



Chester Hotel

Illuminating solution for air conditioning in 5 star Hotel

A £5 million refurbishment programme, which saw the Simpsons Hotel in Aberdeen transform into the five star Chester Hotel, sparked some special creativity in air conditioning design for public areas.

The hotel's new owners commissioned a spectacular 12-month upgrade throughout the hotel which now has 54 guest rooms and two suites, plus conference or wedding facilities for up to 300 people. It also boasts a new lounge cocktail bar and the fine dining IX Restaurant, overseen by Savoy-trained executive chef, Kevin Dagleish.

Chris Thoms, Mechanical Design Manager for Hutcheon Services, Aberdeen, was tasked with providing a five star air conditioning solution for the new-look hotel. The system chosen to air condition the public areas and the conference and wedding facilities was Daikin VRV III Heat Recovery.

"The client was keen to get the Daikin system for its high energy efficiency and the benefits of a VRV heating and cooling system," says Chris Thoms.

"It was challenging getting the air conditioning for

the main conference room into the project because of the thickness of acoustic insulation above the ceiling. There wasn't really a ceiling void to house the units."

Various alternatives were considered, but the chosen solution was to fabricate 'domes' matching the circular overhead light fittings selected for the conference room. The domes provided depth to accommodate Daikin slim ducted fan coil units, each with a nominal 7kW of cooling and 8kW of heating.

Elsewhere in the public areas, smaller slim ducted units were used, as well as ducted inverter units. A Daikin VAM heat recovery ventilation unit was also installed.

Overall control of the system is through an iTouch Manager, located back of house. Remote controls and room sensors are fitted in each area.

Peter Gemmell, Daikin senior consultant sales engineer says: "Heat recovery is controlled through the iTouch manager with the remote controllers and sensors.

“The particular advantage of VRV in hotels is the heat recovery through the full heating and cooling scenario. If you can imagine a function suite and a bar doing one function and the hotel bedrooms doing another.”

Chris Thoms says project timing was critical. “The entire refurbishment took almost a year, during which the client was taking bookings for future weddings and functions. So we had a firm deadline: we had to get the project completed.”

Peter Gemmell says: “We can add value to the design process right from the very start of a project. On this project we were contributing to the actual design process throughout the initial tender and when the job was awarded. There are always higher stresses when you try to create efficiencies in a building – and that’s where our products score maximum points.

“This is the only five star hotel in Aberdeen, and we are very proud to be associated with it. And this has been a great project for Daikin UK.”

KIT LIST

Code	Description	No of units
REMQ P	VRV Heat Recovery condensing unit module	2
FXDQ A	Slim concealed ceiling fan coil unit	4
FXSQ P	Concealed ceiling fan coil unit	5
FXFQ A	Round flow cassette	6
FXLQ P	Floor standing fan coil unit	2
RXQSG71L3V1	Seasonal Classic Inverter	1
FAQ C	Wall mounted fan coil unit	2
RXQG71L8V1	Seasonal Smart Inverter	2
FCQG F	Compact Round flow cassette	2
D51CS601	Intelligent Touch Controller	1

