 200 one, two and three bedroom apartments over 19 storeys. Situated directly on MediaCityUK's waterfront, the apartments offer views over Salford Quays, Coronation Street and the Manchester skyline.

Details of Works

As with any residential apartment block, there are multiple things to consider, not least the heating and hot water. Lorne Stewart Engineering, the company delivering the project, chose to use Heat Interface Units (HIU) across a district heating scheme giving each apartment individual control over their heating and hot water that can be easily monitored and billed.

Lorne Stewart was immediately impressed with Heatlink's knowledge and approach, and although they'd never worked together before, Heatlink was awarded the job to supply all the HIUs and heat meters.

Nick Smith, Senior Project Engineer at Lorne Stewart, says *"Unlike other manufacturers we'd spoken to ,Heatlink has a sole focus on Heat Interface Units therefore their technical knowledge and expertise surpassed anyone else. After just one chat with them I was impressed with what they were saying and I felt very confident in giving them the job"*

Heatlink believes in the importance of supplying bespoke products that have been designed to meet the specification rather than selling a standard item that almost works to spec. Lorne Stewart provided Heatlink with their requirements, including the design and return temperatures and the loads, and Heatlink worked with them to ensure that each HIU could deliver exactly what was needed.

Changes to Specification

As can often be the case, changes to the original specification became necessary after work had commenced. However, through Heatlink's on site manufacture in Sheffield and flexible design approach, it was no issue to accommodate any amendments that were requested.

First of all, the boards needed to be narrower than originally thought. Heatlink very easily just stacked the connections meaning that the width of the board could be reduced. After that, drain cocks had to be added on, but again this was no issue due to the bespoke nature of each HIU. Further down the line, the specification of the heat meter had to be modified. This was not a feature of the original spec, but pulsed outputs had to be allowed for and longer cable became necessary. Through clever thinking and the flexible nature of the products, all of these requirements could be satisfied and Lorne Stewart had peace of mind in that whatever alterations were needed they were working with a company that could support them.

Nick says, *"There have been numerous changes to the construction phase,which can be expected, and that's why I was keen to work with Heatlink. The fact that they supply bespoke solutions means that they have been able to meet our needs throughout the entire process. It's made my job much easier."*

Solution

Although Lorne Stewart had never worked with Heatlink before, their decision to go with a new supplier has paid off. They've received the quality of service and products that were promised. Heatlink prides itself on delivering bespoke HIUs that meet each individual spec, and that is exactly what they have provided on this project. If Lorne Stewart had opted to use a company that provides more standard HIUs then their ongoing requirements would not have been achieved in the time frame, if at all.

Nick concludes, *"I have been very happy working with Heatlink and I'd definitely work with them again. They know what they're talking about and I trust their knowledge and experience."*