

Starboards Hotels



Hotel group picks Daikin R-32 heat recovery systems for two key rebranded sites

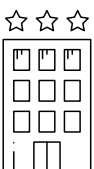
Refurbishment of two UK hotels ahead of rebranding provided an opportunity to showcase the latest in air conditioning technology, boosting the owners' environmental credentials and ensuring optimum comfort for guests.

Both hotels have Daikin's R-32-based VRV 5 heat recovery systems serving guest bedrooms. This high-efficiency, low environmental impact specification also helps keep operating costs under control for the operators, Starboard Hotels.

The hotels are the Ibis Styles at the National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham, and the Holiday Inn at Derby Riverlights. These are two flagships in Starboard's portfolio of small to medium-sized franchised hotels. Both are soon to be rebranded.

Andy Burne, property director for the 21-hotel group, says: "Starboard is a family-run company that looks to grow by acquisition and development, owning and managing with a long-term strategy, hence we value quality manufacturers, suppliers and aftercare providers.

"We could have gone for R-410A systems but before making our choice, we looked closely at R-32 solutions and spoke to other users.





"The R-32 solution brings additional safety features and environmental benefits. We see this as a way to future-proof our investments and get ahead in the net zero game.

"Daikin products are more or less bullet-proof, and it soon became clear that other manufacturers could not meet our needs."

The VRV 5 system offers a lower Global Warming Potential and uses smaller refrigerant charges than R-410A systems, making it easier to meet modern environmental standards and achieve more efficient, future-ready installations.

The two Starboard solutions were designed – using Daikin's VRV Xpress schematics – and installed by Bolton-based K2 Heating and Cooling Solutions.

K2's Phil Humphreys says: "Daikin's built-in leak detection was a big success factor – and the support from Daikin engineers was a great help during installation and commissioning.

The Birmingham site has 10 VRV 5 heat recovery units in a ground-level compound. They serve 164 FXDA-A slim concealed ceiling units





Both hotels use Daikin's Intelligent Touch Manager for centralised control and smart connectivity across sites. Each guest room features a Daikin Madoka controller, allowing guests to adjust the temperature to their liking while keeping control simple and efficient for operators.

Andy Burne says: "Guests don't even need to know the systems are there. Of course they can control the temperature, but it works really well on its own."

The seven outdoor units at Derby are roof mounted. As there was no crane, the units had to be stripped down and carried to the roof in sections for reassembly.



The Starboard projects show how Daikin's VRV 5 system brings clarity and efficiency to complex refurbishments. Its modular design made installation straightforward, even where space and access were limited. Built-in leak detection and easy service access help keep maintenance quick and disruption low.

For Starboard, that means reliable performance, lower running costs and long-term value. Smart control and consistent comfort complete the picture, delivering efficiency, peace of mind and a clear step towards a more sustainable future.



Kit List

Ibis Styles - NEC Birmingham

Model	Description	No of units
REYA	VRV-5 heat recovery outdoor units	10
FXDA	Slim ducted indoor units	167
BRC1H52W	Madoka controllers (white)	105
RZAG125NV1	Sky Air outdoor unit	2
FBA125A	R-32 Ducted split system	3
DCM601B51	Intelligent touch manager	1



Holiday Inn - Derby Riverlights

Model	Description	No of units
REYA-A	VRV-5 heat recovery outdoor units	7
FXDA	Slim ducted indoor units	105
BRC1H52W	Madoka controllers (white)	105
RZAG125NY1	Sky Air outdoor unit	3
FBA125A	R-32 Ducted split system	1
DCM601B51	Intelligent Touch Manager	1

For further details visit our website:
http://www.daikin.co.uk/en_GB/about/case-studies/starboard-hotels.html



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